

# ATAM NEWS



Autumn Term 2: 6th December 2024



## Dates for your diary:

- 11th December 2024- KS1 Nativity
- 12th December 2024- Year 11 Parent Consultation Evening
- 13th December 2024- Chaar Sahibzaade Movie Night
- 17th December 2024- KVI Redbridge Open Evening
- 18th December 2024- Christmas Jumper Day
- 18th December 2024- Christmas Lunch
- 18th December 2024- Winter Concert
- 20th December 2024- School Close - half-day



## KHALSA SIXTH

### OPEN EVENING

Tuesday 17th December 5-7pm

*Discover what makes us unique, meet our dedicated team, and explore our facilities. It's the perfect opportunity to ask questions, get a feel for our community, and see how we can support your goals. We look forward to welcoming you!*



Tel: 020 8252 9831

[info@atamacademy.com](mailto:info@atamacademy.com)

Little Heath, Romford, Chadwell Heath, RM6 4XX

PROUDLY PART OF



## Year 5 Christmas Carols

A huge well done to our year 5 children and the year 5 team for their heartwarming carol singing at King George Hospital. Your voices brought joy, smiles and festive cheer to everyone!

# PRIMARY

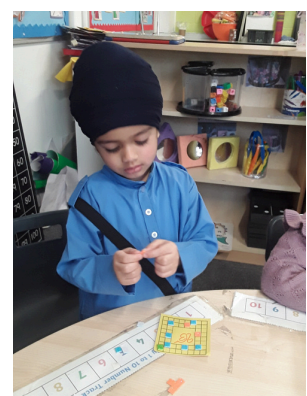
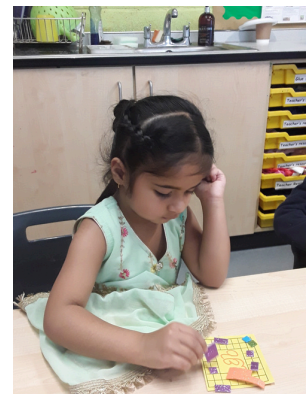


## EYFS

Children in the Nursery celebrated Guru Nanak Dev Ji's birthday at school on Friday 22nd November. They took part in listening to stories, going to the Gurdwara Sahib, made mosaic frames, had langar (food), dressed up in their cultural clothes and sang hymns.

During the week they continued with the topic on 'Homes', listened to the story of The Three Little Pigs, acted it out, made props, made their own houses using straw, sticks and bricks. Well done to all the Nursery children for all your hard work.

Nursery team,  
Mrs Kahlon, Mrs Irina and Mrs Bhogal





# PRIMARY



## Year 2 Update

It's been a busy week with assessments and Nativity practice, and we want to thank you for your continued support in helping your children learn their lines.

In Maths, we are continuing our work on addition and subtraction. We are focusing on number bonds to 20 and adding 3 single digit numbers. To support their learning, we encourage children to play educational games like those on 'Topmarks.' Please continue to help them consolidate their skills at home.

A quick reminder to please hear your child read aloud every day. Ask your child questions about the text, and remember to record their reading in the reading record each day. This is a great way to support their progress and help them move up the reading bands. If you are experiencing any issues with Bug Club, please feel free to send a message via Google Classroom, and we'll be happy to assist. In the photos, you can see Dharam Class during Drop Down Day. It was a fun-filled day, and the children had a fantastic time with plenty of food and activities!

We are thrilled to share with you the fantastic time the children had at the pantomime! The children got fully involved in the performance, singing along to the song, booing the sisters and shouting out "Buttons!" at the perfect moments.

We were also incredibly impressed by how well-behaved the children were on the coach journey to and from the theatre. They were polite, respectful, and a real credit to the school. Their good manners and consideration for others ensured that the trip was enjoyable and stress-free for everyone involved. They made us very proud! Lastly, please do not forget that the KS1 Nativity performance is on Wednesday, 4th December at 2:00 pm. We look forward to seeing you there!



