

Primary Phase Prospectus



Nishkam Virtues



Nishkam Virtues Guide

**An all-through virtues-led multi-faith
school for 4-19 years**

**A brand-new school building opened in
September 2018**

**Above national pupil performance in all subjects
Smaller class sizes**

**Applications for Reception by
15th Jan 2025**

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Welcome to Nishkam School West London

Dear Parent/Carer,

Firstly, a really warm welcome to Nishkam School West London.

Nishkam School West London is a Sikh ethos, multi-faith school for boys and girls aged 4 to 11, part of the multi-academy Nishkam School Trust.

We are delighted to welcome applicants to our school. The staff and pupils have found it to be a stimulating and exciting educational environment.

It is our ambition to go beyond academic excellence and provide a faith-inspired, virtues-led experience to prepare our pupils to become the compassionate leaders of tomorrow. We believe in bringing together pupils, parents, teachers and the wider community to build an environment to enable pupils to flourish, as well as recognise and realise their full potential.

We have a unique multi-faith ethos whereby we positively nurture children of all faiths and those of no faith. The 'Nishkam' ethos is to create a 'selfless' mind-set, to go beyond ourselves to serve others. We hope you find our vision inspiring.

We are now accepting admissions for pupils entering reception in September 2025. To apply visit

<https://www.nishkamschooltrust.org/nswl/admissions/how-to-apply>

In addition to this, please fill in the supplementary information form if you are applying for a faith-based place and email it to primaryadmissions.nswl@nishkamschools.org by 15th January 2025.

Please do not hesitate to contact us at the school if you require any further information.

0203 141 8760

primaryadmissions.nswl@nishkamschools.org

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S Rai
Headteacher
(Primary phase)



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.

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".

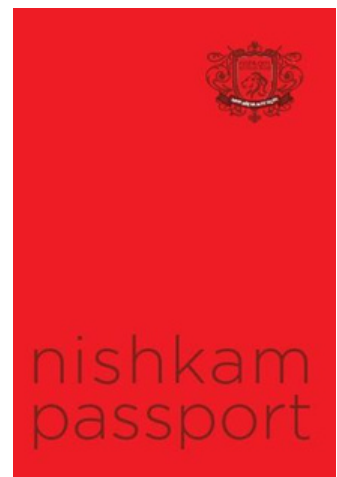
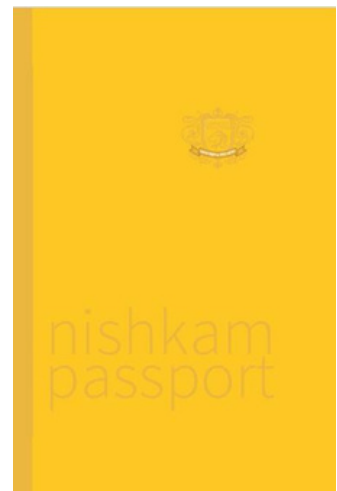
The Passport will help our children further understand our virtues and self-assess how well they are doing.

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.



NSWL judged Ofsted 'Outstanding' in all categories

Key findings:

Ofsted Judgement January 2024:

Overall effectiveness
Outstanding

The quality of education
Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes
Outstanding

Personal development
Outstanding

Leadership and management
Outstanding

Early years provision
Outstanding

Sixth-form provision
Outstanding

- Leaders are relentless in their desire to improve the school. Governors and trustees have rigorous oversight of all aspects of the school's work. Staff feel that leaders are considerate of their workload and well-being. They are proud to work at this school.
- Beginning in the early years, the school has designed an ambitious curriculum. It equips pupils with an extensive body of subject knowledge. Teachers know precisely what pupils should learn, and how it connects to their previous knowledge.
- Teachers recognise the important knowledge that pupils need to know and remember in each subject. They check pupils' understanding regularly and with precision.
- Teachers adapt their teaching skilfully when necessary. They are alert to any gaps in pupils' learning and they make sure these are filled.
- Staff provide expert support for pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).
- The school's approach to reading is highly ambitious. Pupils at an early stage of reading get the precise support they need.
- The school has extremely high expectations for pupils' behaviour. These expectations are modelled by all staff consistently.
- Pupils are taught to be good citizens through exceptional personal development programmes. Pupils learn the value of making a positive contribution to society.
- In early years, staff make sure that children settle in quickly. Staff support children to follow routines and instructions very well.
- Disruption to pupils' learning across the school is rare because the curriculum and teaching are thoroughly engaging
- High-quality careers information, advice and guidance prepare pupils well for their next stages in employment, education, or training.

