



nishkamsixthform

# Sixth Form Prospectus 2022



  
**Ofsted**  
Outstanding  
Provider

[nishkamschooltrust.org](http://nishkamschooltrust.org)

# Nishkam Virtues Guide





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# Introduction to the Nishkam Passport

**A personal copy of the 'Nishkam Passport' is given to all pupils across all our schools and nurseries.**

The aim of the Nishkam Passport is to help support the nurturing of virtues and the development of character in each child. It is a key document to help realise our Trust's vision:

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

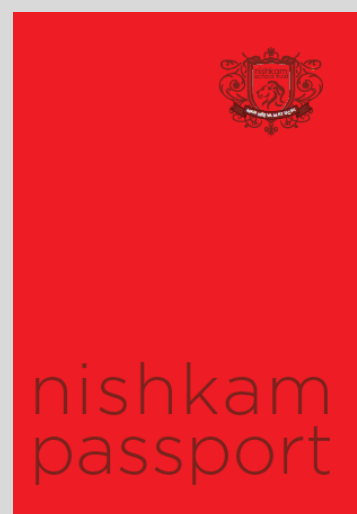
The Passport will help our children further understand our virtues and self assess how well they are doing.

The Nishkam virtues are based on teachings from many faiths, sacred texts and cultures to promote spiritual growth.

The virtues that we teach will help in a practical way as we travel and develop throughout our lives, they will be our guide during uncertain times, our support when making difficult decisions, and encouragement to be selfless, compassionate and ultimately see humankind and creation as one.

We ask parents to support the School virtues programme, modelling virtues at home and helping children to complete the Passport at home.

The Nishkam Passport contains 50 virtues, each virtue is explained with a definition and children are guided about how to live each virtue with 'signs of success'. There is an opportunity for children to record their 'Success Virtue' and a 'Growth Value' in their student planner. There are opportunities for reflection which encourage learners to record thoughts and ideas.







# Nishkam Vision

## Faith-Inspired

Learning from the wisdom of religions

## Virtues-led

Nurturing compassionate, responsible humans

## Aspiring for Excellence

In all that we do

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.

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.

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, for all to achieve their best possible. 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.

# Senior Leadership Team



**Mr D Kearns,**

Principal, arrived at Nishkam High school in 2014 following a journey including working in three different schools set in three very different contexts. Damien has also spent time in the private sector, spending three years in sales and marketing as well as setting up his own business in the mid-1990s. That business allowed him to travel extensively and those experiences helped nurture many of the values that prompted his desire to come and work within the Nishkam Trust. "Our 'faith inspired, virtues led' approach to education has helped deliver exceptional academic outcomes and allowed us all, staff and pupils, to develop. Our quality first approach to learning and teaching has ensured that 'all children can, and will, achieve', in particular, our disadvantaged pupils have secured both progress and attainment that exceeds that made by non-disadvantaged pupils nationally. Such outcomes are a product of fantastic teachers and it is my privilege to lead such an outstanding group of people."



**Mr C Deeks,**

Associate Principal Data and Quality Assurance, graduated with honours in Sport and Business management from Sheffield Hallam University and gained his teaching qualification at the University of Worcester. Before becoming a teacher, Chris worked in the design and construction sector, assisting in the development of multi-million-pound projects. Since joining Nishkam, Chris has led the development of the sixth form that has witnessed student numbers increase from 35 to 125; at the same time, he has overseen the development of fantastic facilities for the sixth form that includes a beautiful new common room as well as an essential work room. He has progressed to become Vice Principal with a remit for data, standards and quality assurance. He believes avidly in helping every student reach their full potential and is passionate that the ethos at Nishkam can help students to be the best that they can be, both with regard to achieving academic excellence but also in their endeavour to flourish as human beings.



