School name	**Nishkam High School and Sixth Form**		
School address	Great King Street North, Birmingham B19 2LF		
Headteacher~~Co-Principal~~	Mrs Emma Wilks ~~Mr Chris Deeks~~	Tel no.:	0121 348 7660
Contact for Admissions	Jyoti Chauhan	Tel no.:	0121 348 7660
Admission Number	140 (70 in each year group)		

School Statement

The Nishkam High School Birmingham (NHSB) is an exceptional state funded free school. It is a non-selective inclusive school for both boys and girls aged 11 – 19 years. NHSB is a Sikh school with a multi-faith ethos open to all. The school is a member of the multi-academy trust of schools known as the Nishkam Schools Multi-Academy Trust (NSMAT).

NSMAT School Vision

To empower children with values to enable them to excel academically and spiritually, enabling them to serve humanity selflessly (*Nishkam*) with an abundance of love, compassion, and forgiveness.

The Sikh Dharam (Religion)

Encourages pupils to practise their own faith while learning about major world religions and supporting others to practise theirs.

Multi-faith approach

Encourages and supports pupils of all faiths and none through a framework of shared virtues.

At NHSB we believe that all pupils can succeed when given outstanding teaching, pastoral care, and family support. We offer academic excellence with faith-inspired virtues. The overall Nishkam approach to education can be summarised as: "Faith-Inspired, Virtues-Led, Aspiring for Excellence"

Faith-Inspired - learning from the wisdom of religions

At Nishkam Schools, our pupils explore the divine context of humanity and wonder of all creation. They not only learn about, but also learn from, the wisdom of religions and in so doing explore the infinite human potential to do good unconditionally. We support pupils to develop aspects of their own religious, spiritual or human identities. They learn about serenity through prayer and humility in service and in so doing, they deepen their own respective faith, and respect the common purpose of all religious traditions, as well as respecting the beliefs of those with no faith tradition. They explore the unique divinity of the individual, and our common humanity.

Pupils are enabled to commit to and practise their faith/belief through knowledge, and experiential learning. Commitment in faith maybe demonstrated by pupils through faith initiation (eg Baptism/Amritdhari) and regular faith practice (prayer, service and understanding elements of scripture).

Virtues-Led- nurturing compassionate, responsible human beings

At Nishkam Schools, we believe that the fostering of human virtues forms the foundation of all goodness. Our curricula are carefully enriched to allow experiences where our pupils, teachers and parents alike learn to grow through a conscious focus on virtues. Our virtues-led education approach helps to provide guidance to enable pupils to understand their choices in order to help lead better lives. Our pupils become self-reflective and flourish; they are able to build strong, meaningful relationships and understand their responsibilities to the global family and all creation founded in faith.

Aspiring for Excellence- in all that we do

At Nishkam Schools, our pupils and staff alike aim to become the best human beings they can possibly be,

in all aspects of spiritual, social and academic life. We foster a school culture which inspires optimism and hope, as well as determination and confidence so that all of our pupils can, and will, achieve.
This is accomplished through a rich and challenging curriculum. along with excellent teaching to nurture awe and wonder.
Pupils gain a breadth and depth of knowledge and a love of learning to achieve their full potential.

Background

Applications are welcomed from pupils of all faiths and none. Offers are made according to the oversubscription criteria below.

The Sikh Dharam respects all religions and beliefs and does not seek to convert others. Further details are available on the school website: www.NishkamSchoolTrust.org

Overview of Admissions Process

Applications for the Sixth Form must be made directly to the school.

1. Complete the application form found on the school website www.nishkamschooltrust.org ~~www.NishkamSchoolTrust.org~~ by the given date.
2. Applicants applying for a **faith place** must also complete and submit **both** Step 1 and Step 2 of the Supplementary Information Form (SIF) by **31st January 202~~7~~8.**

When applying through the Faith category, if the SIF is incomplete, your application will automatically be placed under the Open category.

For Step 1 of ~~T~~the Supplementary Information Form (SIF), Place of Worship form can be downloaded from the school website and printed or a paper copy can be obtained from the school. Once this form is completed by a priest or secretary at your place of worship, the form will need to be **uploaded** to the school website under Admissions > How to Apply > SIF ~~F~~forms and other ~~D~~documents.

Admission into Year 12 will be based on academic attainment and suitability of the courses to meet individual student needs.

All admissions will be determined by use of the criteria detailed below.

Method of Application

Prospectuses and application forms will be published during the Autumn Term each year. All current Nishkam students will be invited to an Open Evening, and the event will be marketed locally and on the school website. The Sixth Form prospectus and application form will be specifically issued to:

- All current Year 11 students at Nishkam High School
- Students visiting from other education establishments
- Those making specific requests by contacting the school.

