

## What matters most in Sikh life in Britain today?

Thank you very much for filling in the questionnaire below. It will make it possible for us to produce some interesting new learning ideas for RE lessons where non-Sikh people learn about the religion in ways that are up to date and real. Please answer in as much detail as possible, and share your own experiences if you are willing.

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**Your name:** Parmvir

**Age:** 10

**1 Please tell us the three most important things about being Sikh.**

- 1 One of the most important things to be a Sikh is to keep your hair uncut and tidy.
- 2 Also to remember God.
- 3 Don't be selfish. Be selfless.

**2 What is your earliest memory about being a Sikh child?**

My earliest memory of being a Sikh child is going to the gurdwara.

**3 Please say which two of the Sikh festivals and celebrations mean most to you, and why.**

Vaisakhi – This festival means a lot to me because the Khalsa was born.  
Guru Nanak Dev Ji's Gurmurab – This is when our first Guru was born.

**4 Is Vaisakhi important to you? Why or why not?**

Vaisakhi is important to me because this fabulous festival is when the Khalsa was made/created.

**5 Choose one festival or celebration. Please tell us its name and what you do at that festival or celebration.**

Bandi Chhor Diwas – This is when Guru Har Gobind Sahib Ji came out of prison with 52 princes. We light candles. We light them for happiness.

**6 Choose one festival or celebration (it can be the same as the one you chose for question 5 if you like!). Please tell us its name and how the festival makes you feel. Why does it make you feel like this?**

Guru Gobind Singh Ji's Gurmurab makes me feel very happy as it is a very special day. It is when Guru Gobind Singh Ji was born.

- 7 Some people say you can be a Sikh without going to the gurdwara very much. Please tell us if you think that going to the gurdwara is important or not and what your gurdwara is like.**

Going to the gurdwara is important as it is when you get to see the Sikh religious scriptures (the Guru Granth Sahib Ji) and the gurdwara is decorated. It has lots of pictures of times in the past.

- 8 What has Sikhism taught you about God? Describe what you believe.**

Sikhism teaches me about God that there is only one God and that God is like my father.

- 9 The story of Nanak disappearing in the river can teach lots of important lessons. What do you learn from this story?**

I have learnt from this story that you can't see God but meditating on his name you can be blessed by God.

- 10 Is there anything that is difficult about being Sikh in Britain today? How do you try to overcome any of these difficulties?**

Keeping your hair is hard in Britain as most people cut their hair. I can overcome this difficulty because the hair is my present.