**FF UKS2 Who influenced Alevi values? Teacher Notes**

1. The twelfth Imam, the Mahdi,, the Hidden Imam who did not die, but ‘disappeared’ and will return at the end of time. Hence his face is hidden by divine light.

The 12 Imams are the same as for Shi’a Islam and each represents different human qualities that the Alevis should emulate. Note the artistic similarity between them, showing a symbolic thread of spiritual as well as physical heritage. You might mention with the class the power of art to convey deeper ideas and beliefs.

2. Brainstorm briefly what pupils see as ‘good human values, attitudes and behaviours’.

Try to get pupils to distinguish between what are values, attitudes and behaviours and to see the links between them.

The Pirs will be in the next lesson.

3. Ask the pupils if they think these could be good role models for people today, focusing on their characters. Why/why not?

Who are the role models for children and young people today? Do they represent a good way of living?

Who are their role models?

4. It is important to encourage pupils to reflect on role-models as in Alevism character and personal qualities are so important. Alevism is similar in some ways to a form of Virtue Ethics, where the development of character is what shapes and defines the person and the community. Encourage pupils to think about how it would be if everyone had the qualities that they have said they admire. What would the world be like? Would it make the world a better place? How do we shape or create our world, the societies we live in? Relate these back to some of the qualities exemplified in Ali and his sons.

This would be a good opportunity for some extended writing and/or some creative work involving media messages and the kinds of values and behaviours they sometimes promote, comparing them to Alevi values.