

# ATAM ACADEMY Magazine

July 2019



## What's inside?

Outstanding Ofsted  
Welcoming new students  
Celebrity guests





# Welcome

I am delighted to welcome you to the third edition of Atam Academy's magazine. This time we celebrate some of the inspiring events that have taken place at the academy over recent weeks.

Before we celebrate the successes of our staff and students, it gives me great pleasure to share with you the results of our recent Ofsted inspection; the school was rated Outstanding in all categories, with inspectors pointing out the fantastic behaviour of our students: "Pupils' behaviour in class, around school and during breaktimes is outstanding. Pupils know and put into practice the school's core values". This is richly deserved recognition of the fantastic progress we continue to make as an Academy.

Atam was founded on Sikh values and this is reflected in the vibrant way we have celebrated Vaisakhi and Hola Mohalla. However, our values are welcoming of anyone and it was delightful to see those of all faiths join us to share in the festivities.

Regardless of faith, our ethos provides students with a moral grounding, self-confidence and commitment to success that will see them excel, personally and professionally, and ideally place them to have a positive impact as society's next generation of leaders.

We recently met our new cohort of Year 7s, those joining this coming September, for the very first time at our Friendship Afternoon. This event kicks off our transition programme, which provides students with a variety of opportunities to meet new friends and get to know the school ahead of their first official day. As these students join our ever growing school, having only opened our secondary provision last September, they will access ever more exciting and impactful opportunities. We are continuously expanding our network to make sure students get the rounded education they deserve.

I hope you enjoy reading about the great things happening at Atam Academy and across the Khalsa Academies Trust. Please follow us on Twitter and Facebook for even more news and photos from around the school, and I look forward to seeing you at one of our events in the future!

**Sulina Piesse, Executive Headteacher**

## Ofsted 'Outstanding'

Following two days of inspection in mid-May this year, we are delighted to announce that Atam Academy has been awarded the highest possible Ofsted rating of Outstanding, as well as being judged as Outstanding across the board in all categories. Some highlights from the report are as follows:

- The school's highly effective leadership team has brought about rapid improvement in a short space of time.
- Leaders, trust members, governors and staff have high aspirations for all pupils: for their behaviour, attitudes to learning and the progress they should make.
- The quality of teaching is consistently good due to effective training and development of all staff.
- All groups of pupils' achievement is rapidly improving. In all year groups progress is good and the most able are exceeding expectations for their age.
- Early years provision is outstanding. Leaders and teachers have secured continual improvements and children make strong progress.

This incredible achievement is testament to the hard-work and dedication of all involved with the Academy and I would like to thank every parent, student and staff member for their contribution to the Academy's ongoing success.



# Academy News

## OUR FIRST HOLA MOHALLA IN OUR NEW BUILDING

Thank you to the Atam family and the wider community for joining us in celebrating Hola Mohalla. We are so fortunate to have such active staff and volunteers we hope everyone had a chance to listen to the blissful kirtan and participate in the range of activities on offer.

Volunteers included Atam students and families, who helped facilitate arts and crafts workshops, archery, face painting, a bouncy castle and many other hugely popular activities. It was inspiring to see the community come together to celebrate the festival with us.

## Atam Primary visit to Saint Paul's Church

Year 1 students had a fantastic time visiting Saint Paul's Church in Goodmayes. The group spent time discussing and debating the importance and meaning of the Easter story with Reverend Janet. She was deeply impressed with the extent of their knowledge and commended them on how confidently they spoke.

## Year 7 Friendship Afternoon

Thank you to all parents and students who joined us for our first Friendship Afternoon of this Year. The event was extremely well received by students and parents and it was great to see our next cohort beginning the friendships that will stay with them throughout their time at Atam.



## VIBRANT VAISAKHI CELEBRATIONS AT ATAM ACADEMY

Having recently moved into their new building, Atam Academy staff and students celebrated Vaisakhi with the local community in a memorable and hugely popular day.

## SIKH ENVIRONMENT DAY

March 14th saw Atam Academy come together to celebrate Sikh Environment Day. The day coincides with the Gurgaddi Diwas (enthronement day) of Guru Har Rai ji, the 7th Guru of the Sikh who became Guru in 1644: he was a great humanitarian who inspired Sikhs to preserve nature and promote the well-being of animals.

At Atam Academy, we wanted to play our part, so with the help of our community volunteers, all students were encouraged to plant some flowers and appreciate the beauty of the nature around us. We would also like to thank Wates Group and Skidmores of Hertford for their kind donation of plants!



# Khalsa Academies Trust News

The Khalsa Academies Trust (KAT) is a Multi Academy Trust that supports a number of high performing schools, including Khalsa Secondary Academy (KSA) and Khalsa Academy Wolverhampton (KAW).

The trust brings together the best practice from across these schools and helps staff and students to learn from one another. This is how it helps the continuous development that can be seen throughout each member school.

## World book day celebrations at Atam Academy

Students and staff recently marked the 22nd annual World Book Day – a celebration of authors, illustrators, books and reading with a mission to give every child and young person a book of their own.

Students dressed up as their favourite characters from books they have read, as well as taking part in reading sessions.



## CELEBRITY VISIT FROM THE KEEP MOVING FORWARD PROGRAMME

On the 13th March a whole school assembly was held at KSA on raising awareness of mental health issues. As part of the Keep Moving Forward programme which delivers activities and provides support to local people suffering from mental health issues, the Academy hosted James 'Arg' Argent from Towie and Danny-Boy Hatchard from Eastenders, who spoke to our students about speaking up and the importance of supporting one another.

## Positive Participation at Khalsa Academy Wolverhampton

KAW have also been focusing on raising awareness about mental health, and have been working in partnership with Positive Participation, a charity providing specialist Asian mental health services.

Students were extremely engaged and open in their views during a talk and Q&A with members of the charity and showed an understanding of the importance of supporting mental health within the Asian Community. Students will be making videos about mental health in their Media classes to help others in community.



**ATAM  
ACADEMY**  
Together as one

Little Heath, Barley Lane,  
Chadwell Heath RM6 4XT  
T: 020 8252 9831  
E: [info@atamacademy.com](mailto:info@atamacademy.com)