



nishkamschool
westlondon

Secondary Phase Prospectus



nishkamschooltrust.org

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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 19, part of the multi-academy Nishkam School Trust.

I am proud to lead the staff at this incredible multi-faith school in West London. Our faith-inspired, virtues-led approach is rooted in an unwavering belief that the faith and holistic development of our children must come alongside academic excellence. We believe that education can be more than simply a means to acquiring factual knowledge. Our unique multi-faith, virtues-led approach is evident in the positive manner in which the school nurtures children of all faiths and those of no particular belief. Worshipping collectively and within specific faith groups is an innovative characteristic of the school, as children learn from faith, not just about faith.

We have the highest aspirations for our students. We use highly aspirational Fisher Family Trust targets (FFT5) for our students. These benchmark our students against the top 5% of similar students in over two thousand FFT schools. More information about our excellent GCSE results for 2023 can be found in this prospectus.

We are fortunate to be housed in a beautiful, purpose-built school with state-of-the-art facilities. These include multiple IT suites, a stunning library and faith

space, science laboratories, food technology room, a sports hall with indoor cricket nets and dedicated art room with a functional kiln for pottery making.

We have a knowledgeable and dedicated staff body in the secondary phase. Staff who believe in our faith based, virtues-based approach and who use the language of virtues in their day-to-day interactions with our students.

We provide an outstanding learning environment in a highly structured and disciplined environment. We believe that children thrive when given clear direction with allows them to embed learning habits that will make them successful lifelong learners.

We are a growing school and have launched our new sixth form in September 2023. This next phase of our growth gives us the opportunity to assist students in

the next phase of their educational journey. It is our goal to support our students in securing excellent A-levels allowing them to gain admission at the most prestigious universities.

Choosing a secondary school for your child is a significant step for any parent. I welcome you to read our prospectus and visit our school during our dedicated open mornings and evening to see for yourselves the wonderful learning environment that we have created.

Please do not hesitate to contact us at the school if you require any further information by calling 0203 141 8760 or emailing secondaryadmissions.nswl@nishkamschools.org

Yours sincerely,

Mr G Dineen
Head teacher
(Secondary phase)



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 faiths, 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".

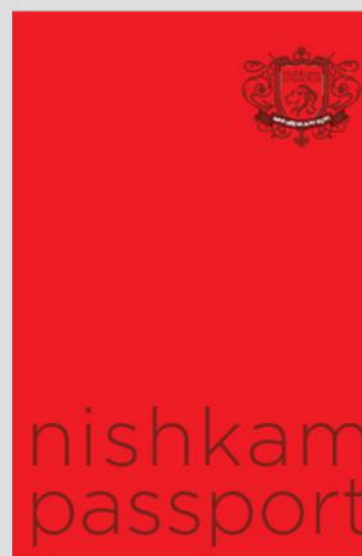
The Passport will help our children further understand our virtues and self-assess how well they are doing.

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 45 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
September 2016:

