

**Lincolnshire Locally Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education**  
**KS2 Compulsory Unit: Life Journey (Islam)**

- *How do Muslims show they belong?*
- *What value does religion bring for religious people?*
- *How does this relate to ideas about community, identity and belonging?*
- *Rites of passage; include other religions, e.g. Bar/Bat Mitzvah in Judaism, confirmation in Christianity*

- **Islam**

1. **Birth** (reciting the **adhaan** [call to prayer] into the baby's ear, giving them something sweet to taste, shaving the baby's head and the **aqiqah** ceremony – links between this, **zakat** [charitable giving] and Muslims beliefs about harmony)
2. **Marriage** (a social contract, **mahr** [a financial gift given to the bride], the **nikah** [marriage ceremony]; the role of cultural traditions in Muslim weddings)
3. **Death** (burial rituals should take place as soon as possible after death [within three days]; ritual collective washing of the body, wrapping the body in white cloth [death as an equaliser], buried facing Makkah; Muslims are never cremated)

- **Judaism**

1. **Birth** (**brit milah** – circumcision of boy when eight days old – mark of belonging to the people of Israel)
2. **Initiation** (**bar/bat mitzvah** [lit. 'son' or 'daughter of the commandment' – the point at which a boy or girl becomes an adult and must keep the commandments; happens at the age of 13 for a boy and 12 for a girl; key features, e.g. reading Torah portion, binding **tefillin** on arms and forehead for some Jewish groups, celebration, etc.)
3. **Marriage** (signing the **ketubah** [marriage contract], the seven blessings and drinking from the **Kiddush** [blessing] cup, breaking a glass to signify the destruction of the Temple; ways in which this links to Jewish beliefs about **covenant**)
4. **Death** (burial rituals should take place as soon as possible after death; the body is washed and dressed in **tachrichim** [a simple white shroud]; men are also wrapped in their **tallit** [prayer shawl] - the fringes are cut off the **tallit** to show that he is now free of the religious laws; before burial, the mourners make a tear in their clothes – this is the act of **keriah** to show their grief; Jews are buried, not cremated)

- **The value of religion:** is religion important because it makes certain claims about God, the world and human beings that religious believers accept as the truth? Is religion important because it has social value for the whole of society? Does religion have value because it fosters a sense of community? Etc.

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