**Mrs E Wilks,**

Vice Principal Learning and Teaching, joined Nishkam High School in September 2020 bringing 20 years of experience in three very different schools and communities. Mrs Wilks left home in Northern Ireland to begin training as a teacher at Newman University, specialising in Secondary English and graduating with honours in 2000. In the years that followed, taking on many different roles, qualifying as an Advanced Skills Teacher and then moving into school leadership. Most recently, working as a Deputy Headteacher in South Birmingham. Mrs Wilks is passionate about life-long learning and working with young people and adults alike to become the very best they can be.

From her first visit to the school, Nishkam felt very familiar; it reminded her of her own secondary school experience due to its faith inspired, virtues led approach. Mrs Wilks firmly believe that children educated with care, respect and compassion, by talented and dedicated staff, will enjoy happy, fulfilled and successful lives.





**Mrs S Voutsinou,**  
Assistant Principal - Pastoral & Designated Safeguarding Lead joined Nishkam High School in September. Her role is based around the fundamentals of behaviour, attendance, virtues and personal development. As the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead and is supported in this role by a number of experienced pastoral colleagues who are also DSL trained.

The role at the school fully supports her educational philosophy that all young people, regardless of their starting points, have the potential to be successful. She believes that all students can thrive when we create the right conditions. We must look past their current status; we must create an ethos of care for each other coupled with high expectations for all and we must focus on potential.

Prior to joining Nishkam High School, spent 13 years at Bordesley Green Girls' School and Sixth Form Centre and spent the majority of her career in pastoral roles as Head of Year 12, as the Seconded Assistant Head in charge of Key Stage 3.

Mrs S Voutsinou values the 'faith inspired, and virtues led' approach to education. I believe that approach to be an exceptional moral foundation which will enable our students to flourish and become successful citizens of the world.



**Mr A Ruhe,**  
Assistant Principal – Head of Sixth Form, Adam qualified with a PGCE in Secondary Education in Business and MFL from Warwick University. A background in languages allowed Adam in his undergraduate years to live in Germany for a period of time before securing a graduate job with a top global supermarket chain. His teaching career to date has focused on combining enterprise and education, developing international school links and providing first class educational opportunities both in and outside of the classroom. 'As the Head of Sixth Form, I have the privilege of working closely with the oldest members of our school at a poignant time in their academic and personal development. Ensuring that students are equipped with the skills, tools and values for the world beyond Nishkam is at the cornerstone of what we do as a school and sixth form.'



**Mr P Blackburn,**  
Assistant Principal, Learning and Teaching  
I joined Nishkam High School in 2015 as Faculty Leader of Humanities and Subject Leader of Geography, before being appointed Assistant Principal in May 2021. My role involves supporting the Vice Principal in executing the whole school vision for learning and teaching; *every child can and will achieve*. My primary focus is Key Stage 3, where I am responsible for curriculum review and monitoring, in addition to assessment, data and reporting.

I completed my PGDipEd in Secondary Geography at the University of Birmingham, having secured degrees in Geography (BSc with honours) and Air Pollution Management and Control (MSc) from the same institution. During my second year of teaching, I completed an MA in Teaching Studies, which focused on the role of pupil voice in curriculum design.

I strongly believe in the transformative power of education as a driver of social mobility and feel that Nishkam High School is ideally placed to nurture global citizens, through our 'faith inspired, virtues led' approach.

# Student Safeguarding & Welfare

We have a duty to 'safeguard and promote the welfare of children'. If you have any concerns about the health and safety of a child at this school or feel that something may be troubling them, you should share this information with an appropriate member of the school staff straight away. Some issues (e.g. a child's appearance, hygiene, general behaviour etc.) can be shared with a member of the Pastoral staff in school.

Do not worry that you may be reporting a matter which seems small – we would rather you tell us something which does turn out to be a minor issue than miss a worrying situation.

However, if you think the matter is very serious and may be related to a child protection issue, e.g. physical, sexual, emotional abuse or neglect, you must talk to the safeguarding team below as soon as possible. If you are unable to contact them, you can ask staff in the school office to

locate them and ask that they speak to you urgently about a confidential urgent matter.

