# Knowledge Organiser: How are we guided through life?

### What is the main authority in Islam?

The **Qur'an** is the holy book in Islam and is the **direct, revealed word of Allah to the Prophet Muhammad.** The Qur'an is the unchanged and everlasting words of Allah; it is the main source of guidance and worship in Islam.

The Qur'an must not be touched with unclean hands and must always be placed higher than all other books.

### Why is the Prophet Muhammad so important to Muslims today?

Prophet Muhammad was chosen by Allah as the **one who would receive his message**. Prophet Mohammad is also the perfect role model in Islam. As he spread the teachings of Islam, the Prophet Muhammad was trusted by millions of people and continues to be the source of inspiration for Muslims today. Records of his actions and teachings can be found in the **Sunnah** and **Hadith**. These are two other sources of authority in Islam, secondary to the Qur'an.

### What are the 5 Pillars of Islam?

The five pillars are **five duties and responsibilities** that all Muslims should follow in life. Following these should lead a Muslim on the correct path to Allah and the afterlife.

### Shahadah, Zakat, Hajj, Salah and Sawm.

# What is prayer in Islam and why is it important?

Salat is the name for prayer in Islam. Muslims will prostrate in prayer and will always face in the direction of the Ka'ba in Mecca. Muslims aim to pray five times a day but can make up for missed prayers at any time in the day. Wudu must always take place before prayer. This is to ensure that a person is physically and spiritually clean before speaking to Allah. A prayer mat will also be used to ensure this.

### Why is the mosque important to the community?

The mosque is the communal place of worship in Islam. Mosques should have a **minaret** which distinguishes them from other buildings. The mosque is open to all members of the community for worship, lessons, community centre activities, weddings, funerals and many other activities. The prayer room in the mosque will have a **mihrab** which will be facing in the direction of **Mecca**.

#### Why is the Call to Prayer important?

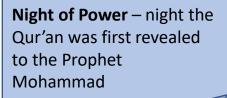
The Call to Prayer is the sound which is broadcast from the minaret which notifies all Muslims in the community that it is time to come to pray. The **Muadhin** is the name of the person who will lead the Call to Prayer. The very first **Muadhin** in Islam was **Bilal** – a good friend of the Prophet Muhammad.

In many places with large Islamic communities, the call to prayer is broadcast five times a day, notifying Muslims of the key prayers which should be completed during the day and uniting them in worship.



## Don't forget...

**Ummah** – the community of Muslims



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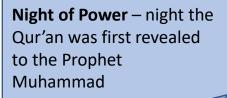
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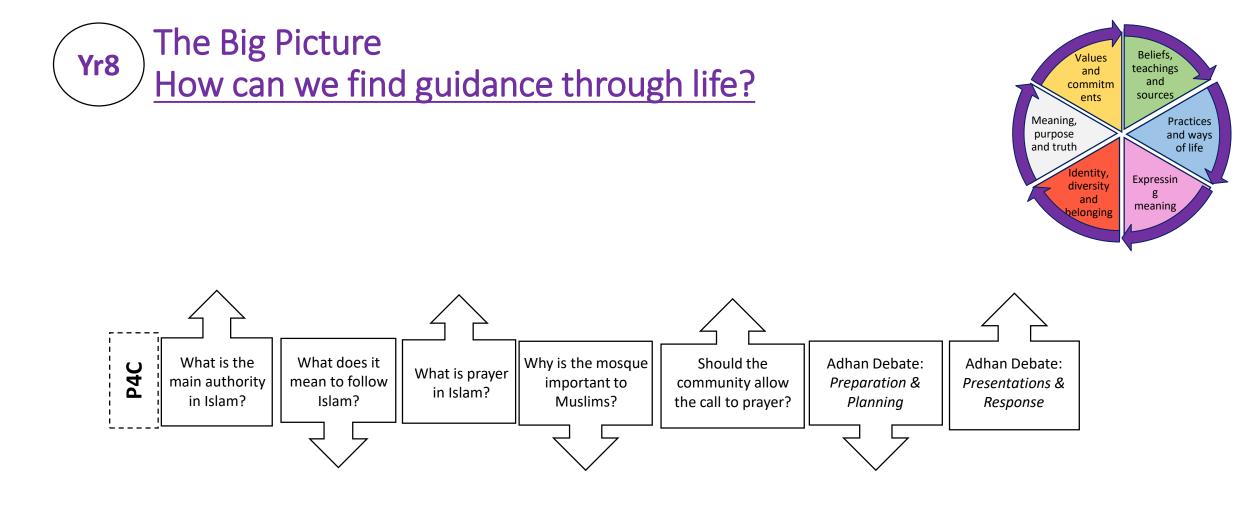
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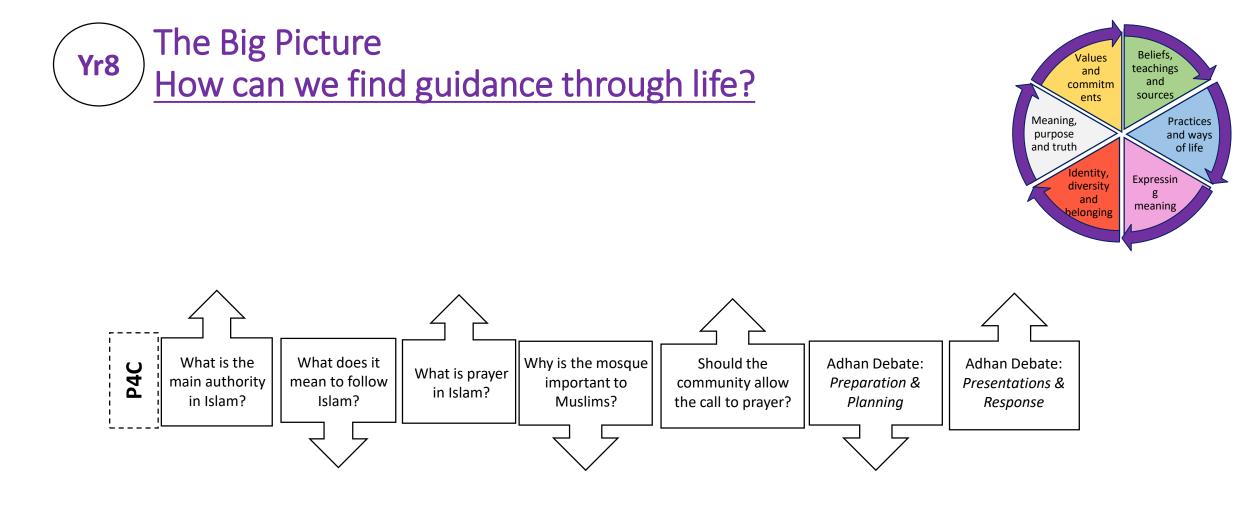
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