Overall effectiveness
Outstanding

Effectiveness of
leadership and
management
Outstanding

Quality of teaching, learning
and assessment
Outstanding

Personal development,
behaviour and welfare
Outstanding

Outcomes for pupils
Outstanding

Early years provision
Outstanding



- Leadership and management at all levels are of exceptionally high quality. Leaders constantly check the quality of teaching and learning and provide very good support for any teacher who needs to develop their practice.
- Exemplary leadership and management skills ensure that the school's values are central to developing pupils' learning and mind-set. The school's vision to 'offer excellence... and inspire children to learn' pervades the school. As a result, pupils are motivated and have high aspirations.
- The national and local governing body are energetic and forward-looking. There is no sense of complacency. They monitor the school's work and meet regularly with the headteacher to ensure that the school's work is highly effective.
- By the time pupils leave Year 1, the vast majority reach the expected standard in phonics screening. This is outstanding progress from their starting points.
- By the end of key stage 1, groups of pupils – in particular the most able, the most able disadvantaged and disadvantaged pupils who did not achieve well in early years – are far ahead of other pupils nationally.
- Provision in the early years is outstanding. It is an exciting and busy place where children get off to a flying start. As a result, they make rapid progress from below-average starting points.
- Pupils achieve extremely well because the quality of teaching over time is outstanding. Teachers know their pupils and use assessment meticulously to plan activities so that pupils can excel in their learning.
- The school's values are closely linked to British values, and pupils live by them. As a result, pupils are disciplined and respectful towards each other and visitors. Behaviour is exemplary.
- The school's practice of 'Nishkam'
- ('selflessness') means that pupils, parents and the wider community have a strong bond and a sense of unity and safety. Pupils are safe, and the overwhelming majority of parents say that their children are happy, safe and well looked after at the school.
- Pupils achieve outcomes that are significantly above average in the national tests.

The full report can be found at
<https://files.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/2600754>



Scan Me



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 so that

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.

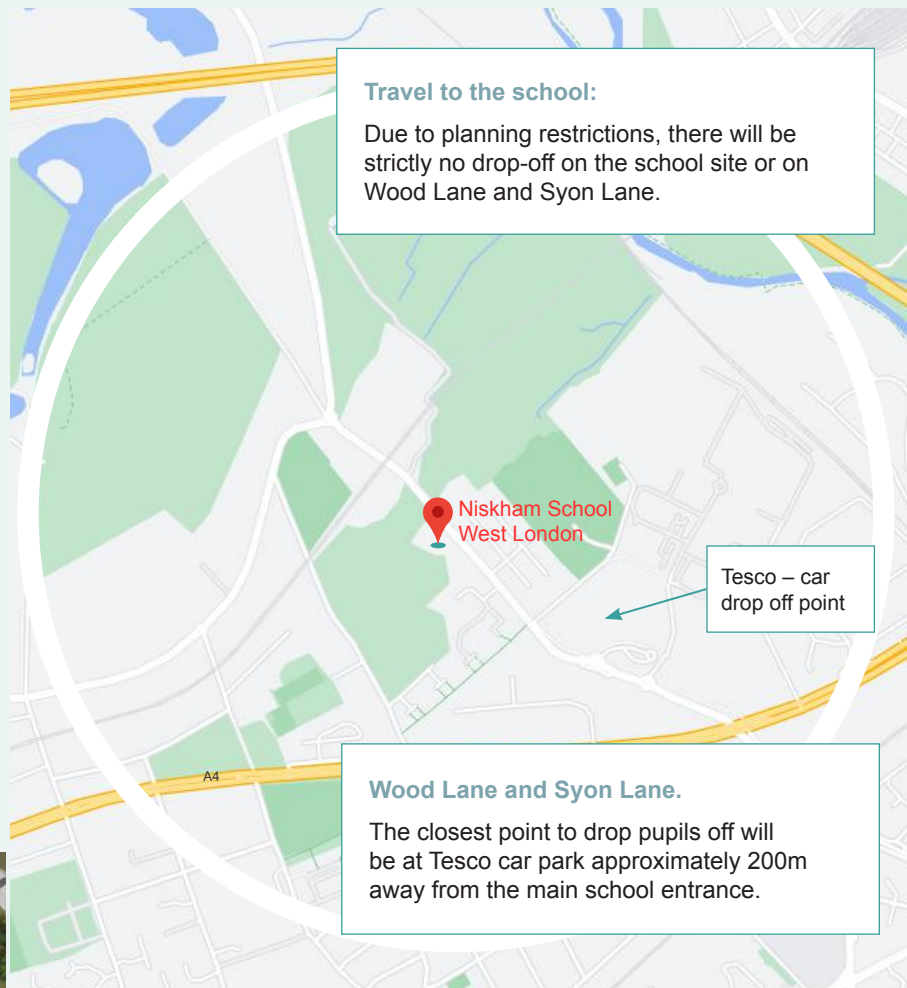
The new and permanent site of the school opened in August 2018.