Any allegations or a disclosure involving a member of staff, a child's foster carer or a volunteer in the school must be reported directly to the Principal, unless it involves the Principal in which case it should be reported directly to the chair of the Governing Body Mrs Sandeep Kang

Thank you for supporting the young people of Nishkam High School.

Team

Safeguarding



**Ms. S Voutsinou**  
Assistant Principal (DSL)



**Mrs E. Butler**  
Head of Year 11  
(DDSL)

Team

Safeguarding



**Mrs K. Kumar**  
Pupil Achievement Manager  
(DDSL)



**Mr K Hudson-Hill**  
Pupil Achievement Manager  
(DDSL)



**Mrs B Sembi**  
Pupil Achievement Manager  
(DDSL)



# NHSB judged Ofsted 'Outstanding' in all categories

## Key findings:

Achievement is outstanding, students make rapid and sustained progress across subjects and achieve exceptionally well, particularly in English and in mathematics.

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More-able students are given opportunities to develop other skills such as in coaching other students. This had a profound effect on the progress of both partners

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Students' oracy skills are developed very well through lessons in public speaking and debating. Students were able to demonstrate this to a high standard in the recent 'BBC News School Reports'.

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Students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is promoted outstandingly well.

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### The quality of teaching is outstanding

Teachers have high expectations of students' achievement, students respond well to this challenge and work hard to improve.

Teachers have good subject knowledge, this is having a positive impact on students' learning.

Teachers' marking is outstanding. Students' written work is marked frequently and diligently.

Nearly all of the teaching is consistently good or outstanding.

### The behaviour and safety of pupils is outstanding

The behaviour of students is outstanding due to the strong faith-inspired and values-based education. This is built around the Sikh principle of being Nishkam or "selfless"

Students are taught to develop honesty as one of these values supported through the 'unsupervised' honesty tuck shop, which relies on students paying for what they have taken.

Behaviour is exceptional. Students show respect for everyone they meet, irrespective of beliefs or culture, in this multi-faith school community.

All eat together and chat sociably in a calm and caring environment which encourages the development of social skills.

Students and teachers worship and dine together as a 'family'.

### The leadership and management of the school is outstanding

School leaders, including governors and trustees, are an inspiration to all and consistently model the school motto, 'Be humble to be wise'.

The way in which school leaders develop a culture of serving others without expectation of reward or recognition is an inspiration to all who visit the school.

Staff, parents and students are extremely proud of their school and speak highly of the work of the senior leaders in improving the school.

School leaders have secured a strong reputation for the school in the community and the school has been over-subscribed since it opened.

# Key Ofsted Findings

## Ofsted Section 48 Inspection – ‘Outstanding’

**Nishkam High is a Sikh ethos multi-faith school and because of its religious character it was inspected in June 2015 under section 48 of the Education Act.**

**The overall distinctiveness and effectiveness as a Sikh multi-faith ethos school are outstanding**

**Section 48 inspectors look at four key areas: faith education; collective worship; spiritual, moral, social and cultural development; as well as leadership, management and governance. We are delighted that Nishkam High School achieved outstanding in all four areas inspected.**

### **Key findings:**

The overall distinctiveness and effectiveness as a Sikh multi-faith ethos school are outstanding

Leaders and governors share and articulate an ambitious vision for the school in which the pursuit of excellence in academic studies is matched by a deep commitment to creating socially responsible citizens who put others first.

The values that the school promotes define every aspect of its work and equip its students with secure foundations for their life.

As a result of the school's commitment to excellence, students make outstanding progress in their academic and personal development.

The Faith Curriculum is well taught and ensures that students acquire deep learning about religion and understand how to apply this to their lives.

Collective worship is the heartbeat of the school. It is inclusive and, affirms all who attend. As a result, students develop thoughtful attitudes to faith and the relationships between and among adults and students are exceptional.

The promotion of students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is outstanding. As a result the school is a harmonious learning community where students are moved to take compassionate action in their support of good works, both locally and globally

The inclusive nature of the school combines with an outward facing attitude that embraces the wider community so that there is mutual benefit from these links.

