

Prospectus



ATAM
ACADEMY
Together as one

Executive Headteacher's Welcome

"The school successfully promotes traditional values as well as a strong sense of unity, tolerance and aspiration." KSA Ofsted

My name is Sulina Piesse and I am delighted to introduce myself as the Executive Headteacher of Atam Academy, part of the Khalsa Academies Trust. I began teaching over 15 years ago and have been involved in school leadership for over a decade. For the last two years I have led the incredibly successful Khalsa Secondary Academy (KSA) in Slough. It is an honour to be now leading Atam into the next stage of its development.

Atam is an all-through academy; its primary provision opened in September 2016 where those joining us in Reception have the chance to remain with us until they finish their education at 18. In September 2019 we will welcome our first Year 7 cohort who will have the chance to be the leaders of our academy.

An all-through education at Atam Academy will provide many opportunities to boost academic and personal development for all students through shared specialisms and resources, access to a wide range of 'out of school' activities and leadership opportunities, such as working with our primary children, that will boost their CVs and university applications.

I want our students to know that they can achieve whatever they want, whether that's university, high level apprenticeships or even setting up their own business. We will have a strong careers focus and students will study an international curriculum based on the principles of the International Baccalaureate Organisation, providing access to opportunities in a global market.

To help facilitate this goal, we are building a strong network of partners to support the delivery of a rich and varied curriculum. This will ensure that students are equipped with the skills that employers need and have the opportunity to experience a variety of activities to formulate their own career path.

Atam is an inclusive academy. We utilise our Sikh ethos to provide everyone with a strong moral foundation. At KSA I have witnessed first-hand the positive impact this has had on every student, whether a practising Sikh or not; they develop a strong sense of community and collective behaviour is better than any other school I have worked in.

On top of all of this, we have a new purpose-built, state-of-the-art school to provide students with an inspiring and unique learning environment. I would like to welcome everyone to come and see for themselves what an excellent education students will receive at Atam. We have a number of opportunities to visit and I would encourage all parents seeking a secondary school to join us at one of them.



Our vision and values

It is important to us, as a new academy, to have clear aims. We have spent time defining what it is that will make us unique, how we will achieve this and what behaviours we expect of everyone.

Vision

Atam was established to embody Sikh principles within its teaching to provide 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.

Mission

Atam seeks to be the leading state funded, Sikh ethos all-through academy in East London by utilising strategic partnerships to lead pioneering initiatives that embed ground-breaking and contemporary teaching methods. We set high expectations of students and ourselves to ensure the young people in our community always have access to an education that offers them the best possible outcomes.

Values

To achieve the school's vision we have established a set of behaviours and characteristics that define how everyone within our community pledges to act; these are the values that we strive to demonstrate and personify on a daily basis.



Transition

We acknowledge the importance of the transition to secondary school and have a dedicated transition process in place to support this journey and ensure it is as seamless and stress-free as possible for your child. This involves:

- Close partnerships with our local primary schools, sharing resources and expertise through a range of masterclasses, taster lessons and activity days.
- A Friendship Afternoon in March, providing new students with an opportunity to get to know their school environment and teachers, sample our curriculum and start to establish new friendships.
- A Summer Programme of events.

What's more, transition does not end when students arrive on their first day; it continues until each young person is comfortable at our school.

“There are so many great opportunities at the school and I felt welcome right from the beginning.”
KSA Year 7 student

Parents

We recognise the importance of working in partnership with parents and so warmly welcome parental involvement in supporting and encouraging the students in their school work. There will be many opportunities for you to share in your child's education and we are always available to talk to you about any aspect of your child's development.



Khalsa Academies Trust

Atam is one of three academies that form the Khalsa Academies Trust (KAT). It was formed in 2013 and its trustees have been working with the Department for Education for almost 15 years. The other two member academies are Khalsa Secondary Academy (KSA) and The Khalsa Academy Wolverhampton (TKAW).

Vision

Its purpose is to provide inclusive outstanding schools based on Sikh values which inspires our students to excel both academically and spiritually and to serve humanity.

Outcomes

KSA is currently the only academy that has students old enough to take exams, however, its results have been remarkable. Its Progress 8 score is in the top 30 schools in the country and its Attainment 8 a staggering 12.8 points above the national average.

Both secondary schools have been inspected by Ofsted and have been rated Good, receiving excellent feedback on the education provided to students.

Ofsted said of TKAW:

“Governors, the MAT and leaders share a vision of excellence.”

“Pupils' behaviour is excellent and they enjoy school. They gain confidence in their time at school and become increasingly articulate and thoughtful.”

“Leaders have developed a varied and interesting curriculum. It allows pupils to do a range of interesting subjects and gain valuable experiences.”

