

Outcomes:

To visit a place of worship and produce an illustrated report on the following:

Visible symbols (eg. statues, pictures, ornaments)

Holy books, scriptures or writings

The building itself and its use



The Prayer times are displayed in the main hall area

Our visit to the Masjid Khadijah and Islamic Centre



Masjid Khadijah and Islamic Centre is a unique community centre based in central Peterborough. The mosque was established in 1986 in a small house on Cromwell Road and has been expanding ever since. This mosque is one of the largest mosques in its area.

As part of our trip, we were able to explore the mosque and find out that this was not just a place of worship, but a central hub for the whole community. We learnt that the mosque welcomes people from all walks of life, irrespective of race, colour, creed or gender. We also learnt that this mosque offers lessons to children after they finish school so they can build their social skills, manners and to improve their quality of life.

Quotes:

“Allah is god!”
-JG2

“Where do the women wash themselves before they pray?”
-RR

“Who painted that picture?”
-HD



We learnt that the carpeted floor was patterned with prayer spaces to maximise how many people would fit in the room to allow them to pray together. All Muslims face in the direction of the holy city of Makkah (Mecca) when they pray, and more specifically, the sacred cube shaped shrine, the Ka'bah, in the centre of Makkah. We learnt that every Friday the mosque would be full of Muslims to pray. They now encourage women to pray and they have their own section on the second floor.



On the journey to the mosque the children saw a tall pillar, whilst in the mosque the children learnt that this is called the Minaret. This is for new Muslims who may be new to the area and can identify where their nearest mosque is for them to pray. The Minaret is on top of the dome (Qubba). In the Qubba there is a beautiful chandelier and lines from their Koran.

We went into the washrooms and learnt about how when you pray in a mosque, you need to wash yourself before each prayer. This wash is called the Wudu as it was done by the Prophet Muhammad, in a specific order before praying, which takes place five times a day. Muslims are expected to wash themselves in a certain order – first hands, then mouth, nose, face, hair and ears, and finally their ankles and feet. Women have their own entrance and washroom.

