



Section 48 School report

Nanaksar Primary School

Springfield Road, Hayes, Middlesex, UB4 0LT

Inspection date	22.11.21
Overall effectiveness Previous inspection:	29.02.2016
This inspection:	Outstanding 1

Religious Education and Sikh Studies	1
Collective Worship and Pupils' Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development (SMSC)	1
Leadership, Management and Governance	1

School context:

- Nanaksar Free School was opened in September 2013 by the Nanaksar Trust. Because of building constraints, it started with only two-year groups of Reception and Year 1 classes until all those pupils left to join their secondary schools. In 2020, the school started with two new Reception classes and admitted 41 children, though the capacity is 120 children, all of whom are currently in Year 1. In 2021 the school admissions for the Reception year has been only 17 pupils so far, with pupils joining mid-year. The school will continue to grow to the full primary age range, catering for pupils aged 4-11 years.
- The school is a part of multi-academy trust which comprises Guru Nanak Academy - an all through primary and secondary school. The board of directors of the trust oversee the work of both the schools.
- Currently the classrooms are located on the same campus as Guru Nanak Academy, and the school uses some of the Academy's facilities including the gurdwara for assemblies and the dining hall for lunches. The school is moving to its own purpose-built new building in January 2022.
- Most pupils are of Indian origin. A small minority of pupils come from other ethnic communities. Almost all are learning English as an additional language. Most pupils speak Punjabi as their home language and some others speak Arabic, Gujarati and Hindi. Over 62% pupils are in the early stages of learning English when they enter Reception.

- The proportion of pupils who have disabilities or have special educational needs is well below average. The proportion of pupils who are known to be eligible for the pupil premium, which is an additional government funding provided for pupils known to be eligible for the free school meals and looked after children is well below average.
- Nanaksar is a Sikh school that teaches all other major faiths represented in the UK. The school has a bespoke curriculum that includes teaching of Sikhism and other religions. This meets the requirements of the inspection authority, the Network of Sikh Organisations (NSO).

What does the school need to do to improve further?

- Improve the quality of the curriculum for Years 4, 5 and 6 by adding the relevant passages from the Guru Granth Sahib to illustrate the Sikh values.

Religious Education and Sikh Studies

Outstanding

- The Religious Education and Sikh Studies curriculum is a bespoke curriculum planned for Reception to Year 6 age group. It is well sequenced and implemented. The school values and values of other religions such as Hinduism, Christianity, Islam, Buddhism and Judaism are very effectively linked to the curriculum. The recommendation from the last inspection has been successfully addressed.
- The curriculum is extremely well implemented as the staff have a very strong knowledge of the Sikh religion and have high expectations of what pupils can achieve. Lesson visits indicate the high ability of Year 1 pupils to write three to four sentences about the Sikh value of Vand Chhakna (sharing) linking it to Langar in the gurdwara.
- Teachers are highly skilled in assessing and extending pupils' knowledge and understanding through questioning. The questions included how would you implement Vand Chhakna in your daily life? Pupils answers such as by sharing toys, books, pencils and rubbers indicates that they are well prepared to practice the value in their daily life.
- Teachers link the Sikh teachings with teachings of other religions such as Lord Krishna (Hinduism) sharing food with his friends. Sikh teaching of diversity and community cohesion through respecting all religions is promoted successfully.
- The partnership with Guru Nanak Academy enriches pupils' learning extremely well when they join for Guru Nanak Sahib's Parkash Utsav celebrations and engage in preparing a shabad audio.

The quality of Collective Worship and the development of pupils' spiritual, social, moral and cultural development

Outstanding

- The quality of collective worship is exceptional. Young pupils are able to walk in the Darbar Hall with great respect and reverence. They know the rules and routines very well and they settle down quickly. They listen to the path attentively and engage in singing with gusto. The adult reads the first five pauries of Japji Sahib, says the ardass and takes the vak from the Guru Granth Sahib explaining that this is the message of the day. The whole Sikh service promotes a calm and respectful ethos.

- The young pupils' behaviour and engagement are spiritually uplifting. This promotes pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Pupils' knowledge and understanding of Fundamental British Values is very strong as these are similar to Sikh values and practices.
- The school links school values successfully to the Sikh teachings and is in a good position to link the British Values in the RE curriculum.

Leadership and management.

Outstanding

- The Executive Principal of Guru Nanak Academy provides excellent guidance to the Deputy Headteacher and the whole RE team. Nanaksar leader of RE works as a part of the Guru Nanak Academy team. Leaders understand that the Sikh values should be practised in daily life. This helps pupils to understand the relevance of Sikh religion to our present-day society.
- The whole curriculum is well thought out and links extremely well to pupils' needs so that they become well rounded British citizens when they grow up, willing to take their responsibilities.
- The written curriculum is currently linked mainly to the history and the common stories from the lives of the Gurus. However, it does not link to the appropriate verses from the Guru Granth Sahib.

Reporting Inspector:

Lady Kanwaljit Kaur-Singh OBE

Deputy Director Network of Sikh Organisations (NSO)

Network of Sikh Organisations Statutory Inspection of Sikh Schools Report

This inspection of the school was carried out under section 48 of the Education Act 2005 and guidance from the Guru Granth Sahib and the Sikh Rehat Maryada.

School details

Type of school	Primary
School category	Free school
Age range of pupils	4-11
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	58
Appropriate authority	Nanaksar Trust
Chair	Arun Thakur
Executive Headteacher	Jaskamal Singh Sidhu
Date of previous school inspection	29.02.2016
Telephone number	020 8573 6085
Fax number	N/A
Email address	admin@gnsa.co.uk