The full report can be found at
<https://files.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50194526>



NSWL judged Ofsted Section 48 – ‘Outstanding’

(July 17)

Nishkam School West London is a Sikh ethos multi-faith school and because of its religious character it was inspected in July 2017 under section 48 of the Education Act. 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.



Key findings:

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

- Leaders, governors and the Trust are united behind an ambitious vision for the school which places excellent academic success alongside developing responsible citizens who put others first.
- As a result, the school's ethos leads to its pupils' excellent academic achievement which is matched by their outstanding personal development.
- The values that the school promotes are evident in every aspect of its work
- Pupils of all backgrounds and beliefs understand their shared responsibility to each other and the wider community.
- Pupils acknowledge that their excellent behaviour results from living out the values that the school promotes. They say that, 'in every value there is a kind of respect. Each respect has its own meaning and each meaning has a power'.
- Faith education unites the promotion and nurture of faith with the study of religion and belief so that pupils develop levels of understanding of the nature of faith that are much higher than might be expected nationally.
- Collective worship is a central element of school life. It is inclusive, values all faiths and affirms all who attend so that they develop a deep respect for worship and prayer.
- The promotion of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is exceptional so that the school is a peaceful and harmonious learning community where individuals matter.
- Leaders, governors and the Trust have a well-developed understanding of the school's strengths and areas for development so they are well-prepared for the school's ongoing expansion.
- The full report can be found at: www.nishkamschooltrust.org/nishkam-school-west-london-achieves-outstanding-in-section-48-inspection

Location

Nishkam School West London, is part of a high-performing multi-academy free school trust – the Nishkam School Trust (NST). NST manage 4 schools and 2 nurseries. As part of a leading multi-academy trust, NSWL is supported with a great network of resources and highly skilled staff.

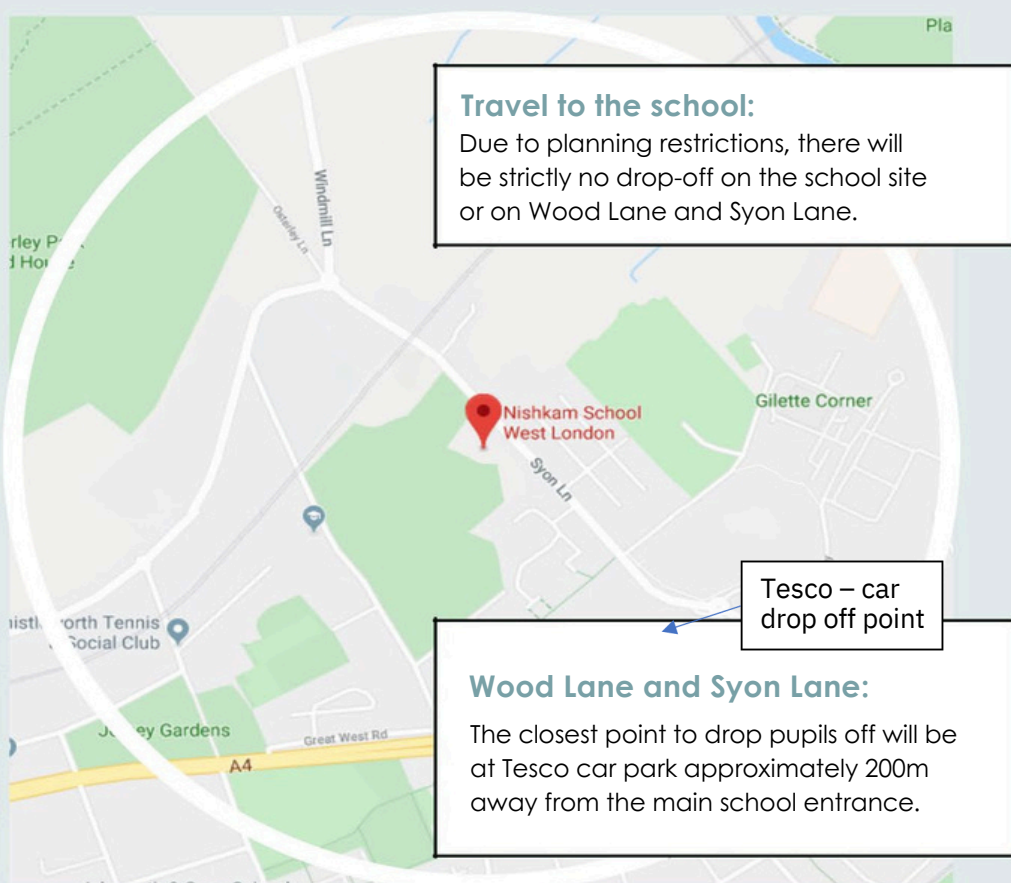
The new and permanent site of the school opened in August 2018.

