



# Waterbeach Community Primary School

## Curriculum Capture for Year 1

### Religious Education: How does the Khalsa influence the lives of Sikh families?

#### Key Knowledge and Beliefs

##### Who are Sikhs?

- The word Sikh means learner.
- Sikhs believe in one God
- There were 10 Gurus (teachers) who gave God's teachings to people.
- There are common symbols being a Sikh e.g. some Sikhs wear a turban.
- There are over 423,000 Sikhs in the UK.

##### When and Why did the Khalsa form?

The Khalsa was formed by Guru Gobind Singh. Sikhs show they follow Sikhism by the 5ks:

- **Kes** (uncut hair)
- **Kirpan** (sword with curved blade)
- **Kangha** (comb)
- **Kara** (steel bangle worn on right arm)
- **Kachhera** (an undergarment)

##### How do Sikhs show commitment to their faith in 21<sup>st</sup> century Britain?

Sikhs celebrate the **festival of Baisakhi** (also called Vaisakhi) in April. It is the start of the new Sikh year and a remembrance of the founding of the Khalsa.

It is celebrated by;

- Wearing special, colourful clothes.
- Services at the Gurdwara.
- Being blessed with Amrit.
- There is a parade through the street, with music, singing, dancing and food.

##### How important it is to have identity and commitment for Sikhs and non Sikhs?

There are many similarities and differences between Sikhs and non-Sikhs. We all belong to a group and can show we belong by wearing a uniform e.g., school uniform, ballet clothes, turban.

Sikhs show their commitment by participating in the washing of the flagpole as part of the Vaisakhi celebrations. Sikhs was the flagpole with milk and yoghurt then water and replacing the Sikh flag (Nishan Sahib) with a new flag to symbolise cleanliness and purity.

##### How does the Khalsa influence Sikhs and what influences you?

Sikhs believe that actions are important and you should lead a good life. They believe they do this by;

- Keeping God in your heart and mind.
- Live honestly and working hard.
- Treat everyone equal.
- Being generous to those less fortunate.
- Serving others.

3 of the 5 K's:  
a Kirpan, Kara and  
Kangha.



Sikhs celebrating  
the festival of  
Baisakhi

#### Vocabulary

##### Guru Gobind Singh

He was the last of the ten Gurus and introduced many of the customs that Sikhs practise today.

##### The Khalsa

1699 **The Khalsa** was founded by Guru Govind Singh. Guru Govind Singh gave rules of behaviour and told them to wear five signs to show they were members of this community

##### The 5 K's

The people who joined Guru Govind Singh's new community wore 5 signs beginning with K – **Kes, Kirpan, Kangha, Kara and Kachh**

##### Amrit

A syrup drunk by Sikhs at religious events.