

# Why is the Torah so important to Jewish people?(God/Torah)

## 1. What do Jews believe about God? How do Jews remember their beliefs about God?

- Jews treat the name of God with the greatest of respect
- Shema: prayer in which we can find some key Jewish beliefs about God.



## 2. What is a Sefer Torah? How is it used?

- 'Torah' means the first five books of the Bible. However, Jews often use the word 'Torah' to encompass all the Old Testament (and more texts which are not found within the Christian Bible).
- A Sefer Torah or Torah scroll is a handwritten copy of the Torah, meaning the five books of Moses



## 3. Are there particular laws that Jewish people need to follow?

- Torah includes many laws about which foods may or may not be eaten.
- Food that Jewish people eat is entitled 'kosher', meaning 'clean' or fit for purpose.



## 4. What can we find out about Jewish communities in the region and further afield?

- Orthodox: Follow Jewish laws and traditions in everyday life strictly.
- Progressive: Modern form of Judaism that follows the torah to their own way.



## Key Vocabulary

Torah	First five books of the Bible (Moses)
Synagogue	Jewish place of worship
Orthodox	Follow Jewish laws and traditions in everyday life strictly.
Reformed/progressive	Modern form of Judaism that follows the torah to their own way.
Torah Scrolls	Handwritten copy of the Torah
Rabbi	A Jewish scholar or teacher, especially one who studies or teaches Jewish law.