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



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

School Food

Healthy, made daily, well balanced, delicious fresh ingredients

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

There will be a daily salad bar that includes: 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 AND CHEESE	CHEESE SALAD BUNS	SALAD BAR	SEMIYA (VERMICELLI)
FRIDAY	CHIPS & BEANS + TURKA BEANS	CHIPS & BEANS + TURKA BEANS	CHEESE SALAD BAGUETTES	SALAD BAR	FRUIT & YOGHURT

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

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 eg supermarkets
GIRLS Compulsory	School regulation wool blazer (mid grey, gold trim and school crest)	✓	✗
	School tie	✓	✗
	School regulation jumper (mid grey, gold trim with school crest)	✓	✗
	School regulation skirt (below knee length) / trousers (mid grey)	✓	✗
	Chunni (head scarf) for Sikh students during prayers and all religious head coverings (mid grey)	✓	✗
	Blouse (white)	✓	✓
	Tights / socks (mid grey)	✓	✓
	Formal black shoes, not patent, no trainer-like shoes, no heels	✗	✓
	Bag or rucksack with school crest	✓	✗
BOYS Compulsory	School wool blazer (mid grey, gold trim and school crest)	✓	✗
	School tie	✓	✗
	School regulation jumper (mid grey, gold trim with school crest)	✓	✗
	Dastaar for all Keshadari Sikh students and all religious head coverings (mid grey)	✓	✗
	Shirt (white)	✓	✓
	Trousers (mid grey)	✓	✓
	Socks (mid grey)	✓	✓
	Formal shoes (black not patent, no trainer-like shoes, no logos)	✗	✓
	Bag or rucksack with school crest	✓	✗
BOYS/ GIRLS PE; Compulsory	Games kit polo shirt with school crest	✓	✗
	Games kit shorts/skort with school crest	✓	✗
	Games kit socks	✓	✓
	Sports trainers (not pumps, converses or high tops)	✓	✓
	Gum shield and shin pads for required sports	✓	✓
	Black sweatband with school crest	✓	✓
	Black long football socks	✓	✓
BOYS/ GIRLS PE; Optional	Games kit track bottoms	✓	✗
	Games kit zip to with crest	✓	✗

NSWL Student Outcomes

When pupils start in Year 7, they complete GL Cognitive Ability Tests (CAT 4) and Progress Tests (PT11) in English, Mathematics and Science. GL Assessment is the leading provider of formative assessments to schools across the UK and around the world. The data collected through this exercise and throughout Key Stage 3 is then used as a benchmark for pupil progress in these subjects. The students can then be tracked, monitored and supported across Key Stage 3 studies (Year 7-9). Many independent schools also use GL assessments and are included in the benchmarking data. All of our Key Stage 3 Year group outcomes ranked significantly above the national average for these assessments in 2022/23.

The GCSE outcomes for our students in 2022/23 serve to emphasise the focus on academic excellence here at Nishkam School West London. 46% of the grades returned to us for our 2022/23 cohort where grades 9-7 (A*-A). The Attainment 8 (A8) figure for the school stands at 59.8 indicating that the average grade achieved by our students was a grade 6 (B grade). The national average for Attainment 8 in 2022 was 48.8.

Some particular success stories of note:

- Kavan D achieved straight 9s in all 11 of his GCSE examinations
- Sukhveer R achieved 9 grade 9s and one grade 8
- Tuka M achieved eight grade 9s GCSEs, one grade 8 and one grade 6.
- Krrish M achieved five grade 9s and 5 grade 8s.
- Mareesha A achieved six grade 9s, four grade 8s and one grade 7.



We are rightly proud of our student's achievements and of our highest attainers. We continue to support these students in our Sixth Form as they work towards their educational and wider life goals.