# PRIMARY



## Year 6 Update

A heartfelt well done to all the children in Year 6! You have truly demonstrated the school value of 'Chardi Kala', showing relentless optimism and perseverance in working towards your SATs targets.

This dedication was reflected in the results of your first set of mock tests – the improvement is impressive, and we are so proud of you!

It's also wonderful to see a growing love for reading among the children. This passion for learning is such an important part of their development, and it's a joy to watch it blossom.

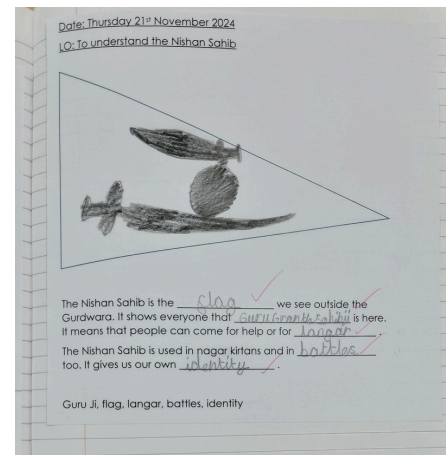
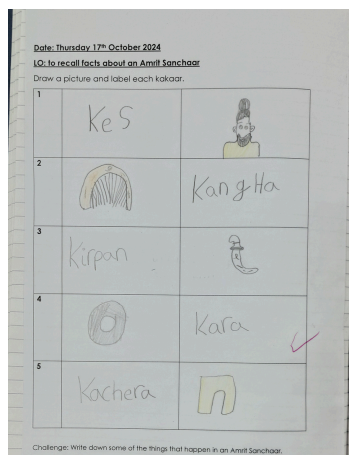
A huge thank you to all of you, dear parents, for your continued involvement and support. It means so much to both the teachers and the students, and it plays a key role in their success.

In addition to their hard work for the SATs, the children have been busy researching the City of Manaus, nestled in the heart of the Amazon. They are gathering notes to create non-chronological reports, and we are looking forward to sharing their finished pieces with you.



## Sikh Studies Spotlight

Year 2 have been working hard on their topic of Special Sikhi. They have looked at what symbols and objects are special to us including the Panj Kakkar, the Nishan Sahib and the Chaur Sahib.





# PRIMARY



## French Update:

**Year 3:** Pupils have enjoyed telling each other what they have in their pencil case. They have been able to apply the adjectival agreement by describing the colour of each item.

**Year 4:** Pupils are preparing to sing a short song in French in the last assembly before we break up for the festive season.

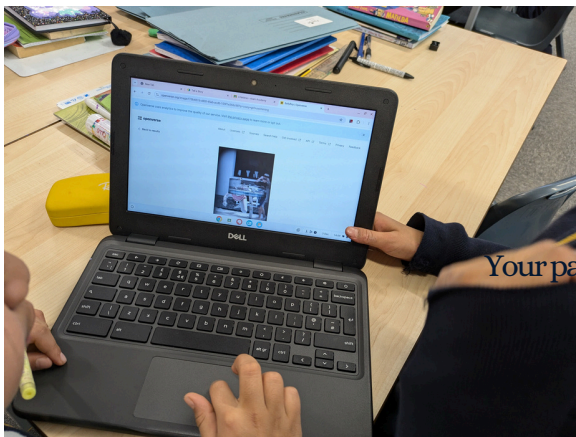


## Year 4

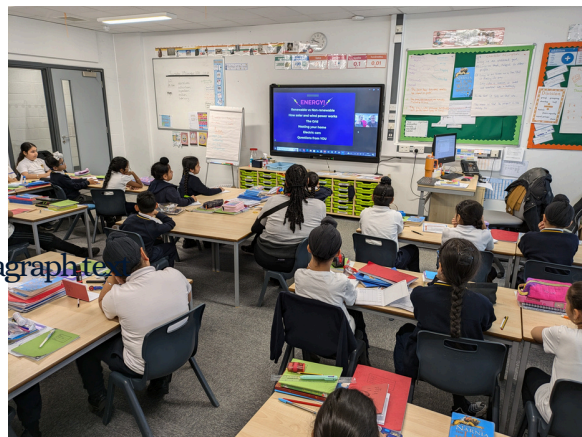


Year 4 Nirbhao have been looking at how to change a website using HTML. They were able to change a picture and the title of it! Future generation of Computing!

