

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><b><u>Sixth Form Pupils</u></b> We see the Sixth Form students as ‘role models’ and ‘school leaders’ for all pupils and they will be expected to take positions of responsibility, leadership and support younger pupils. They will need to demonstrate good behaviour and a commitment to academic study.</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 students a passion for lifelong learning. We provide learning experiences which build character and responsibility. We offer an enhanced National Curriculum to prepare students 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 students 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>Applications for the Sixth Form must be made directly to the school. All applicants will need to complete an application form and those applying for a faith based place will also need to complete a Supplementary Information Form (SIF). Both forms are available from the School or School web-site.</p> <p>Admission into Year 12 will be based on academic attainment and suitability of the courses to meet individual student needs.</p> <p>All admissions will be determined by use of the criteria detailed below.</p> <p><u>Method of Application</u></p> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All current Year 11 students at Nishkam High School</li> <li>• Students visiting from other education establishments</li> <li>• Those making specific requests by contacting the school.</li> </ul> <p>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.</p> <p>The admission number for external applications is a minimum of fifteen.</p> <p><b>Entry requirements.</b></p> <p>For A level Courses – a minimum of 5 GCSEs at Grade B or higher (to include Mathematics and English).</p> <p>Students who do not meet the entry criteria can discuss the courses that they want to follow with the Assistant Principal (Sixth Form) and may be given permission to join in exceptional circumstances.</p>
Over-subscription	<p>Where the number of eligible applications received is fewer than the admissions number all applicants will be offered a place without being ranked.</p> <p>Where the number of eligible 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>

<p>Over-subscription Criteria</p>	<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>Category 1 – Faith-based places</b> Eligible faith based applicants will be ranked in the following order.</p> <p><b>Priority Faith-based places</b></p> <ul 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. Students in Nishkam High School - applying for a faith place.</li> </ul> <p><b>Remaining Faith-based places</b> will be allocated in the following order.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Student (and/or parent/s or guardian/s) is/are <i>Amritdhari</i><sup>4</sup> (formally initiated) Sikhs.</li> <li>ii. <i>Keshadhari</i> Sikh student (has uncut hair).</li> <li>iii. Student (and/or parent/s or guardian/s) is/are baptised (or formally initiated) in their respective religion.</li> </ul> <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>Category 2 – Open places</b> Open place applicants will be ranked in the following order.</p> <p><b>Priority Open places</b></p> <ul 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. Students in Nishkam High School.</li> </ul> <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>
<p>Under-subscription and over-subscription within a category</p>	<p>The following process will be followed when the ‘faith’ and/or ‘open’ place categories are undersubscribed or oversubscribed.</p> <ul 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 students 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> </ul> <p>All applicants applying under the Faith category will need to provide confirmation of religious initiation by completing the Supplementary Information Form (SIF) and ensuring sections B or C are countersigned by an appropriate authorised person at the appropriate place of worship.</p>

	The SIF can be obtained from the school or the school website.
Tie-break	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.
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 student will require the list to be ranked again using 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<sup>4</sup>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<sup>4</sup>'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 2018.</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>4</sup>Staff. 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>4</sup>Amritdhari (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.