	Nishkam School 2023	National Average (all schools) 2022*
Attainment 8**	59.8	48.8
Progress 8***	0.95 (TBC)	0.0
Grade 5 or above English & Maths	73.1%	49.8%
Ebacc average	5.55	4.27
Grade 9-7	46%	22.7% (2023 estimated)
Overall results are estimated to place the school overall in the top 5% of all schools nationally		

* 2023 figures will be published by the DfE in due course

** Attainment 8 score is the average measure of an individual student's progress across their 8 best performing subjects taken at GCSE level.

*** A Progress 8 score is usually between -1 and +1. A score of +1 means that pupils in that school achieve one grade higher in each qualification than other similar pupils nationally. A score of -1 means they achieve one grade lower. The average Progress 8 score of all secondary schools nationally is 0.

Partnership with Parents

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

Over the course of 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 are asked to bring your child with you to these meetings. Teachers encourage the children to join in the discussion about their progress at school. At the end of each term, you will be sent a report that details your child's progress and attitude to learning. You can always see your child's Head of Key Stage if you have any concerns about their life at school. Parents also have access to the My Child at School App which provides families with information about a student's attendance, conduct, progress and timetable.

Children's Progress

Termly reports provide parents with information about their child's progress against the Fischer Family Trust (FFT) target grades. Students at NSWL are given FFT5 target grades which puts their progress in the top 5% of similar students in England. The school also uses GL Assessments at KS3. GL assessments are used by a wide range of independent schools and provide bespoke feedback for pupils, their parents and their class teachers. Parents will receive a parental report which provides

information about how their child is performing against similar students nationally. The reports also provide parents with advice on how to support their child's learning moving forward.

Workshops

We will hold remote parent workshops regularly and parents/carers will also be invited to attend 'open house' mornings each term when the opportunity allows.

Class Assemblies

These will be held regularly and give pupils an ideal chance to develop their leadership and confidence.

The Curriculum

Each term teachers will provide pupils with 'knowledge organisers'. These documents give details of the curriculum programme for each year group.

You will be able to support your child's homework through the app 'Show My Homework'.

School Newsletters

You will receive our regular school newsletters, which will inform you of useful dates, showcase pupils' work and reflect on our virtues.



Example School Day



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00-8.15	Multi-faith daily prayer (Optional)	Multi-faith daily prayer (Optional)	Multi-faith daily prayer (Optional)	Multi-faith daily prayer (Optional)	Multi-faith daily prayer (Optional)
8.20-8.45	Virtues Assembly & Prayer	Tutor time & Prayer	Tutor time & Prayer	Tutor time & Prayer	Celebration Assembly & Prayer
8.45-9.40	Science	Food & Nutrition	English	English	Maths
9.40-10.35	Maths	Maths	Maths	Religious Education	Art
10.35-10.50	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
10.50-11.45	Spanish	Science	Religious Education	Geography	Library lesson
11:45-12:40	English	Science	Spanish	Science	Spanish
12:40-13:20	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
13:20-14:15	English	Physical Education	PSHCE	History	Music
14:15-15:10	Geography	Physical Education	Drama	Computing	History

Summary of Application Process



You can apply to Nishkam School West London Year 7 for September 2024 now.

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.

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 31st October 2023.

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/20026/school_admissions

Ealing: https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201113/school_admissions

Please see our Admissions policy at <https://www.nishkamschooltrust.org/nswl/admissions/how-to-apply>

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;

- for age 11 (Year 7) places: 31st October 2023
- for age 4 (Reception) places: 15th January 2024

Please download and complete the Nishkam School's [Supplementary Information Form \(SIF\) from the website https://www.nishkamschooltrust.org/nsw/admissions/how-to-apply](https://www.nishkamschooltrust.org/nsw/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, 2nd March 2024 for Secondary and 16th April 2024 for Primary.

For further information please contact the school office on 0203 141 8760 or email secondaryadmissions.nsw@nishkamschools.org

Frequently Asked Questions

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:



Admissions

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 QR code:



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.

