



Holland Park School | Year 8 RE: Islam



Overview	<p>Big Question: What does it mean to be a Muslim</p> <p>This unit of work analyses the religion of Islam, from its origins to an analysis of what it means to be Muslim in today's world. It also covers key events within the Islamic belief and history and analyses these events in depth. Students begin by looking at the historical, geographical, political and religious status of pre-Islamic Arabia and then learn how Prophet Muhammad changed this landscape. Students will also have chance to engage with key teachings and practices within Islam such as the five pillars, as well as an analysis of the concept of Jihad. By the end of this unit students will have a rich understanding of key events, concepts and beliefs within the religion of Islam and understand its development across time.</p>
Assessment	<p>Skills Focus: Explain Questions</p> <p>Students will engage with a number of explain questions throughout this unit. They will be exposed to model answers, success criteria and scaffolds for each question. This will allow students to develop the skill of explaining different concepts and ideas using the PEE structure (Point, Evidence, Explain). This will culminate with an end of unit assessment, where students will be asked a series of knowledge questions and explain questions.</p>
Glossary Links	Page 28-31

Key words	<p>Islam- The religion of the Muslims, a monotheistic faith regarded as revealed through Muhammad as the Prophet of Allah.</p> <p>Allah- The God in Arabic</p> <p>Tawhid- The belief in the oneness of God</p> <p>Revelation- A message from God to human beings</p> <p>Prophet Muhammad- An Arab religious, social, and political leader and the founder of Islam</p> <p>Qur'an- The central religious text of Islam, believed by Muslims to be the final revelation from God.</p>
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	<p>Mecca- Holy City for Muslims established by Ibrahim and Ishmael.</p> <p>Hijrah- The migration of Muhammad from Mecca to Medina</p> <p>Ummah- The worldwide Muslim community</p> <p>Hadith – The sayings of the Prophet Muhammad</p> <p>Sunnah- The traditions and practices of the Prophet Muhammad</p> <p>Sunni- The branch of Islam with the majority of followers, Sunni meaning followers of the Sunnah</p>
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	<p>Shia- The branch of Islam with the minority of followers, Shi'a meaning 'House of Ali'</p> <p>Sunni/ Shia Split- A division in Islam which occurred after the death of the Prophet Muhammad on who should lead the Ummah</p> <p>Caliphate- An area ruled by a Muslim leader</p> <p>The Five Pillars- The basic acts in Islam, considered mandatory by believers, and are the foundation of Muslim life</p>
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	<p>Hajj- The Hajj is an annual Islamic pilgrimage to Mecca, Saudi Arabia, the holiest city for Muslims</p> <p>Greater Jihad- The spiritual struggle within oneself against sin.</p> <p>Lesser Jihad- Defending Islam from threat but must meet a range of strict conditions to be declared</p> <p>Islamophobia- Dislike of or prejudice against Islam or Muslims</p>
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Topics	Key content
Pre- Islamic Arabia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The social context of Arabia before the birth of Islam • The tribal structure of society and the dominance of polytheistic religious beliefs • The regular violence that occurred over resources.
Prophet Muhammad: The Qur'an	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The background of Prophet Muhammad as someone who was orphaned at an early age, became a trader with a good reputation, who married a wealthy women named Khadija. • The revelation of the Qur'an and how this was met with great objection as its message conflicted religious traditions and ethical teachings that were dominant at the time.
Prophet Muhammad: The Hijrah and the Conquest of Mecca	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How the message of the Qur'an was received • The migration of Prophet Muhammad from Mecca to Medina • The establishment of the first Ummah
Prophet Muhammad: The Final Sermon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The teachings of the final sermon • The key messages of Islam imparted to the Ummah before Prophet Muhammad's death • The difficulty with recording the final sermon and competing validity of Hadith's
The Sunni/Shia Split	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The problems experienced by Muslims after the death of Muhammad and the debate around leadership of the Ummah. • The competition between Abu Bakr and Ali as leaders of the Muslims and the division this causes within Islam which last to this day between Sunni and Shia.
Islamic Caliphates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The growth and development of Islam • Rashidun, the Umayyad and the Abbasid caliphates
The Five Pillars	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meaning and significance of each of the five pillars • How these pillars are expressed in the life of Muslims in the modern world

Hajj	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Hajj pilgrimage and the steps taken in Hajj • Hajj in modern Saudi Arabia
Jihad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Islamic teachings of Jihad and the distinctions between lesser jihad and greater Jihad. • The very strict conditions for declaring jihad, which is essentially impossible in the modern world.
Islam Today	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The state of Islam today as a religion which is growing rather than declining and one that had to deal with persecution and prejudice.