Ofsted said of KSA:

“The acting principal (Sulina Piesse) and the trust's director of education are indomitable in their pursuit of improvement.”

“The school successfully promotes traditional values as well as a strong sense of unity, tolerance and aspiration.”

“Governors have not shied away from making difficult decisions in the interest of securing better progress for pupils.”

“Well-motivated pupils and excellent relationships mean that pupils do well in their studies.”
TKAW Ofsted



Ten reasons why Atam Academy is the right school for you

We know you might have had your child's secondary school in mind for a number of years, but there are so many reasons to join Atam Academy.

1. Academic excellence

We will replicate the academic achievements of KSA. It is our belief that combining Atam's vision, values and ethos with experienced and results driven leadership will deliver results that stand up to national and international rigour.

2. Transition made easy

Starting a secondary school can be intimidating, but at Atam there are no older students to be nervous about, no crowded hallways to get used to and no chance of being neglected in favour of the exam year groups.

4. An ethos for everyone

We are a Sikh faith school, but we promise to provide an outstanding education for everyone - irrespective of faith, gender, social background or prior attainment - who wants to join us. We believe our ethos instils principles in our students that are universal, but no student will ever have to attend religious ceremonies that they do not wish to.

3. New building, new ideas, new futures

Students will benefit from our brand new, state-of-the-art facilities, complete with the latest technology, bespoke sports facilities and contemporary learning classrooms. This inspiring backdrop will see students engaged in a lifelong love of learning.

6. Enriching experiences for all

That we want our students to be high achievers is a given, but we also want them to be well-rounded so they have the best possible chance of being successful after they leave us. To achieve this we are developing a comprehensive enrichment programme that will provide all of our young people to thrive through experience. We will ignite unknown passions by exposing them to pursuits and activities they may not even yet know about.

9. Purposeful partnerships

We are utilising our proximity to London and the City to establish partnerships with global commercial, technological and financial organisations. Partners will work with our school leaders to promote entrepreneurship and creativity within the curriculum, as well as offering mentoring and internships. They will also lead pioneering initiatives that embed ground-breaking and contemporary teaching methods.

10. Be part of something new

As Atam's first secondary cohort you will have a unique chance to help shape and define what the academy's culture is. This is your chance to build a successful future for your child and thousands of other local students by creating an academy that you want and deserve it to be.

5. Become a leader

One of the benefits of an all-through education is that secondary aged students get opportunities to develop key life skills, like leadership, by mentoring their younger peers in the primary phase.

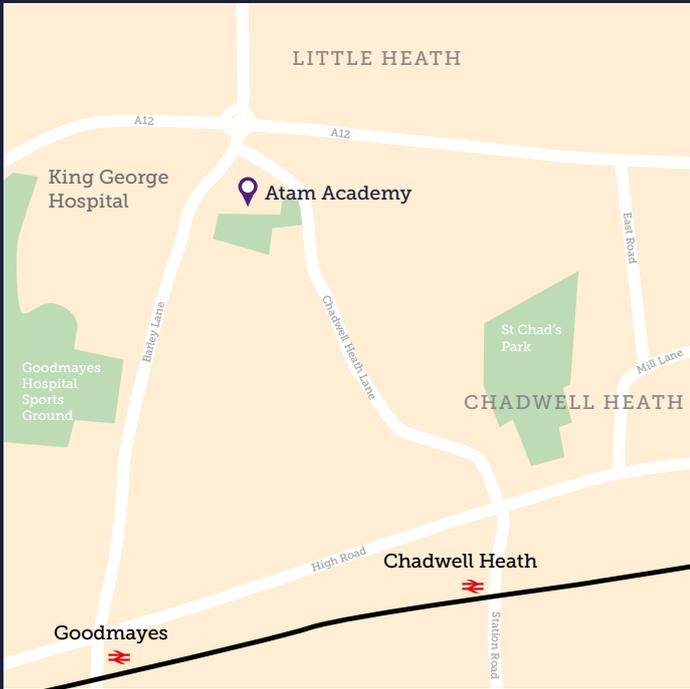
7. Community matters

Every student will have a Personal Portfolio of Service (PPS) and offer their services to others in the community, demonstrating the Sikh value of giving to others, known as 'seva'. The skills, knowledge and life experiences from this will provide them with a comprehensive catalogue of the impact their work is having. It will also serve to be an invaluable part of their CV and personal statement for university.

8. The sky's the limit

Aspiration is a key word at Atam. We don't want to constrain students' dreams. Our international outlook will be embedded not only in the curriculum, but in all activities so that they are aware of the wealth of opportunities available to them, both at home and beyond.





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