Year 4 also learnt about renewable energy as they had an online talk with the energy firm Octopus. It was very insightful to find out the different ways energy could be used.



Your paragraph text



**CHAAR SAHIBZAADÉ**  
**MOVIE NIGHT**

SAKHI OF VALOUR AND BRAVERY

13 DEC 2024 | 3.45PM-6.30PM

Buy Tickets\*  
**£3.00**  
on WeDuc  
\*Terms and Conditions apply

Please bring a blanket/ cushions  
All Primary Children will need to be escorted by an adult  
Snacks and drinks will be available to purchase, please bring cash

## Movie Night (Primary and Secondary)



A reminder of our annual remembrance movie night to commemorate the shaheedi of the Chaar Sahibzaade (the four sons of Guru Gobind Singh Ji. Tickets are £3 and the event will take place on Friday 13th December 3.45pm-6.30pm. Ticket prices include a slice of pizza, drink and activities. All proceeds go towards the Sikh Studies at ATAM. Purchase your tickets via WeDuc.

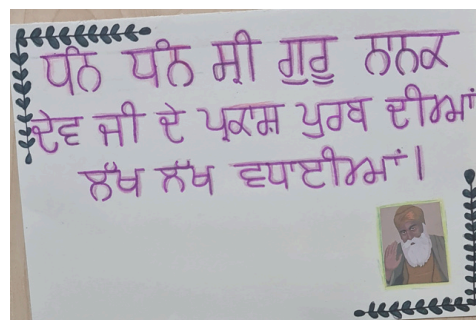
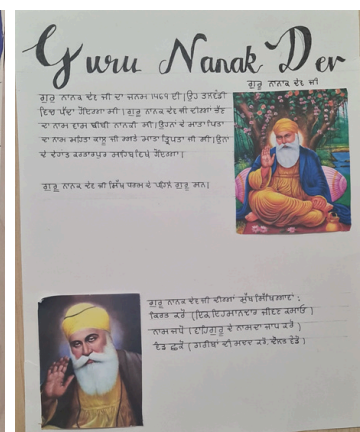
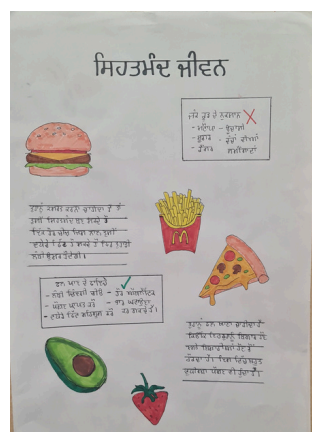
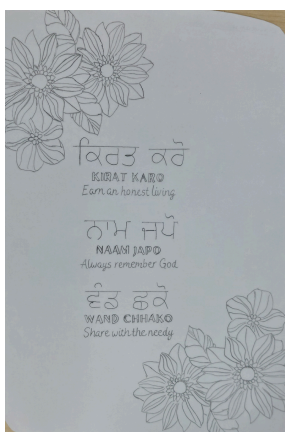
# SECONDARY/ KVI



## Panjabi Update

Over the past two weeks KS3 completed homework pieces for Guru Nanak Dev Ji's Gurbpurab in Panjabi. Year 7 done posters with the 3 key teachings in Panjabi, Year 8 made Gurburb cards and year 9 wrote about Guru Nanak Dev Ji in Panjabi.

Year 11 are now studying the topic of healthy and unhealthy living and they created posters to promote healthy living and show the importance of eating healthily and doing exercise.



## French Update



**Year 7:** Students are in the process of learning how to talk about their school timetable and their school subjects. They are doing really well! :-)

**Year 8:** Every student has been working really hard and we have now completed the second module of the course book Studio 3 (Red edition).

