

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

Islam is one of the biggest religions in the world today. There are Muslims in most countries and Britain is no exception. There are around 2 million British Muslims. Muslims pray on their own and together. When they pray together, they often go to the Mosque. Muslim prayer is called Salah and it is one of the Five Pillars of Islam – the five duties that all Muslims should perform.



Key Questions:

- What are the 'Five Pillars' and why are they so important to Muslims?
- What is it like inside a mosque?
- Who was the prophet Muhammad?
- How and why is Ramadan and the festival Eid celebrated?
- What is it like to be a Muslim child?
- What are the Muslim religious practices?

Key Vocabulary

Islam: Arabic word related to Salam which means peace. Islam is the peace that comes from obeying the will of God.

Muslim: An Arabic word which means someone who obeys the will of God.

Allah: Allah is the name that Muslims use for God.

Muhammad: Muhammad is the name of the Arabic man who lived about 1,500 years ago) in Arabia and became the prophet of Islam. Many Muslims add the letters pbuh which stand for 'Peace and Blessings Upon Him' after his name.

The Qur'an: Muslim Holy book written in Arabic

Salat: Daily prayer

Shahadah: Belief in one God and his Prophet

Mosque: Holy place of worship

Ramadan: Daylight fasting

Eid: Time for forgiveness and a time of giving to charity

Five Pillars of Islam: The five duties that all Muslims should perform

