

**Lincolnshire Locally Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education**  
**KS1 Compulsory Unit: Life Journey (Islam)**

- *What do Muslims do to celebrate birth?*
- *What does it mean and why does it matter to belong?*

- The importance of community (**ummah**) in Islam; belonging to one community of Muslims worldwide – all Muslims working together in harmony to follow the straight path (**shariah**)
  - Celebrating a new members of the Muslim community (**ummah**) – the birth of a baby as a blessing, something that Muslims give thanks for
  - Whisper the call to prayer (**adhaan**) into the baby's ear just after they have been born – this reminds them to worship the one God; then the baby is given a taste of something sweet
  - The **aqiqah** ceremony at 7 days old: mentioned by Muhammad in a collection of his sayings and teachings
  - Traditionally, Muslims give a gift of food to the poor as part of the **aqiqah** ceremony (to help bring about harmony in the world – to rebalance those who have more than they need and those who do not have enough)
  - Some Muslims shave the baby's hair at this time as well; the hair is weighed and this weight in silver is given to the poor
  - Babies are traditionally given a name at this time; often they are named after Prophets or other important Muslim figures
- Could compare this with other birth rites, e.g. **baptism** (Christianity) or **brit milah** (Judaism)