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

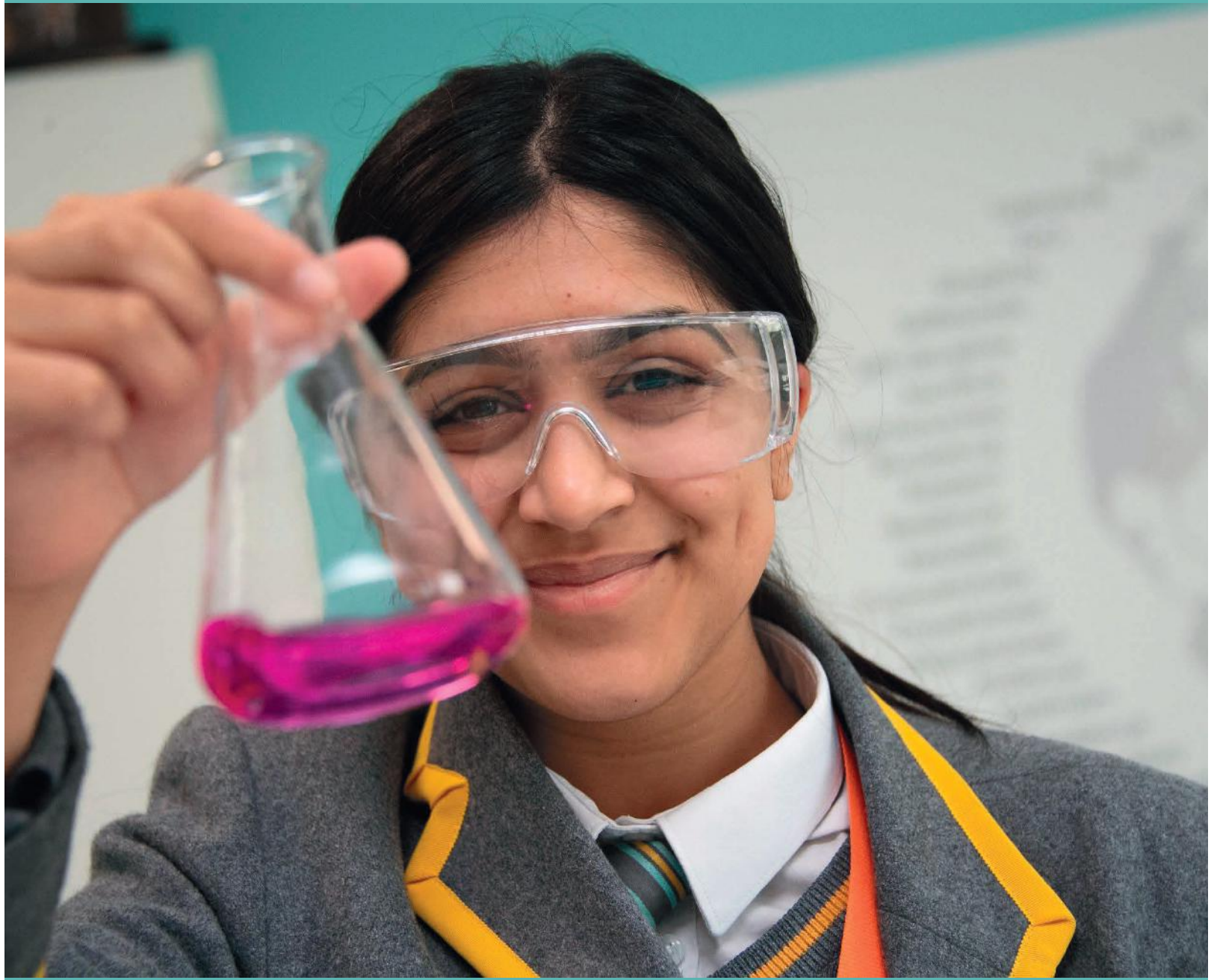
No. All schools are allocated on how your child meets the admissions criteria and the number of school places available. If you do not get a place in your only preference the local authority will offer you a place at a school that still has places. This may be a long way from your home. Therefore, it 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.





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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