

RE: The Multicultural Society Knowledge Organizer

1. Key People

homo sapiens	Even though humans have lived here on and off from about one million years ago, they have only lived here continuously for the last 12,000 years.
The Amesbury Archer	One of the Beaker People, a technologically advanced group who migrated here from mainland Europe around 4,500 years ago and spread through Britain and Ireland.
asylum seekers	People who ask another country's government to give them safety from danger in their own country.
The Bristol Bus Boycotters	A group who campaigned against a bus company's racist employment rules in 1963.



2. You need to know...

- The UK's full name is The **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**.
- Even though Northern Ireland is part of the island of Ireland, many people refer to the UK as "**Britain**" and all of its citizens as "British". According to the UN and international law, the UK is one country, but it also consists of several nations. Some people say Cornwall is one of those nations.
- People have migrated to Britain and Ireland for thousands of years, so it's **almost impossible** to find someone who's ancestry is has **no** Celtic, Anglo-Saxon or Viking DNA.
- Several times in the past, immigrants have been **encouraged** to settle in the UK. Many people came to live and work here from other parts of the British Empire after World War 2, for example.
- Some say that UK governments have developed a policy of "**state multiculturalism**". This has enabled immigrant communities to keep their distinct **identities**, but has also made it harder for them to **integrate** (mix) with people who are already here.
- Many people say that immigration brings new ideas, skilled workers and **enriches** UK culture. Others are concerned that what it is to be "British" may be in danger of being **lost**.
- In 2021, the UK received the **fourth** highest number of asylum seekers in Europe. Most asylum seekers and refugees seek safety in their neighbouring countries.
- Christianity** has existed in Britain for around 1,000 years and is still the most common worldview here.
- The UK's **legal systems** and what's thought of as acceptable in our society have been heavily influenced by Christianity.
- Many MPs are religious, but some people feel that religion has **no place** in politics.
- Many **community groups**, some religious, work to bring everyone in their area together and help anyone they can. For example, **foodbanks** started in the UK and were set up by Christians.
- The Sikh concept of **seva** (service to others) can be seen in the work of the Midland Langar Seva Society, which gives thousands of free meals to those in need every month.
- Sikhism also teaches that people should **tolerate** others, a value shared by many others in the UK.

3. Key vocabulary

empire	A group of countries ruled by another country as a result of conquest.
immigration	The act of coming into a country to live from another country.
asylum	Safety, or a safe place.
multicultural	When there is cultural diversity in a society.
indigenous	Naturally existing somewhere rather than arriving from another place.
ethnic group (or sometimes a nation)	A group of people who share a set of characteristics that make them different from other groups, which may include language, belief, culture and history.

4. Concepts

	relationships	equality
Identity and Community		

Contexts

- It is estimated that around **388,000** refugees live in the UK. Around 1.2 million refugees live in Germany and around **3.7 million** refugees live in Turkey.
- There are many reasons why people have come to live in the UK. We share some of our key values with many other places in the world; **democracy, the rule of law, tolerance and respect for others' beliefs, and individual freedom**. This leads people to feel that the UK is somewhere they can have a good quality of life, contribute to society and feel safe.