Beautifully created and designed

Seven new science labs, and IT spaces

New sports facilities including: a new sports hall, a regenerated grass pitch and a multi-use games areas

Large number of solar panels to contribute to sustainable environments



Travel to the school:

Due to planning restrictions, there will be strictly no drop-off on the school site or on Wood Lane and Syon Lane.

Tesco – car drop off point

Wood Lane and Syon Lane:

The closest point to drop pupils off will be at Tesco car park approximately 200m away from the main school entrance.

Tube: Osterley
National Rail: Syon Lane
A private school bus service is also available

School Food:

Healthy, made daily, with well-balanced delicious fresh ingredients

All meals are vegetarian

- All meals are 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

There will be a daily salad bar that include: Lettuce, Cucumber, Tomatoes, Red Onion, Pickles, Sweet Corn, Peppers and Olives

Children 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

	Main 1	Main 2	Main 3	Side	Dessert
Monday	SOYA MINCE & PEAS SABJI WITH NAANS	TOMATO & VEG SOUP WITH BREAD ROLLS	CHEESE & TOMATO SANDWICHES	SALAD BAR	APPLE & MANGO CRUMBLE WITH ICE CREAM
Tuesday	MIX DAAL WITH VEG RICE	POTATO & BROCOLLI BAKE	CHEESE SALAD & FALAFEL WRAPS	SALAD BAR	JELLY & CRACKERS
Wednesday	KURRY & RICE	NOODLES WITH VEG & SOYA CHUNKS	CHEESE & CUCUMBER SANDWICHES	SALAD BAR	CHEESECAKE & CRACKERS
Thursday	CHOLEY & NAANS	JACKET POTATO WITH BUTTER BEANS & CHEESE	CHEESE SALAD BUNS	SALAD BAR	SEMIYA (VERMICELLI)
Friday	CHIPS & BEANS + TURKA BEANS	CHIPS & BEANS + TURKA BEANS	CHEESE SALAD BAGUETTES	SALAD BAR	FRUIT & YOGURT



Uniform

Nishkam School pupils are ambassadors of the school and all schools in the trust. We believe our uniform fosters a sense of belonging, pride and identity. It sets high standards for students and makes an important contribution to a positive and purposeful working environment. We ask that parents support us with the uniform policy and ensure pupils come to school with smart, clean uniform on every day.

Website:	www.myuniformhub.com
Address:	70b Soho Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, B21 9BH
Telephone:	0121 551 7719
Opening Hours:	Monday to Friday 10am – 5.00pm Saturday 10.00am – 4.00pm (extended hours on Saturdays over the summer period) Sunday's Closed Please do go on the website for the latest information.

