

Y4 RE KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER: WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A HINDU IN BRITAIN TODAY?

Key Words			
Hinduism	Hinduism is the belief in the principles of samsara (the continuous cycle of life, death, and reincarnation) and karma. It is the world's oldest religion with roots and customs dating back more than 4,000 years. It is also the world's third-largest religion.	Karma	The universal law of cause and effect. A system where a good life comes from past good actions and a bad life from past harmful actions
Hindu	A follower of the religion of Hinduism.	Moksha	The end of the death and rebirth cycle and is classed as the fourth and ultimate artha (goal) One can only enter the Moksha by attaining freedom of the human soul and leaving the physical form behind
Brahman	Hindus recognise one God, Brahman, who exists in everything. The gods of the Hindu faith represent different expressions of Brahman. Different Hindu communities may have their own deities (gods and goddesses) whom they worship	Puja Puja tray	Hindu worship Objects used in puja (worship). All shrines contain a puja tray.
Deities	Hindu gods and goddesses. Of which there are many. Hindus recognise three principal gods: Brahma, who creates the universe. Vishnu, who preserves the universe. Shiva, who destroys the universe	Aarti	A Hindu religious ritual of worship, a part of puja, in which light is offered to one or more deities.
Murti	A term for an image, statue, or idol of a deity or saint in Hindu tradition	Mandir	A Hindu place of worship (temple). Hindus do not have to go to the Mandir to pray or hold religious ceremonies
Vedas	The Hindu Holy Scriptures written in the Sanskrit language.	Shrine	A sacred place in a Hindu's home where they can worship every day.
Dharma	Means 'duty' in Hinduism. Hindus have 10 dharma.	Mahatma Gandhi	Spiritual leader

Key Ideas
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hinduism first originated in India. India features strongly in the identity of most Hindus in the UK. Hinduism is not an organised religion and has no single approach to teaching its values. Hindus are vegetarians. They believe that God exists in everything so it is important to respect all living things. Hindus do not have a simple set of rules to follow like the Ten Commandments. Local, regional, caste, and community-driven practices influence the practice of beliefs throughout the Hindu world. They believe in a Supreme Being (Brahman) and obedience to certain ideas such as dharma and karma. Hindus believe in the authority of the Vedas (sacred scriptures) even though how the Vedas are interpreted may vary greatly. There are three basic teachings of Hinduism which are Dharma, Karma and Moksha There are over 1.03 million Hindus living in the UK. This represents over 1.6% of the UK's population (2020 statistics) In the UK Hindus are predominantly based in the cities of London and Leicester, where they make up greater proportions of the population. Over half of the UK's Hindu population live in London, more than 800,000 where they make up 5% of the population. Outside London the highest proportion of Hindus (6.1%) live in Leicester. Only about 0.7% of Greater Manchester's 2.8 million population is Hindu – which is about 19,750 Hindus. Hinduism is now the third largest religion in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland There are 161 Hindu temples across the UK. (2022 statistics) Hindus in Britain will have a home shrine dedicated to their favourite deity. The Puja tray will be used by British Hindus in both worship at home and the Mandir. Aarti is a light offering ceremony performed by Hindus all over the world, including British Hindus, in the home shrine and in the mandir.



Shri Swaminarayan Mandir, London



BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir Leicester



Puja tray



Brahma Statue



Hindu shrine in the home



Aarti- light-offering ceremony



Mahatma Gandhi

