

Nishkam High School Year 7 – Determined Admission Arrangements for September 2018

School name	<b>Nishkam High School and Sixth Form</b>		
School address	Great King Street North, Birmingham B19 2LF		
Headteacher	Damien Kearns	Tel no.:	0121 348 7660
Contact for Admissions	Ranjit Singh Dhanda	Tel no.:	0121 348 7660
Admission Number	100		

Introduction	<p>The Nishkam High School (NHS) is an exceptional state funded independent school. It is a non-selective inclusive school for both boys and girls aged 11 – 19 years. NHS is a Sikh ethos multi-faith school open to all. The school is a member of the multi-academy trust of schools known as the Nishkam School Trust (NST).</p> <p><b><u>School Vision</u></b> To empower children with values to enable them to excel academically and spiritually, enabling them to serve humanity selflessly (<i>Nishkam</i>) with an abundance of love, compassion and forgiveness.</p> <p><b><u>Sikh ethos</u></b> Encourages pupils to practice their own faith whilst learning about and supporting others to practice their respective faiths.</p> <p><b><u>Multi-faith approach</u></b> Encourages and supports pupils of all faiths and none in a context of shared values.</p> <p>At NHS we believe that all pupils can succeed when given outstanding teaching, pastoral care and family support. We offer academic excellence with faith inspired values. The overall Nishkam approach to education can be summarised as: “More than Academic Excellence, More than a School, More than Self”.</p> <p><b><u>More than Academic Excellence</u></b> We offer excellence in education and inspire in pupils a passion for lifelong learning. We provide learning experiences which build character and responsibility. We offer an enhanced National Curriculum to prepare pupils for further study, university, employment and adulthood.</p> <p><b><u>More than a School</u></b> We work to foster communities which actively support pupils throughout life, both within and beyond then school gates. We work with parents, families and guiding institutions to ensure pupils are surrounded by positive role models and mentors. These partnerships will provide pupils with the direct experience of civic institutions, industry and commerce, as well as skills in research and innovation.</p> <p><b><u>More than Self</u></b> The Nishkam School is driven and sustained by the principle of being ‘<i>nishkam</i>’ – a mind-set to serve others without expectation of reward or recognition. Our experience shows that this selfless practice promotes humility and can unlock great potential to transform ourselves and the world around us.</p>
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Background	<p>Applications are welcome from pupils of all faiths and none. Offers will be made according to the oversubscription criteria set out below.</p> <p>The Sikh <i>Dharam</i> (faith, religion) is emphatic about respecting all religions and beliefs, and does not seek to convert others.</p> <p>The School has a strong Sikh ethos multi-faith approach, promoting respect for all religions and faiths. Further details of the School's ethos and values are available on the School web-site: <a href="http://www.NishkamSchoolTrust.org">www.NishkamSchoolTrust.org</a></p>
Overview of Admissions Process	<p><b>How to apply for Year 7 in September 2018</b></p> <p>The NHS admissions process is administered through the Birmingham "Local Authority Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme".</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>All</b> applicants must apply to the Local Authority (LA) in which the child lives by completing the Common Application Form (CAF), also known as the Local Authority Preference Form (LAPF).</li> <li>• In addition applicants applying for any faith place must <u>also</u> complete the Supplementary Information Form (SIF) and return it to the school by <u>31<sup>st</sup> Oct 2017</u>.</li> </ul> <p>The appropriate form/s must be received on time by the local authority and school respectively. A late application will be considered as 'In-Year Application'.</p> <p>Full details and key dates are provided by each local authority. Many LAs only accept online applications. It's important to understand your LAs admissions guidance, which are available on their website (for example: <a href="http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions">www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions</a>) and in council offices.</p> <p><b>How to make an In-Year application</b></p> <p>Applications made outside the normal admissions round (also called 'In-Year admissions') must be sent directly to the school(s) concerned. The local authority will provide an 'In-Year' application form on request. The completed application form must be returned to the school, not to the local authority.</p> <p>Applicants applying for any faith place must <u>also</u> complete the Supplementary Information Form (SIF) and return it to the school.</p> <p>If a place is available and there is no waiting list then the school will admit the new applicant. If more applications are received than there are places available then all applications on the waiting list will be ranked in accordance with the over-subscription criteria.</p>
Children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs	<p>Any child with a Statement Of Special Educational Needs or a Health, Education and Care Plan is required to be admitted to the school that is named in the statement or plan. This gives such children overall priority for admission to the named school. This is not an oversubscription criterion.</p>
Over-subscription	<p>Where the number of applications received is fewer than or equal to the admissions number all applicants will be offered a place without being ranked.</p> <p>Where the number of applications is greater than the admission number, all applications will be ranked using the oversubscription criteria set out below.</p> <p>All applicants for the Faith category who are not offered a place under that category will automatically be considered within the open category according to the oversubscription criteria for that category.</p>