UNIFORM		Items available from My Uniform Hub	Available from other retail outlets e.g. supermarkets
GIRLS Compulsory	School regulation blazer (mid grey, red trim and school crest)	●	
	School tie	●	
	School regulation jumper/cardigan (red with school crest)	●	
	Grey pinafore/trousers (mid grey)	●	●
	Chunni (head scarf) for Sikh students during prayers (mid grey)	●	
	Blouse (white)	●	●
	Tights/socks (mid grey)	●	●
	Shoes (black)		●
	Reading bag	●	
Summer Uniform:	Red gingham dress	●	●
	White tights	●	●
BOYS Compulsory	School regulation blazer (mid grey, red trim and school crest)	●	
	School tie	●	
	School regulation jumper (red with school crest)	●	
	A Dastar is required to be worn by all male year 7 and above Sikh keshadhari pupils at all times apart from PE. In the primary school, either a Patka or a Dastar is required to be worn for keshadhari Sikh male students. All head coverings to be mid-grey.	●	
	Shirt (white)	●	●
	Trousers (mid grey)	●	●
	Shoes (black)		●
	Reading bag	●	
BOYS/GIRLS PE; Compulsory	White Polo t-shirt with logo	●	
	Black sports shorts	●	●
	Black track suit bottoms	●	●

Partnership with Parents

The education and curriculum offered at Nishkam School West London is guided by the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework and the National Curriculum.

The school believes that working in partnership with parents is vital for pupils to progress and to enhance their well-being.

We communicate with parents regularly in the following ways:

Reporting and Feedback

Each term during the school year you will have the opportunity to meet your child's teacher to talk about his or her progress. These meetings are also a chance for you to ask questions and tell your child's teacher about his or her life outside school.

You can bring your child with you to these meetings. Teachers encourage the children to come along and join in the discussion about their progress at school. At the end of the school year, you will be sent a written report that gives details about your child's progress. You can always see your child's teacher if you have any concerns about their life at school. It can be difficult for teachers to make time at the beginning and end of the day as they need to ensure pupil safety without distraction from individual parents. You can phone the school to make an appointment or you can also make an appointment to see the Head of Primary Education if you prefer.

School Reports

You will receive an annual written report on your child's attainment and progress for the academic year they have just completed/about to complete. You will have the opportunity to discuss the report with the class teacher at the parents' evening held in July. There are also parent/teacher consultations held in October and February.

Children's Progress

Through a series of workshops and assemblies, parents and carers will have the opportunity to see how their child is doing at school.

Workshops

We will hold parent workshops regularly. Parents/carers are invited to come to Nishkam School West London and spend an afternoon working with their child. This is a special time where we want to give parents the opportunity to focus completely on their child, enjoying creative activities and helping them to learn. If parents are unable to attend, we would be delighted to welcome grandparents.

Class Assemblies

These will be held regularly and you will be invited through the school newsletter.

These occasions will present an excellent insight into the work of the school and there will also be special events and faith-based assemblies which we hope you will be able to attend.

The Curriculum

Each term teachers will send the parent/carer details of the curriculum programme for each year group.

This also includes details of homework and how you can support your child.

School Newsletters

You will receive our monthly school newsletters, which will inform you of useful dates, what your child has been learning and curriculum developments. This is a very important form of communication.

Example School Day

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8.20 - 8.30	Registration	Registration	Registration	Registration	Registration
8.30 - 9.00	Teacher-led carpet activity	Teacher-led carpet activity	Teacher-led carpet activity	Teacher-led carpet activity	Teacher-led carpet activity
9.00 - 10.30	Guided work/ child/ initiated play	Guided work/ child/ initiated play	Guided work/ child/ initiated play	Guided work/ child/ initiated play	Guided work/ child/ initiated play
10.30 - 10.40	Tidy up time	Tidy up time	Tidy up time	Tidy up time	Tidy up time
10.40 - 11.05	Phonics	Phonics	Phonics	Phonics	Phonics
11.10 - 11.30	Story time and prayer	Story time and prayer	Story time and prayer	Story time and prayer	Story time and prayer
11.30 - 12.30	Lunch				
12.30 - 12.35	Registration	Registration	Registration	Registration	Registration
12.35 - 1.00	Teacher-led carpet activity	Teacher-led carpet activity	Teacher-led carpet activity	Teacher-led carpet activity	Teacher-led carpet activity
1.00 - 2.10	Guided work/ child/ initiated play	Guided work/ child/ initiated play	Guided work/ child/ initiated play	Guided work/ child/ initiated play	Guided work/ child/ initiated play
2.10 - 2.15	Tidy up time	Tidy up time	Tidy up time	Tidy up time	Tidy up time
2.15 - 2.45	Show and tell story	Show and tell story	Show and tell story	Show and tell story	Show and tell story
2.45 - 2.50	Reflection	Reflection	Reflection	Reflection	Reflection