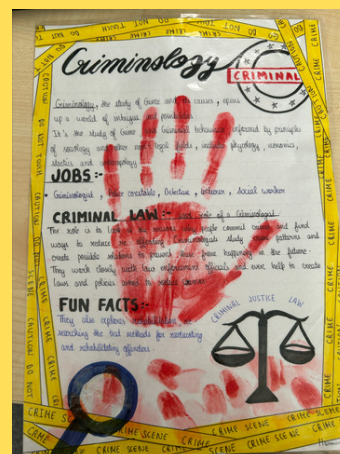
**Year 9:** All students have been able to overcome the challenges of learning the partitive articles when using them to talk about healthy eating.

**Year 10:** We have finished module 2 of the book Studio French GCSE. Amongst other grammar topics, students have applied comparatives when describing friends, family members or teachers!

**The Year 11 course book has been completed and all students have started a revision of the grammar and language topics seen so far.**

## English Wall of Fame

A huge well done to Harmanpreet Kaur in Year 9 for her amazing homework in English. Keep up the excellent efforts!





# SECONDARY/ KVI



## Homework Club

We will be opening homework club every day after school for secondary students. This is voluntary and will be located in the ICT room 230. Bookings for homework club are the same as for all other clubs. Pupils can also attend on an ad hoc basis if they have a parental note in their planner. For year 11s who have interventions that start at 4pm, they must attend homework club in the gap between the end of the school day and their intervention start time.



## ClassCharts

## Detentions

A reminder that if your child is late to school in the morning, they will receive a 20 minute lunchtime late-detention to serve on the same day.

Any other detentions logged on Class Charts that are 15-30 minutes will be served on the same day that it was logged. 60 minute detentions logged will be served the following day, and 90 minute SLT detentions are served on Fridays.

Please ensure you have logged in to Class Charts as a parent/carer to ensure you receive the updates.

## Mobile Phones/ Smart Watches



We would like to remind all parents and students of our school's mobile phone policy. Students are required to keep their phones switched off and stored in their school bags throughout the school day. The use of mobile phones during school hours is strictly prohibited. If a student needs to contact their parents, they must do so through the school's reception using the school telephone. Similarly, if parents need to reach their child during school hours, they should contact the school via telephone or email. **Please note that any student found using their phone during the day, or keeping it in their blazer or trouser pockets, will have their phone confiscated. In such cases, parents will be asked to collect the phone from the school.** The pastoral and SLT teams will be conducting spot checks to ensure all students are complying with the school rules. The same rules apply to air pods/ ear buds, and a further reminder that smart watches are banned.

## Kara/ Salahee

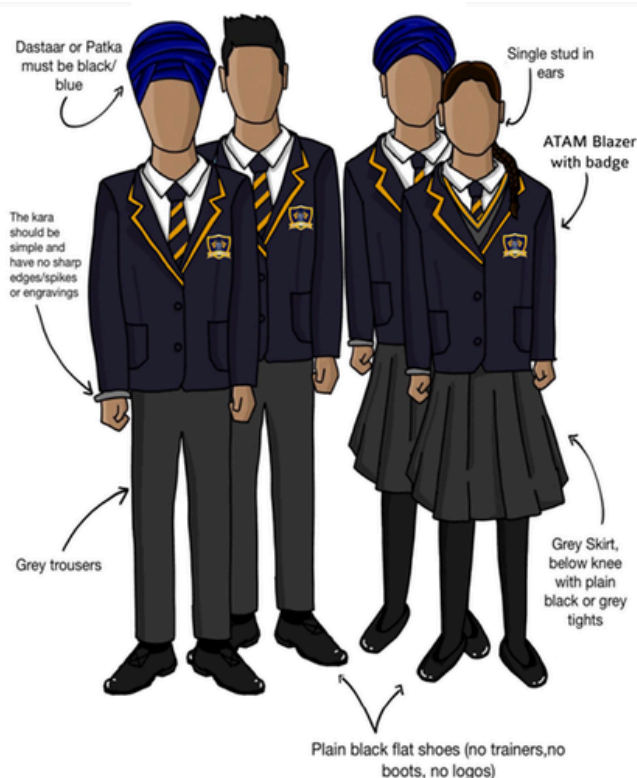


Please be reminded that for health and safety reasons, students must wear a Kara no wider than 1cm. Additionally, the Salahee (hair tidy) must be kept in school bags and should not be tucked into the Patka or Dastaar, or kept in blazer pockets. These measures are in place to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all students. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