The full report can be found at:

[www.nishkamschooltrust.org/nishkam-high-2/ofsted/](http://www.nishkamschooltrust.org/nishkam-high-2/ofsted/)







# GCSE Examination Results 2021

Nishkam High School (NHS) delivered its fourth outstanding set of GCSE examination results this summer.

**The outcomes include:**

An indicative Progress 8 score of **+1.22**; this outcome in 2019 would have placed Nishkam High School in the **top 1%** of all schools nationally

An indicative Attainment 8 score of **55.44**; this outcome in 2019 would have placed Nishkam in the **top 10%** of all schools nationally

Almost **30%** of all grades awarded this year were the very top grades (9-7 and equivalent) and emphasis our focus on 'excellence for all'

Pupil Premium students (35% of the cohort) achieved an Attainment 8 score of 52.04; this compares to an estimated 49.89 Attainment 8 score for national non-Pupil Premium students

78% of students made better than expected progress across all eight of the subjects that they studied

	<b>NHSB 9-4% 2021</b>	2019: National figure % of grades 9 – 4
<b>Mathematics</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>66.6</b>
<b>English Language</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>71.2</b>
<b>English Literature</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>79.7</b>

## A selection of other GCSE results at grades 9-4:

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Grades 9-4%</b>
<b>Biology</b>	<b>99</b>
<b>Chemistry</b>	<b>97</b>
<b>Physics</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>Health and Social Care</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>Computer Science</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>History</b>	<b>81</b>
<b>Geography</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Music</b>	<b>100</b>

# A Level Examination Results 2021

## Averages

Nishkam High School Birmingham (NHSB) delivered another encouraging set of A level examination results this summer.

**The outcomes include:**

**100% pass rate (National pass rate 2020 – 98.3%)**

**Average point score of 39.8 (B grade); 35.08 in 2020 (B- grade)**

	<b>Average Points Score</b>	<b>Average Grade</b>
2019	30.57	C
2020	35.08	B-
2021	39.8	B

## Destinations 2021

Top Destinations	2021
University of Birmingham	37%
Aston University	14%
Russell Group Admissions	47%



# Subjects Offered

## A Levels

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- |                    |                                 |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| Biology            | Mathematics                     |
| Business           | Physics                         |
| Chemistry          | Psychology                      |
| Economics          | Philosophy, Religion and Ethics |
| English Literature | Sociology                       |

Geography

History

## Applied Courses

- Applied IT
- Applied Health and Social Care
- Applied Science

## Enrichment Courses

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These run throughout the year, alongside your studies and are subject to availability.

- Charity/SEWA
- Change Your Mind
- EPQ
- Sport
- Study Support
- University engagement
- Work Experience
- Young Enterprise

*Students pick 3 courses to study in Year 12 and 13.*



# More Than Academic

Whilst our courses offer a rigorous and academic pathway to take following GCSEs, Sixth Form presents the opportunity to build friendships and develop those all-important interpersonal skills that employers value so much.

**To this end, these are but a few of the engagements that have enriched the Sixth Form experience in recent years, with many making a yearly appearance.**

## Careers and Futures

University Masterclasses  
Unifrog Careers Platform  
A 2-week work experience placement for all Year 12 students  
Business walks in Central Birmingham  
Bank of England visit  
High success rate of students completing the Pathways to Birmingham Programme through the University of Birmingham (medicine, law, accounting and finance, engineering)  
Campus day visits  
Eton College University Summer School  
Southampton University EPQ masterclass  
  
Nuffield Research Placement programme  
Aston Pathways to Healthcare programme  
University of Birmingham Partner School  
PWC Stem for Girls  
WhatCareer Convention  
Sutton Trust Summer School  
ASK apprenticeships  
Career Advisors bookable

## Virtues, faith and personal development

Year 12 Team Building day in September  
Visit to the Houses of Parliament  
Elevate Education study skills support  
Future Learn online learning courses (MOOCs)  
Sixth Form trip to Rome  
Mount Snowdon charity challenge  
Mental Health Awareness Day

# Progressing to University

**Our aim is to produce young people who not only have strong faith inspired qualities, but also gain places at Universities.**

In the Spring term, Year 12, students will be encouraged to sign up for university taster days and visits to the UCAS conventions.

