



Teacher Name: Kiran R K Lall

School: Nishkam School West London

Subject: Faith Studies Teacher

My route to teaching:

Originally, I spent 3 years at Epsom School of Art and Design where I studied Fashion Design and spent a further year studying Art History. I always wanted to work with children and took a post of providing speech therapy across Early Years, KS1 and KS2 which I did for over 10 years.

Having always had a passion for teaching vocal music which I had done as a volunteer for many years, I was fortunate enough to take a role at a local Sikh School as it allowed me to offer my skills to children in a more formal setting. As the Sikh Studies and Punjabi teacher, I taught right across the school from Reception class to Year 6 and led all religious assemblies. I co-ordinated Sikh events, such as the annual Parkash, Bandi Chhor, Vaisakhi, Guru Nanak Dev Ji's Gurburb and drama performances (held at the Beck theatre in West London).

Seeing the children blossom, gave me great job satisfaction, so I knew this was what I wanted as a long-term future career. When I joined Nishkam School West London as a Faith Studies and RE Teacher, I knew this role was made for me.

Why I love my job:

Since joining Nishkam School and in addition to teaching, I have been fortunate to lead and collaborate in various roles such as: organising the annual School Summer Fayre, Winter Wonderland, Chinese New Year celebrations, inviting religious speakers, introducing creative workshops to further enhance pupils education in faith, organising trips to religious places of worship, faith workshops for all year groups, running vocal after school clubs, preparing pupils to perform at the Ministry of Defence, the parent liaison officer role, leading pre-morning prayers and running the school linking interfaith programme for the Primary School.

"The best teachers teach from the heart, not the book"

I have such a love for the profession, and I feel that working with young pupils is a great honour. Education is such a powerful tool, it shapes children's lives and I believe children should be stretched to their full potential. Every day is different with exciting new challenges.

Why Nishkam:

Nishkam has become the centre of my dream. I want to give it everything I can, so children leave school with an enriched values-led life which is also part of the Sikh ethos. It's fantastic and satisfying to see children reflect on their everyday lives by thinking about their actions using the values learnt. The embedded values are already moulding the pupils' lives in such a beautiful way. Some of the questions and answers children come up with show they are beginning to have a deeper understanding of tolerance of other faiths and beliefs.

Next steps for me:

Year by year the school is thriving and growing. I need to keep working hard to ensure I meet new challenges with love, passion and commitment.