Over-subscription Criteria	<p>Where the number of applicants is greater than the published admission number, up to 50% of places will be offered to each of the following two categories.</p> <p><b><u>Category 1 – Faith based places</u></b> Faith based applicants will be ranked in the following order.</p> <p><b>Priority Faith-based places</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Looked After or Previously Looked-After Children<sup>1</sup> – applying for a faith place.</li> <li>ii. Siblings<sup>2</sup> – applying for a faith place.</li> <li>iii. Children of staff<sup>3</sup> – applying for a faith place.</li> <li>iv. Children in Nishkam Primary School - applying for a faith place.</li> </ol> <p><b>Remaining Faith-based places</b> will be allocated in the following order.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Child (and/or parent/s or guardian/s) is/are <i>Amritdhar</i><sup>4</sup> (formally initiated) Sikhs.</li> <li>ii. <i>Keshdhari</i> Sikh child (has uncut hair).</li> <li>iii. Child (and/or parent/s or guardian/s) is/are baptised (or formally initiated) in their respective religion.</li> </ol> <p><i>All applicants applying under the Faith category will need to provide confirmation of religious initiation or practice by completing the Supplementary Information Form (SIF) and ensuring sections B or C are countersigned by an appropriate religious official or authorised signatory from an appropriate place of worship. The SIF can be obtained from the school or the school website.</i></p> <p><b><u>Category 2 – Open places</u></b> Open place applicants will be ranked in the following order.</p> <p><b>Priority Open places</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Looked After or Previously Looked After Children<sup>1</sup>.</li> <li>ii. Siblings<sup>2</sup>.</li> <li>iii. Children of staff<sup>3</sup>.</li> <li>iv. Children in Nishkam Primary School.</li> </ol> <p><b>All other open place</b> applicants will be ranked by proximity to the School using the distance data supplied by the Local Authority.</p>
Under-subscription and over-subscription within a category	<p>The following process will be followed when the ‘faith’ and/or ‘open’ place categories are undersubscribed or oversubscribed.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <u>Undersubscription within a category</u> If the school is undersubscribed within the Faith category, additional offers will be made to children from the Open category until the admission number of 100 is met or all applicants have been offered a place. All applicants for the Faith category who are not offered a place under that category will automatically be considered within the open category.</li> <li>b. <u>Oversubscription within a category</u> Where the number of applications is greater than the admission number, all applications will be ranked using the oversubscription criteria set out above. Thereafter, all other applications will be ranked using proximity to the school based on the distance data provided by Birmingham Local Authority.</li> </ol>
Tie-break	<p>If a tie-break is necessary due to applicants living equidistant from the school, the place will be decided and offered using the local authority’s computerised random selection procedure.</p>

Waiting list	The school will maintain a waiting list until the end of the first academic term of the year. Places will be allocated in priority order of the oversubscription criteria. Each added child will require the list to be ranked again in line with the oversubscription criteria.
Appeals	Appeals against a decision not to offer you a school place are administered by the School Admissions and Pupil Placements Service, Birmingham City Council. Full details are available on the following link: <a href="https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20119/school_admissions/207/appeal_against_a_decision_to_refuse_your_child_a_school_place">https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20119/school_admissions/207/appeal_against_a_decision_to_refuse_your_child_a_school_place</a>
Definitions	<p>1“A Looked After Child is a child who is in the care of a local authority or is being provided with accommodation by a local authority as set out in s22(1) of the Children Act 1989. A Previously Looked After Child is a child who immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, special guardianship or child arrangements order.</p> <p><i>In the case of previously looked after children, admission authorities may request a copy of the adoption order, child arrangements order or special guardianship order and a letter from the local authority that last looked after the child confirming that he or she was looked after immediately prior to that order being made.</i></p> <p>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 <i>principal place of residence where they normally and regularly live</i>) and who <i>will be still attending Nishkam High School in September 2018.</i></p> <p><i>(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).</i></p> <p>3<sup>Staff</sup>. Children of 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.</p> <p>4<sup>Amritdhari</sup> (formally initiated) Sikh is defined in these arrangements as those who have undergone the <i>Khanda-ki-Pahul Amrit Sanchar</i> initiation.</p>

\*A supplementary information form is used by Nishkam High School