In the summer term there will be an 'Applying to University Information' for parents and students. In late June the students register with UCAS and are guided through the early stages of the application process. They will need to make decisions about the subjects they study and the types of university they will apply to over the summer.

The students are fully supported by their form tutor and the Sixth Form team in completing their applications, by early October for applicants to Oxbridge and for Medicine and related courses, and by early November for the other courses. The support continues through the Spring Term of Year 13 when students have to make decisions about which offers to accept and with guidance about arranging financial support.

Being based in the centre of Birmingham affords us the opportunity to network and work with local universities on a frequent basis. In particular, we work closely with The University of Birmingham and Aston University throughout both Year 12 and 13, gearing our students up for what lies ahead. From campus tours, to year group presentation, we have found our Sixth Formers benefit greatly from the outreach programmes of these universities, with many students making them their firm choice options when applying for university.



# School Food

**healthy made daily well balanced  
delicious fresh ingredients**

- All meals are vegetarian
- All meals will be nut free and egg free
- All meals freshly prepared
- No harmful additives or hydrogenated fats are used
- Products containing GM Foods are not knowingly used

Students will have the choice of assorted sandwiches, baguettes and rolls. Assorted salad shaker pots and mixed fruit pots. There is a selection of desert pots and assorted tray bakes.

Students will have the option of selecting one main dish (option 1 or 2) accompanied with vegetables/salad and a dessert.

## The vegetarian diet

It is widely recognised that a well-balanced vegetarian diet can provide all the nutrients your body needs, and there is much scientific evidence to indicate that vegetarians may be healthier than meat-eaters.

A vegetarian diet is healthy because it is typically low in saturated and total fat, high in dietary fibre and complex carbohydrate, and high in the minerals and vitamins present in fresh fruit and vegetables.

## A healthy diet for children

Childhood nutrition has a significant influence on health and development throughout life. As children grow, their nutritional needs are proportionally much greater than those of adults, and the consequences of a poor diet will be long lasting. A good diet protects against everyday illness and ensures the development of strong bones and teeth, firm muscles and healthy tissues.

In 2000, the 'Healthy School Lunches...' publications made the following recommendations concerning a healthy diet for children aged five years and over:

- The diet should be balanced, with plenty of variety and enough energy for growth and development
- Plenty of fibre-rich starchy foods such as bread, rice, pasta, potatoes and yams should be included in the diet
- Plenty of fresh vegetables and fruit should be included
- Children should not eat too many fatty foods, especially foods containing saturated fat
- The diet should contain moderate amounts of dairy products
- Children should not have sugary foods and drinks too often.





# Example Lunch Menu



## MENU - WEEK ONE

<p><b>MONDAY</b></p> <p><b>MAIN MEALS:</b> Chilli Paneer with Rice and Baby Naan (v)</p> <p>Cajun Sausage and Mashed Potato (v)</p>	<p><b>DESSERT:</b> Lime and Coconut Shortbread</p>
<p><b>TUESDAY</b></p> <p><b>MAIN MEALS:</b> Matar Aloo with Rice and Naan (v)</p> <p>Jacket Potato with Cheese and Chilli (v)</p>	<p><b>DESSERT:</b> Chocolate Cornflake Cake</p>
<p><b>WEDNESDAY</b></p> <p><b>MAIN MEALS:</b> Cabbage and Pea Curry with Naan (v)</p> <p>Vegetable Lasagne with Peas and Garlic Bread (v)</p>	<p><b>DESSERT:</b> Jelly</p>
<p><b>THURSDAY</b></p> <p><b>MAIN MEALS:</b> Chana Aloo with Rice (v)</p> <p>Cheese Burger with Herby Diced Potatoes (v)</p>	<p><b>DESSERT:</b> Chocolate Slice</p>
<p><b>FRIDAY</b></p> <p><b>MAIN MEALS:</b> Pizza, Chips and Baked Beans (v)</p> <p>Onion Bhaji, Chips and Baked Beans (v)</p>	<p><b>DESSERT:</b> Ice Cream</p>
<p><b>AVAILABLE DAILY: ASSORTED SANDWICHES, BAGUETTES AND ROLLS, ASSORTED SALAD SHAKER POTS, FLATBREADS, SUBS, A SELECTION OF DESSERT POTS, FRESH FRUIT COMPILATIONS AND ASSORTED TRAY BAKES.</b></p> <p><b>ALLERGY INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON REQUEST. ALL MENU ITEMS ARE FREE FROM EGG.</b></p>	



