

What does it mean to be a Muslim in Britain today?

Key skills

Discerning—be able to use some evidence and examples, to show how and why people put their beliefs into practice in different ways, e.g. in different communities, denominations or cultures

Analysing— reflect on and articulate some lessons people might gain from the beliefs/practices studied, including their own responses, recognising that others may think differently

Where do Muslims get guidance from?

- The Qur'an – the most important. Received by Prophet Muhammad from Angel Jibril, memorised by him and his companions, then written down and collected into 114 surahs (divisions/chapters).
- Sunnah: second most important source of authority. It means 'customs' or 'practices' and refers to the actions of Muhammad. These represent model behaviour for Muslims, and they try to imitate the life of Muhammad.
- Hadith: these are collections of the words of Muhammad. There are different collections of hadith, and some are seen as more reliable than others.

Key Vocabulary

Mecca	Mecca is an important place to Muslims. It is where Muhammad was born. Muslims face Mecca to pray and try to visit it sometime during their lives.
Hajj	The name Muslims give to the special pilgrimage to Mecca.
The Qur'an	The holy book of Islam.
Ramadan	A Muslim festival where Muslims fast during the daylight and only eat after the sun has set.
fast	A period of time when Muslims do not eat.
mosque	Muslim place of worship.
pilgrimage	A journey to a special place of religious meaning.

Key Vocabulary	
Islam	Islam is the second most popular religion in the world.
Muslim	A follower of the religion of Islam .
Allah	The Arabic name that Muslims use for God.
Five Pillars of Islam	The five things that Muslims are expected to do.
Prophets	Special messengers sent from Allah .
Muhammad	The last prophet and the key prophet in Islam .



Key Beliefs

Muslims believe that there is only one God called **Allah**. They believe **Allah** is the only ruler of the universe. The word '**Islam**' means submission and obedience to **Allah**.

Muhammad is so highly respected by **Muslims** that they will say "peace be upon him" after his name is spoken.

The Six Main Beliefs

1. Belief in **Allah** as the one and only God.
2. Belief in angels.
3. Belief in the holy books.
4. Belief in the **prophets** and that **Muhammad** was the final **prophet**.
5. Belief in the Day of Judgement (the day when **Allah** decides if a person goes to heaven or hell).
6. Belief in predestination (the belief that **Allah** has already planned out what will happen).

The Five Pillars of Islam

As well as the six main beliefs, there are **Five Pillars of Islam**.

Shahadah: **Muslims** say a declaration of faith.

Salah: **Muslims** pray five times a day. Before prayer, they must wash themselves and then face **Mecca** whilst praying.

Zakat: **Muslims** must donate to charities.

Sawm: **Muslims** fast for one month during a time called **Ramadan**.

Hajj: **Muslims** have to travel to **Mecca** once in their lifetime, if they can afford to.