## Uniform



All students must have the correct uniform on, when in school. They must ensure that they are not wearing excessive jewellery, artificial nails, nail polish and make up is prohibited. Students who do not comply, will have items confiscated and will be asked to remove make-up and nail polish. Skirt lengths must also be knee-length. If there is a reason for your child to be missing an item of their uniform, please write a note in their planners explaining this.





# PASTORAL NOTICES



## Year 7

A huge well done to Tej Maisuri for constantly demonstrating amazing behaviour in lessons and around the school.



## Year 8 Shout Out

A huge well done to Arandeep Singh for excellent efforts in class and for always doing the right thing! Keep it up!



## Year 9 Shout-Out

A huge well done to Kurbaan Kaur for always doing the right things and working hard in all of her lessons! Keep up the excellent efforts!



## Homework Planners

Students are expected to have their homework planners with them everyday in school, and must fill out homework in their planners daily. Resources and instructions will also continue to be shared on Google classroom.

## Year 10 Shout-Out

Aryan Bhuwanee has been working hard in his classes and was an asset to the Jack Petchey workshop that took place this term. Keep up the great efforts!



## Year 12 Shout Out

Well done to Maanika for her contributions in English this week! Keep up the excellent efforts and hard work!

## Year 11 Shout-Out



A huge well done to Jovan Singh for an improvement in his engagement in lessons and for doing additional revision during lunchtime! Keep up the excellent efforts!

## Mock Exams

Students have now received their mock exam results and will be working with their teachers to identify strengths and targets moving forward before their next set of mock exams in February. A reminder that our parents evening is on Thursday 12th December; students have appointment sheets to make appointments with their teachers,

## Post 16- Destinations

Year 11 have started to look at post-16 options and destinations with Mrs. Virk this week, and this will continue throughout the term. Resources will be shared with students about how to apply, but it is important that parents are supporting application processes and visits to open evenings in the borough and beyond. Most sixth form open evenings will take place this term, so it is important you are checking school websites for further information. Khalsa VI Redbridge open evening will be on 17th December 2024. Please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Virk should you have any further questions. A reminder that Mrs. Virk will be the reference point for all year 11 students; please use her email address on applications: [m.virk@atamacademy.com](mailto:m.virk@atamacademy.com)





# Sikhi at ATAM 96

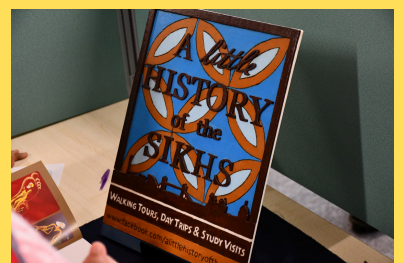
## Drop down day:

We are thrilled to share the recent success of our Drop Down Day in which Khalsa VI students, primary and secondary phases all came together to learn and embrace the teachings of Guru Nanak Dev Ji.

Whilst Guru Nanak Dev Ji (the first Sikh Guru) was born in 1469, their teachings of humanity, service and selflessness are timeless.

Throughout the day, each year group in both phases had a focused sakhhi and had an opportunity to visit the Darbar sahib where Guru Granth Sahib Ji was in presence. As well as a visit from the local MP Jas Athwal, the day was filled with a variety of speakers, engaging activities and workshops held by staff, our wonderful PTA, GC Boxing and a number of other external speakers.

We were joined by colleagues from Finance Sikhs, Sikh met police and Grant Thornton. Individuals from many different walks of life also joined such as Gurpreet Singh from Saving Punjab, author Sukbinder Kaur, Jasmeet Singh from Khalsa Panth and Rav Singh from 'A little Sikh History' set up an exhibition for students to explore and query. We were very privileged to be joined by many other faces - old and new.



