

PROGRAMMES OF STUDY – HINDUISM

KEY STAGE 1

BELIEF

- Belief in Brahman, the Supreme, represented in many forms/deities e.g. Ganesh as remover of obstacles.

AUTHORITY

- The story of Divali and how this is from the Ramayana, part of the Hindu sacred writings.
- The story behind Raksha Bandhan.

EXPRESSIONS OF BELIEF

- Worship in the home: the family shrine, puja.
- Introduction to worship in the Mandir; the Arti/Arati ceremony.
- How Hindus celebrate Divali.
- How Hindus celebrate Raksha Bandhan.
- How religious belonging and identity are expressed in the baby naming ceremony.

IMPACT OF BELIEF

- The importance of the home, family and Hindu community in developing Hindu beliefs and values e.g. care for all living things, honesty, truthfulness, love, respect, loyalty between family members.

KEY STAGE 2

BELIEF

- Belief in One God, One Supreme Being (Brahman), represented and worshipped in many forms:
 - o the Trimurti (Brahma, Vishnu, Shiva)
 - o male, female and animal deities as representations of God
 - o the concept of avatars e.g. Rama, Krishna.
- The nature of God as expressed in murtis (images), pictures, symbols, Aum.
- Introduction to belief in Atman, Karma, Ahimsa and reincarnation.

AUTHORITY

- Introduction to sacred texts e.g. Vedas, Bhagavad Gita, Ramayana and how they are used by Hindus.
- Traditional Hindu stories with a moral and their significance for Hindus e.g. the story of Rama and Sita in the Ramayana (good wins over evil, the value of loyalty, sacrifice and love).

EXPRESSIONS OF BELIEF

- Worship at home and in the mandir to include Puja, Arti/Arati, the role of the Murtis, imagery and symbolism, the importance of individual, family and communal worship.
- How beliefs and feelings are expressed through the communal celebrations of Divali, Holi.
- The importance of music, dance, drama, artefacts, Mantras, food, stories, customs in celebrations and worship.
- The role of pilgrimage, how beliefs are expressed through visits to sacred sites e.g. Varanasi on the River Ganges.
- The sacred thread initiation ceremony as an expression of commitment, religious identity, belonging.

IMPACT OF BELIEF

- How belief in Karma has impact on behaviour and actions e.g. Seva (service for others).
- How belief in Ahimsa has an impact on behaviour and actions e.g. non-violence, vegetarianism/food laws.
- Introduction to how Hindu beliefs and values will affect views on moral issues e.g. the environment, care for others.