# Uniform

## Articles of Faith

Articles of faith may be worn as specified by an appropriate religious authority.

A Kirpan may be worn under the uniform by Amritdhari (initiated) Sikhs only, with written permission from parents

## Jewellery

Articles of faith maybe worn; we will ask children to help us make a safe environment for all by respectfully asking them to cover articles of faith with protective cover during PE to prevent any risk of accident.

To reflect any professional working environment, male students are not permitted to wear earrings. Female students may wear simple stud earrings.

Pupils should not come to school wearing any of the following;

Loose hair. All Keshadhari Sikh boys to wear a Dastaar

Skirts other than the standard school uniform version.

Jeans or skinny trousers

Leggings (or similar).

Patterned or "fishnet" tights; only plain grey tights with the school skirt will be permitted.

Boots, flip flops, trainers.

Jewellery including bracelets, necklaces, wristbands, non-ear piercings. Stipulated articles of faith may be worn.

Earrings other than simple studs for female students, or multiple pairs of earrings.

Male students wearing earrings.

Make up. (Make up not is allowed).

Acrylic nails, nail gels, nail colouring and varnish.

Hoodies, denim jackets, leather jackets or tracksuit tops worn as an outside jacket.

Extreme hairstyles (Mohawks, tramlines, shaved patterns, less than grade two, unnatural hair dye colours).

## Sixth Form to wear professional business attire.

### Uniform for 6th Form girls

- Smart trousers/skirts (or suit)
- Collared work shirt or smart top
- Smart work shoes or boots; no trainers, flip-flops, or similar.
- Tights should be plain (no patterned tights).
- *Chunni* (head scarf) for Sikh students during prayer.

### Uniform for 6th Form boys

- Smart Trouser and blazer (or suit)
- Collared work shirt and tie
- Smart work shoes; no trainers.
- *Dastaar* for Keshadhari Sikh students.

### Additional notes:

Trousers must be full length and tailored style, no leggings or cropped trousers or shorts allowed. Material should be plain

– no denim allowed.

Skirts must be of a modest length and allow freedom of movement around school.

Tops must be of a suitable, non-see-through material with a modesty of

neckline. Length must ensure complete covering of midriff.

Footwear must be suitable to maintain work appearance – no trainers. Heels should be appropriate and small.

In order to maintain an appropriate dress code whilst allowing our Sixth Form students the privilege of wearing their individual choice of suit, and access to a modern working wardrobe, the school reserves the right to send

home any student who fails to meet our

standards. It is suggested that students studying Art or Design courses wear an

overall or apron in order to protect their clothing.

It is compulsory to wear appropriate Sixth Form clothing on the journey to

and from school and during the school day. Failure to adhere to the policy is serious and will be addressed through the school's behaviour protocols.

