Subject Theme Overview	Year 4	Charlton Kings Junior School

Subject	R.E.	Theme	What do Hindus believe God is Like? Hinduism	Term	2

What should I already know?

This topic introduces Hinduism as one of the principal religions in the UK. Hindus are not the sole focus of a unit of study in KS1 in the Gloucestershire Agreed Syllabus for RE. Children may have had opportunities to explore aspects of Hinduism in thematic units or in whole school contexts. Children will bring in their own starting points, reflecting their own experiences.

What should I know by the end of the unit?

Make sense of beliefs:

- Identify some Hindu deities and say how they help Hindus describe God
- Make clear links between some stories (e.g. Svetaketu, Ganesh, Diwali) and what Hindus believe about God.
- Other informed suggestions about what Hindu murtis express about God.

Understand the impact:

- Make simple links between beliefs about God and how Hindus live (e.g., choosing a deity and worshipping at a home shrine; celebrating Diwali).
- Identify some different ways in which Hindus worship.

Make connections

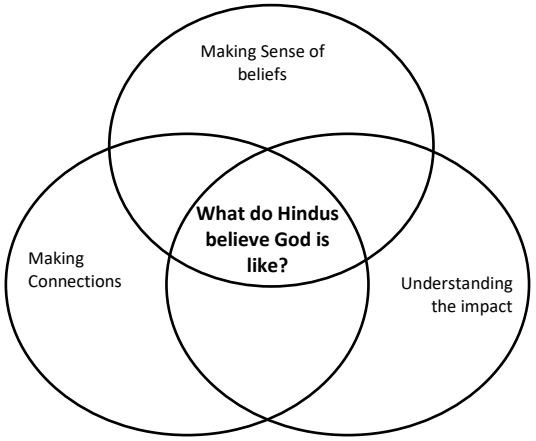
- Raise questions and suggest answers about whether it is good to think about the cycle of create/preserve/destroy in the world today.
- Make links between the Hindu ideas of everyone having a 'spark' of God in them and ideas about the value of people in the world today, giving good reasons for their ideas.

What will I learn about?

I will learn about:

- The Aum symbol – the very first sound out of which Hindus believe the universe was created.
- The Aum symbol as the sound used to represent Brahman (God).
- The story of Svetaketu.
- Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva. The cycle of life, death, rebirth linked to nature and with Trimurti.
- How pictures and statues (murti) show the nature of God.
- How different deities represent the different aspects of Brahman's power (e.g. Lakshmi, Ganesh)
- How Hindus worship at home.
- The Hindu idea of everyone having a 'spark' of God within them. The impact this has on value of people in the world today.

How do these ideas work together?



Key Vocabulary	
Polytheist	Belief in many gods
Monotheist	Belief in one god
Deities	Gods and goddesses
Murti	Statues of Gods and Goddesses
Brahman	Brahman is a term used by Hindus to describe God or the Supreme Being.
Trimurti	Vishnu, Brahma and Shiva, the three most important forms of Brahman
Aum	Hindu symbol for all life
Svetaketu	Hindu story about 'God being in everything'
Atman	The spark within a person. It refers to the real person inside an individual. It is made of part of the spirit of Brahman.