Curriculum

At Nishkam we offer a broad and balanced curriculum with a focus on academic subjects, enriched with the arts and a variety of sporting activities. The curriculum is underpinned by our values and dispositions. Developing students' reflection and self-awareness are important components of our curriculum; all students have a Faith Journal in which they reflect on their spiritual and personal development, as well as ending each day with reflection.

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Topic (but not limited to – to allow learning to follow children's interests)	I wonder what's special about me (All about me)	I wonder what we will celebrate (Festivities)	I wonder who lives here (Once Upon a Time)	I wonder how things grow (Growing)	I wonder where this journey will take us (Explorers)	I wonder what I can achieve (Adventures)
Characteristics of Effective Learning	Curiosity, imagination, independence, risk taking, enthusiasm, concentration, attention, inclusiveness, listening and communicating, friendship					
Texts	All about me God Knows about me Funny Bones Gruffalo Owl babies Sulwe Marvellous Me	Eight Candles for Counting Dim Sum for everyone Handa's Surprise Kippers Birthday The Story of Rama and Sita The Nativity Story	Little red riding hood Three Billy goats gruff The Gingerbread Man Goldilocks Three Little Pigs Elves and the shoemaker	The Ugly Duckling Where do Chicks Come? Chicken Licken The Little Red Hen The Tiny Seed Jack and the Beanstalk The Enormous Turnip	Farmyard hullabaloo Monkey Puzzle Rumble in the Jungle Commotion in the Ocean A squash and a squeeze What the ladybird heard Blue Penguin	Charlie Superhero Underpants Paper bag princess Super Tato Super worm Eliot Midnight Superhero Super duck
Themed Week	Black History Week	Poetry Week	Author Study	Shakespeare week	Poetry Week	Summer Project
Maths	Match sort & compare Talk about measure and patterns It's me 1,2,3	Circles and triangles 1 2, 3, 4, 5 Shapes with 4 sides	Alive in 5 Mass & Capacity Growing 6, 7, 8	Length, height and time Building 9 and 10 Explore 3D shapes	To 20 and beyond How many now? Manipulate, compose and decompose	Sharing and grouping Visualise, build and map Make connections
Art & Design Projects	Self portraits collages	Making Divas	Building a castle	Designing a farm/garden	Creating a vehicle	Designing superheroes
P.E	Introduction to PE Unit 2	Fundamentals Unit 2	Gymnastics Unit 2	Dance Unit 2	Ball skills Unit 2	Games Unit 2
Computing	iMake Music iMake Media iMake Video iCan Play	iCan Move iCan Direct iFind Patterns iAm Logical	iOrganise Data iSearch Online iCan Sequence iCan Program	iStay Safe iMake Art iCan Control iCan Sort iCan Turn iCan Animate	iTell Stories iSend Email iCan Model iMake Pictograms	iCan Surf iCan Report iCatch Aliens iMake algorithms iGuess Beasts iMake Pixel Art
Religious Education	What makes people special?	What can we learn from special stories?	What times are special to us?	How should we look after our world?	What makes a place special?	What things are special to us?
Golden Thread & Virtues	Confidence to show what makes me special/unique	Respectful of other cultures & religions	Love for everyone around me	Grateful for the world around me	Enthusiastic about exploring	Faith in God's plan for me

Summary of Application Process for Reception 2025

Pupil admissions will open for Reception on 1st September 2024.