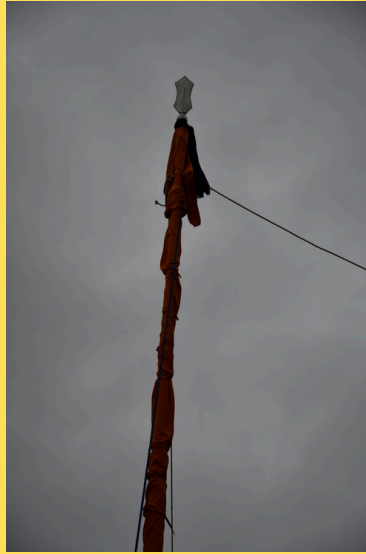
## Nishan Sahib

A significant milestone at Atam Academy was reached in November as we also celebrated Guru Nanak Dev Ji's Gurburab by changing the Nishan Sahib (sacred Sikh flag). Atam staff, students, parents and the wider community came together to mark this momentous occasion by collectively taking part in sewa and kirtan.

The Nishan Sahib holds a profound significance in Sikhi as it stands as a beacon of faith, humanity and righteousness. The act of washing and renewing the Nishan Sahib holds a great spiritual significance and serves as a reminder, that as Sikhs we must continually work on bettering ourselves inside and outside through love, compassion and service.



# Sikhi at ATAM



## Winter Appeal

This year we are supporting a local charity 'Seva Street' to help those most vulnerable in our local community. We are asking for donations of socks, gloves, blankets, tents and toiletries. Please drop off donations to the main reception by Monday 16th of December.



**WINTER APPEAL 2024**

Serving with Love

**ATAM IN COLLABORATION WITH SEVA STREET**

Socks | Gloves | Blankets | Tents  
| Toiletries |

Final collection Monday  
16 December 2024

Atam Academy  
Please hand in to Main Reception

<https://sevastreet.org/serving-with-love>

## Shaheedi Remembrance Station

Whilst we enjoy the festivities that come with December, the forthcoming weeks are also poignant and significant within the Sikh calendar. The month is marked with many martyrdoms, including those of the 9th Sikh Guru, Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji, the four sons of Guru Gobind Singh's four and countless other Sikhs.

As a mark of remembrance, we will be introducing a 'Shaheedi Station' in the coming week in reception. We hope the remembrance station acts as a reminder for our Sikh and non-Sikh families that whilst we encourage many to celebrate this festive period, we must also pay homage to sacrifices of those who laid down their lives for righteousness.





# Sikhi at ATAM



## Upcoming events:

**Final countdown to Mool Mantar** - last day of term

**Movie Night Friday** - 13th of December

**Shaheedi Diwan at Atam Academy** - Thursday 19th of December 5 - 7.30pm



**Links to find out more information about the significant period of martyrdom in Sikhi:**

<https://www.shrichamkoursahib.com/shaheedi-week-a-daily-reflection-on-sacrifice-and-valor/>

**Shaheedi of Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nSQBYhrHVUc>

### Unveiling Sikh heroes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FSlbd3Qq3ic>

### The Battle of Chamkaur

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cxYv-rVZJoc>

### Shaheedi of Chotay Sahibzaday and Mata Gujri

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MYJttUTov3c>



# CAREERS



This newsletter is a collation of all the opportunities we have heard about from employers and universities. Please use the links included to read more information and apply to anything you are interested in. Links are underlined.

## Opportunities

National T Levels Week will take place on Monday 2nd –Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024. The week will focus on continuing to raise awareness of the many T Level subjects now available and showcase the success of the programme. If you aren't sure what T Levels are, here are a range of resources to help you learn more:

[Rapid Read: What are T Levels?](#)

[What are T Levels Film](#)

[T Levels Case Study – Digital Production, Design and Development](#)

[T Level Case Study – Design, Surveying and Planning](#)

[T Levels Parents and Carers' guide](#)

Are you thinking about applying for a T Level but don't know what to expect? [Take this short course](#) and see if it's the right pathway for you!

