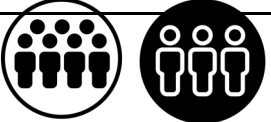


Year 7 Spring term Knowledge Organiser for RE - Hinduism

Key terms

Monotheistic	The belief that there is only one God.	1	Dharma	The moral law that Hindus must follow, for example Hindus have a duty to do the job of the caste they are born into.	
Polytheistic	The belief that there are many Gods.		Reincarnation	When a soul is reborn by passing into a new body.	
Omnipresent	The belief that God is always there		Karma	The actions which affect rebirth. All actions in your life are considered and if mostly good you will have a good rebirth.	
Brahman	The Hindu name for God. The supreme being, the source of everything		Moksha	The goal of every Hindu to escape rebirth and your soul to return to Brahman.	
Trimurti	The 3 main Gods in Hinduism – Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva		Samsara	The continual process of death and reincarnation.	
Murti	A statue of a God or Goddess which has been specially blessed		Caste system	The traditional Indian way of classifying people in society. It determines your job and social status in society.	
Mandir/temple	The Hindu place of worship		Atman	The name given to the soul in Hinduism.	

An introduction to Hinduism

Nearly 15% of the world's population identify themselves as being a Hindu. It is the third largest religion in the UK, around 1.5% of the UK population. According to the 2011 census 2300 people in Trafford identify themselves as being a Hindu. Whether you are Hindu or not, it is important to understand the foundations of this religion as it has and will continue to affect our society on a local and global scale. In this module you will examine this fascinating religion.

Hindu gods and goddesses

There are many Hindu gods and throughout history many Hindus have been polytheists and worshiped many Gods. However today many Hindus are monotheists believing that there is one supreme god (Brahman) who appears to humans in many different forms. Hindus may worship a handful of these gods who have appeared but still believe they are monotheistic as there is just one supreme god, Brahman. Out of the millions of Gods that Hindus may believe in there are 3 who are viewed as the most important, they are known as the Trimurti. They work together in the universe to create, preserve and destroy.

Brahma



Vishnu



Shiva



Brahma is the creator god. Hindus believe he created the universe and everything within it. Vishnu is the preserver god. Hindus believe that he works within the universe to preserve all creation. Shiva is the destroyer god. Hindus believe that he will destroy the universe at some point after the Hindus tend not to worship him today as there is a sense that he has completed his job in this universe. To do this Vishnu has come to earth in the form of 10th avatar of Vishnu has been to earth. The avatars to fight evil and restore peace and good- universe will then be re-created by Brahma. ness. Nine have already come to the earth, Rama is

Reincarnation

Hindus believe that people live through lots of cycles of birth and rebirth. This means when you die, you will be born again into another life. This cycle is known as samsara. How good or bad the next life will be is decided by how well a person follows their duties on Earth. These duties are called their dharma. Karma is a kind of cosmic judgement system: good actions collect good karma, which help to ensure an enjoyable and happy next life and bad actions collect bad karma, which will result in a future life that is not as positive or joyous. The goal for Hindus is to achieve moksha and escape from the cycle of samsara, and spend forever in a state of bliss with Brahman. Karma and samsara work together to ensure there is fairness and that everyone gets what they deserve in the end.