Information, advice and guidance meetings are set up for every prospective Sixth Form student, with their parents, to provide expert professional support at a critical time of decision.

The admission number for external applications is a minimum of fifteen.

Entry requirements

Students wishing to join the Sixth Form will need at least Grade 6 at GCSE in both Maths and English Language in order to study any A Levels. Further subject specific criteria will also apply and they can be found in Appendix A. ~~Students wishing to join the sixth form to study Applied coursed will need a Grade 4 GCSE in Maths and English Language. Further subject specific criteria will also apply and they can be found in Appendix A.~~

Nishkam takes a holistic approach to every application to determine whether an applicant should receive an offer. Where an applicant may be qualified to study at the Sixth Form and has information relating to their attendance record, behaviour, attitude to study or any other information that is outside of

Nishkam's 'expected parameters', this will be used to assess whether an offer will be made. At Nishkam Sixth Form we don't offer the facility for students to resit Maths and English if they have not gained a 4 at GCSE.

Typically, we expect Sixth Form applicants to be applying directly from Year 11 and to have sat their GCSE exams in the summer immediately prior to admission.
We are unable to accept applications from students looking to transfer or re-sit their Sixth Form studies. However, applicants who are applying 'out of year' due to exceptional circumstances may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Over-subscription Criteria

If there are more applications than places, 50% of places will be allocated to Faith-based places and 50% to Open places.

Category 1 – Faith-based places

Faith places will be prioritised in the following order:

i. Looked After Children, Previously Looked-After Children or Internationally adopted previously looked after children.
~~ii. Siblings[2] of students at Nishkam High School~~
~~iii.~~ii. Children of staff[3]
~~iv.~~iii. Students in Nishkam High School
~~v.~~iv. Students and/or parents/guardians who are **Amritdhari** (formally initiated) Sikhs.
v. **Keshdhari** Sikh students (those with uncut hair).
vi. Siblings[2] of students at Nishkam High School
vii. Children and/or parents/guardians baptised or formally initiated in their respective faith.

Applicants under this category must submit **both** Step 1 and Step 2 of the **Supplementary Information Form (SIF)** on the school website.

Category 2 – Open places

Open place applicants will be prioritised as follows:

i. Open place applicants will be prioritised as follows: Looked After Children, Previously Looked After Children or Internationally adopted previously looked after children.
ii. Siblings[2] of students at Nishkam High School.
iii. Children of staff[3].
iv. Students in Nishkam High School.
v. All others – by random allocation

In order to ensure fairness, the School Admissions Team will administer the random allocation system overseen by an independent adjudicator in accordance with the random allocation procedure.

Under-subscription and over-subscription within a category

- **Under-subscription:** If the Faith category has fewer applicants, remaining places will be offered to Open category applicants.
- **Over-subscription:** If applications exceed available places, random allocation will be applied, overseen by an independent adjudicator.

Tie-break

If two applicants in the same category live the same distance from the school, random allocation will be used.

Waiting list

A waiting list will be maintained until the end of the first academic term. Applicants will be ranked according to the over-subscription criteria each time a student is added.

Fair Access Protocol

The school participates in LA's Fair Access Protocol. Children admitted under this protocol take priority over those on the waiting list. The school will notify the LA if it is able to accept.

Appeals

Appeals are managed by the Local Authority. Parents wishing to appeal should visit: www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Appeals are handled by an independent appeals panel.

Definitions

[1]looked after children and all previously looked after children including those who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989).

An adoption order is an order under the Adoption Act 1976 (see Section 12 adoption orders) and children who were adopted under the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (see Section 46 adoption orders). A 'child arrangements order' is an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live under Section 8 of the Children Act 1989 as amended by Section 14 of the Children and Families Act 2014. Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).

[2]'Sibling'. Where a child has a brother/sister, half-brother/sister (where the children share one common parent), step brother/step sister or fostered/adopted sibling living at the same home address (i.e. the genuine principal place of residence where they normally and regularly live) and who will be still attending Nishkam High School in September 202~~6~~8.

(Where parents have a shared responsibility for a child and the child lives with both parents for part of the school week, then the home address will be determined as the address where the child lives for the majority of the school week [i.e. three out of the five days]. Parents will be required to provide documentary evidence to support the address they wish to be considered for allocation purposes).

[3]'Staff'. Children of all teaching and non-teaching staff who have been employed at the school or Nishkam School Trust for at least two years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, or a member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

[4]*Amritdhari* (formally initiated) Sikh is defined in these arrangements as those who have undergone the *Khanda-ki-Pahul Amrit Sanchar* initiation.

*A Supplementary Information Form is used by Nishkam High School Birmingham.