

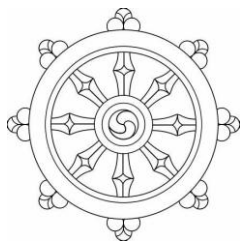
Key Concepts & Core Knowledge

In this unit, we look at some important Buddhist teachings including Right Action – doing the right thing.

The story of the Buddha has many meanings, one of which is knowing that our actions have consequences. Everything we do could have an impact on someone or something around us.

Many Buddhists follow the Buddha’s teachings as they try to find enlightenment. The Buddha said that we need to take responsibility for our actions, we need to act in a way that helps those around us. If we act in a good way, then life will be better for ourselves and others. Not being violent, angry, greedy or selfish is important. Instead, we should try to help others, share things and control ourselves.

Many Buddhists will follow the Noble Eightfold Path to help them do this.



Key Vocabulary

Buddha	The enlightened one – a title given to prince Siddhartha.
Buddhist	Someone who follows the teachings of the Buddha.
Four Noble truths	Four core beliefs of Buddhists based on the teachings of the Buddha.
greed	keeping things for ourselves, not sharing
guidance	When you are shown the way to go or helped as you try to do something. Advice.
Noble Eightfold path	eight ways in which Buddhists believe you should approach life – these concern thoughts, words and deeds
positive	something that is good or will make something good happen.
Right action	One of the parts of the Noble Eightfold Path - Caring for others – being kind and doing the right thing
selfishness	putting ourselves before the needs of others.
suffering	great pain, hardship, or sadness.



Impact on believer / daily life

- Buddhists try to follow the noble eightfold path in their thoughts, words and actions.
- This is a personal daily struggle for Buddhists in the modern world. Sometimes acting in the right way is difficult as life is frustrating and suffering is everywhere.

History / Context

Buddhism began around 2500 years ago in ancient India.

Buddha said that people need to take responsibility for their own actions, believing that there was not a God – this was very different to what had happened before.

His teachings are still followed by millions of people today.

Noble Eightfold path



Link to other aspects of belief

- The Four Noble Truths
- Suffering is real– such as sickness and death, and also because we know all good things will end.
 - Suffering is caused by wanting things. This means we are not satisfied – this causes suffering.
 - Some suffering can be stopped. People do not need to be greedy and selfish.

The way to do this is by following the Noble Eightfold Path

Prior Learning

Right action follows on from right speech in the last enquiry in Y1 – making sure our words and actions are as positive and helpful as possible. So, if they use right speech and action Buddhists think they will live better lives

Reflective questions

- Do I use right action?
- Could right action help me be a better person?
- How could right action help others around me?
- What right actions could others do to help me?

Right action!