### **Edwinstree Middle School**

Voluntary Controlled Church of England School



4th March 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

### Year 5 RE Educational Visit

We are delighted to, once again, be able to offer Year 5 the opportunity to visit "Faith in Queen's Park" in Bedford. The visit will entail a tour of a Church, Gurdwara and Mosque. Being able to see places of worship alongside different faiths working together is a wonderful learning experience for all our pupils. Many of our student visitors last year still reflect upon their visit (they particularly liked the bandanas in the Gurdwara and ceiling in the Mosque!)

This educational visit will take place on Wednesday 23rd April 2025.

Your child will need to bring with them:

- Full school uniform with comfortable shoes (that they are able to remove independently).
- A packed lunch- <u>this must be Vegetarian</u>, no eggs, meat or fish –Because the Sikhs have a strict 'vegetarian only' rule inside the Gurdwara [no glass bottles please]
- A small backpack [to be carried throughout the day]
- Clothing: Head scarves or beanie style hats are worn by everyone inside the Gurdwara and by females inside the Mosque. Where possible pupils will need to bring their own head-scarf, they do have some available, if required.
  - Shoes will need to be removed inside the entrance of both the Gurdwara and the Mosque.
- Any medication [including travel sickness tablets] clearly labelled with their name to be handed to the
  office by Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025.

On the day of the visit, students need to arrive at school by **8:15 am**, for a prompt departure at **8:30 am**. We will leave the venue at 13:30 pm and arrive back at Edwinstree at approximately 2:30 pm, pupils will be dismissed at the end of the school day in the normal manner.

We are pleased to announce that we have received both Diocese and ESA funding towards this visit and have been able to significantly reduce the cost. The cost of this visit will be £14.00 per student, which includes coach hire, parking and the tour cost. Payment can be made via the school Gateway. Payment and consent form should be completed by **Monday 31**st **March 2025**.

If the cost of this visit will cause you financial difficulty, please email the office on admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk.

We understand that visiting a place of worship will come with a unique set of questions. Students will have an assembly where we will discuss the visit and any questions they may have- see attached the powerpoint as parents/carers may also find it helpful.

If you have any further questions, the FAQ section of the website is particularly useful- <u>FAQ - Faith in Queen's Park (faithinqueenspark.org.uk)</u>, alternatively please contact myself via the hoy5@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk.

Please click on the link below to provide consent for your child to attend.  $\underline{https://forms.office.com/e/WN5qHbp6sC}$ 

We are also looking for a limited number of parent volunteers to accompany us on the visit. If you would be willing to attend, please indicate on the form link above and we will contact you if required. Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Kelly Head of Y5, Head of RE

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## What are the times?

You need to arrive at Edwinstree at 8:15 am.

Why so early? Travelling during a busy time with traffic!

We will do all our visits, eat lunch and then leave at 1:30pm.

We hope to be in school by 2:30 pm- You will be able to have a play either in the field or in the hall before end of normal school day.





# What will we do at each place?

At each venue you will get to look around and see what the places of worship we have studied this year look like in real life! Can anyone remember what happens to the Guru Granth Sahib each night!?

You will also be able to ask questions and listen to our Guide.





## What will we wear?

### Normal School Uniform.

You will need to take off your shoes so make sure you have socks on and let us know if you need any help getting your shoes on/off.

Bring a head-scarf (super light)/ beanie hat from home, if possible, if not they can lend you one. My Nannie has lots of scarves so your grandparents might too!

We will all wear one in the Gurdwara, and then only females will wear in the Mosque.





## What will we eat?

Vegetarian Pack Lunches- no eggs, meat or fish.

Cheese/Jam sandwiches, houmous wraps, pizza, pasta, fruit salad, crisps biscuits, yoghurts are all great ideas!



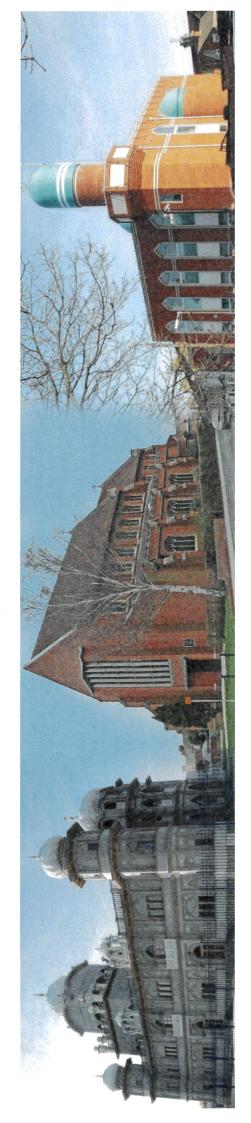




## Questions...

No! Just like RE at Edwinstree, we would never try and make anyone join a religion. The guides will tell you about what THEY do and how THEY worship. Will we do any praying or be asked to join a religion?

You might want to tell them about what YOU do too!





## Questions...

What if I do or say something "wrong"?

Firstly- it won't be "wrong"- you are learning and it is ok!

We can help educate you and resolve it.

If you're ever unsure you can always ask a teacher or the guide.