You may choose to apply either through:

1. A Faith category place (50% of all places). If you are a practising member of a religion you may choose to apply through this category. Please complete Steps 1 and 2.
2. An Open place (the remaining 50% of places). If you are not a practising member of a faith please complete Step 1 only.

Please see the admissions Criteria

<https://www.nishkamschooltrust.org/nswl/admissions/how-to-apply>

STEP 1 - For all applicants

All applicants must complete the Preference/Application Form for school's admissions from your Local Authority, where you live, before 15th January 2025.

The Local Authority Preference/Application full guidance and form for school admissions may be found on the following websites (depending on where you live), for example:

Hounslow: https://www.hounslow.gov.uk/info/20028/primary_admissions

Ealing:

https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201113/school_admissions/2045/apply_for_primary_school_reception_class_or_infant_to_junior_school_transfer

Please ensure if you are applying under the staff or sibling category this is stated when completing your preferences.

STEP 2 - For Faith category places only

If you are applying for a place based on faith, (50% of all places), please kindly complete this application by 15th January 2025.

Please download and complete the Nishkam School's Supplementary Information Form (SIF) from the website <https://www.nishkamschooltrust.org/nswl/admissions/how-to-apply>. Please ensure it is also countersigned by the appropriate religious authority by obtaining the signature and stamp from your place of worship.

Please note any incorrect or incomplete Supplementary forms, or forms received beyond the relevant deadlines, will unfortunately have to be legally rejected and the place will automatically be ranked within the open category.

STEP 3

Your Local Authority in which you live will notify you of which school your child has gained a place in on National Offer Day on 16th April 2025.

Frequently Asked Questions

Does putting only one preference mean I'm more likely to get in?

No. All schools are allocated on how your child meets the admissions criteria and the number of school places available. If you do not get a place in your only preference the local authority will offer you a place at a school that still has places. This may be a long way from your home. Therefore, it is really important to request as many schools as possible, so you maximise your chances of getting a school of your choice.

How does the school check the Supplementary Information provided?

The Admissions Team checks all forms carefully and looks out for any false information. The team makes extra checks if notified about a fraudulent application. If someone is found to have provided false information to get a place at a certain school, then the offer of a place may be withdrawn, and the 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.

Am I in the catchment area?

The admissions criteria does not use catchment areas to decide on whether a pupil receives a place.

***Please note that Punjabi translation is available on the website for all our information.**

Can I still apply to school if I live in a different local authority to that of the school?

Yes. All applicants are processed in the same way regardless of the Local Authority. Applications for school places can only be made through the LA where the child lives permanently and not through the LA where the school is based.

Where can I find the criteria used to assess applications for Faith places?

These criteria are given in the Nishkam School's Admissions Criteria document, available from the school office or from the school website.

How is the faith criteria determined? What if I supply additional information on the SIF form?

Guidance from the national School Admissions Code is used in creating objective and transparent faith admissions criteria. The School can only consider information in the SIF and the School Admissions criteria. Admissions

Does the distance I live away from the school matter?

If you are applying under the Open (Non-Faith) category the applications will be ranked by the distance you live from the school. If you are applying through the Faith category, distance away from the school is only used in 'tie-brake' circumstances.

If your child does not meet the criteria of the faith category, is it better to apply through the Open criteria?

It is your decision regarding which category you choose to apply under and depends on the distance you live from the school. It is possible your child may be placed on a lower ranking under the faith category than if you applied directly through the open category if you live nearer the school.

Can I appeal?

Appeals against a decision not to offer you a school place are administered by the School Appeals Team. Full details are available on the following link: <https://www.nishkamschooltrust.org/nswl/admissions/how-to-apply/appeals>

Where can I get more information about how the admissions process works?

The local authority also provides information on how the process works through booklets, via the Local Authority website and through advisors/officers within the admissions teams.

Does it make a difference when I apply for the school?

No. All applications are collated by the local authority and given to the school at the same time.



0203 141 8760

primaryadmissions.nswl@nishkamschools.org

www.nishkamschool.org

www.facebook.com/nishkamschoolwestlondon

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