# Example School Day

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>8.25 - 8.45</b>	Collective worship	Assembly	Collective worship	Form time	Collective worship
<b>8.45 - 9.40</b>	P1	P1	P1	P1	P1
<b>9.40 - 10.35</b>	P2	P2	P2	P2	P2
<b>10.35 - 10.50</b>	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
<b>10.50 - 11.45</b>	P3	P3	P3	P3	P3
<b>11.45 - 12.40</b>	P4	P4	P4	P4	P4
<b>12.40 - 1.20</b>	Prayer/Lunch	Prayer/Lunch	Prayer/Lunch	Prayer/Lunch	Prayer/Lunch
<b>1.20 - 2.15</b>	P5	P5	P5	P5	P5
<b>2.15 - 3.10</b>	P6	P6	P6	P6	P6
<b>3.10 - 3.20</b>	Registration	Registration	Registration	Registration	Registration



# Summary of Application Process



You can apply to Nishkam High School Sixth Form for September 2022 now.

## STEP 1

To complete your online application, please head over to the Nishkam High School website and look for the Sixth Form apply page:

<https://www.nishkamschooltrust.org/nhsb/sixth-form/apply>

## STEP 2

The application deadline to for entry in September 2022 to our Sixth Form is scheduled for January 31st 2022, with interviews then being held in late February/ March.

## STEP 3

An induction day to the Sixth Form will be held for students with offers in late June/early July 2022.

## STEP 4

Places are confirmed officially on receipt of GCSE results in mid-August.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## ***What GCSE grades do I require?***

A grade 6 in both maths and English language is required to take A level courses, along with a grade 6 in any subject you wish to study at A level, if you have studied that subject at GCSE. For our Applied courses a grade 4 in English language and mathematics is needed.

Full details on our entry requirements are available on our website within the 'Subjects Offered' page.

## ***What are the Sixth Form term dates and opening times?***

These are available on the Nishkam Trust website

## ***What is the dress code?***

The dress code for Nishkam Sixth Form is smart business attire. Lanyards must be worn at all times

## ***Progressing from Year 12 into Year 13***

Pupils' welfare is of paramount importance to us and we believe that regular attendance throughout the year is essential for their academic success and emotional development.

Sixth form students should strive to achieve consistently good attendance, as poor attendance will affect academic attainment. Students should therefore aim for at least 96% attendance. An exemplary record of attendance says a huge amount about you as a person: that you are dedicated, well-motivated, organised and someone who takes their responsibilities seriously. Good attendance also plays an important part when applying to higher education establishments or future employment.

Attendance affects both learning and student grades. Attendance below 90% equates to the loss of half a day per week and research suggests, nationally a drop of half a grade when sitting examinations. Below 80%; a full day per week and research suggests, a drop of one whole grade in the long run. References requested for UCAS, training courses and employers will include student's attendance record. If a student is in receipt of a bursary then this may also be impacted.

In the case of a student's attendance being below 96%, this can form the grounds on which the school takes the decision to not allow a student to progress from Year 12 into Year 13.

## ***Are children of other faiths or beliefs welcome in Nishkam High School?***

Yes. The Sikh dharam (faith) is emphatic in respecting all faiths and does not seek to convert.

## ***Is Nishkam High School a selective school?***

Nishkam High School is an inclusive, non-fee-paying school with no entry examination. In Year 7, if we are oversubscribed, 50% of the places are allocated for children who follow the Sikh faith and for non-Sikh children whose parents can demonstrate a commitment to a faith or involvement in faith activities. The remaining 50% of places are open, and subject to random selection, regardless of whether you practise a faith or not.

## ***What faith education will students receive?***

Nishkam High School has a multi-faith approach, where people of all faiths and no faith, are respected and supported. It goes beyond the delivery of a Religious Education curriculum to nurture spirituality and personal faith of each pupil, where possible. It builds interfaith understanding and engagement between faith and secular world views. Worship for the whole school, and within specific religious groups, will be a unique and innovative feature of the school.

place offered to another child. If there is not sufficient information on the Supplementary Information Form it will be rejected and the application will be added to the open category.

## ***Where is Nishkam High School located?***

The school is located on Great King Street North, Birmingham, B19 2LF which is within half a mile of the Jewellery Quarter Train/Tram station.











to empower children  
with **virtues**,  
to enable them to  
**excel** academically  
& spiritually,  
enabling them to  
**serve humanity**  
**selflessly**, with an abundance of  
love, compassion, & forgiveness

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