

Key figures

Christians

- The official faith of the UK is Christian – Church of England (CofE)
- The CofE leader is the Archbishop of Canterbury. He is chosen by the Prime Minister and the Queen. His boss is the Queen
- Before 1534, the UK was Christian – Catholic.
- The leader of the Catholic faith around the world is the Pope.
- The Pope is also known as the Supreme or Roman pontiff
- The Pope lives in the Vatican City, a tiny country within Rome, Italy.
- He is elected by the Cardinals from among their group and remains Pope until he dies.
- Nowadays, Catholics and CofE generally get along but has been cause of lots of conflict in past, eg Northern Ireland.

Muslims

- Mohammed lived 571 – 632 AD, in Saudi Arabia. He was born in Mecca.
- He was the last of the Islamic prophets and was sent by God (Allah) to confirm the teachings of Abraham, Moses and Jesus.
- Aged 40, he started to receive messages from Allah. These messages were the basis for the Qur’an and for Islam.
- In 622, Mohammed and his followers were driven out of Mecca to Medina. They had to fight lots of tribes who did not believe in just one god. But by 630, Mohammed had united most of Arabia under one religion – Islam.

The Vatican



Mecca



Mohammed



In Islam, it is not permitted to draw pictures of people or animals as only Allah can create life. Therefore, this picture shows Medina, not Mohammed.

Key Vocabulary

cardinal	A very senior Catholic bishop
elected	Chosen for the position by voting
prophet	Someone who teaches the will of God
Allah	Muslim name for God
Qur’an	The Islamic holy book
tribes	Groups of families following one leader
Catholicism	Type of Christian faith, with the Pope as leader.
CofE	Church of England – type of Christian faith that does not recognise Pope as leader.

Archbishop of Canterbury



Pope