Most law firms that accept trainees offer opportunities for Sixth Form pupils to get involved and see whether a legal profession is right for them. [The Law Careers website](#) has put together a round-up of firms and what events and work experience placements are available.

[Check out The Uni Guide podcast episode:](#)

['Get university ready - turn potential into performance'](#)

[Episode 35](#): Kamal from Aim a Little Higher chats with student panellists Ishan and Leah about turning potential into performance. This motivational episode is packed with insights and available directly on UniTasterDays and on all major podcast streaming platforms.

If you have ever thought to yourself 'when should I start preparing for an apprenticeship' or 'how can I prepare for an apprenticeship', [this is the video for you!](#)

Our popular virtual Apprenticeship Fair is back for National Apprenticeship Week 2025 (10–14 February 2025). Your students are invited to **meet up to 40 employers in two hours**.

[Sign up now.](#)

## Job of The Week

### [Judicial Law Clerk](#)

A Judicial Law Clerk, also known as a Law Clerk or Judicial Assistant, is a professional (often a lawyer) who provides direct counsel and assistance to a lawyer or judge by researching issues and drafting legal opinions for cases before the court. Watch the video to learn more about working hours, salary and qualifications needed.

## Labour Market Information

The average salary for the Legal industry in the UK is £48,476 per year, but it can pay up to £91,724 (and beyond!). There have been 166,485 vacancies in the past year and the industry is set to grow by 5.75% over next eight years.

[Source](#)



# CAREERS



Check out this [list of employers currently recruiting for Higher and Degree Apprenticeships](#). It is not inclusive (unfortunately, there isn't a way to see every available apprenticeship in one place at the moment) but the list is very extensive. To find more information on any opportunities that you're interested in, search the name of the company followed by the word "Apprenticeships" which should take you to the best page of their website to find more info.

Here are some [upcoming Speakers for Schools webinars](#) that you may find useful. Please note: Registration for our livestream events is open until 12 pm the day before the scheduled broadcast date.

[3rd December: Why You Should Focus On Practical Skill](#)

[Development](#) In this session, we will chat about the importance of building practical skills that go beyond academics. Martin will explore how hands-on experiences, like those encouraged by The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award can help develop confidence, resilience, and a sense of achievement in young people. This talk is a fantastic opportunity to learn how practical skill development can open doors, build character, and prepare you for whatever path you choose.

[9th December: The World of Journalism](#) and Presenting Curious about what it's like to be a journalist or a radio presenter? Join Nick Robinson, the presenter of BBC Radio 4's Today Show, for an exciting talk about the world of journalism and broadcasting. Nick will share his journey from starting out as a journalist to becoming one of the leading voices on British radio. Learn about the skills needed to break into journalism, the importance of asking the right questions, and how to tell impactful stories that keep people informed.

[11th December: Ready for Takeoff: Launching a career in Aviation with the CAA](#)

The Aviation industry is huge and there's so much to get involved with! Learn from a panel of the CAA team and their different roles as they unpack their journeys and experiences into engineering, legal routes, and tech. There's more than meets the eye, let's unpack it together!

We pride ourselves on giving new lawyers a truly unique experience. Whether you're a student or graduate we aim to give you the tools and experience to forge a successful career in law. That means combining learning with experience and giving you the opportunity to work with people at all levels of our business.

Read more about [DLA Piper Careers here](#).

## University Spotlight

"Our undergraduate courses in law, business, criminology, policing, psychology & computer science have been specially designed to give you an exciting, practical academic experience, teaching you real-world skills so that you can achieve your ambitions. 94% of postgraduates were in employment or further study 15 months after graduating.

Read more about [The University of Law courses here](#).

# NOTICES



## Sikh Studies Donations

At ATAM Academy, we are committed to providing our students with a rich and well-rounded education which includes Sikh Studies as part of their personal and moral development. The school takes great pride in offering a dedicated Sikh Studies programme that allows students to explore, understand, and appreciate Sikh values, history, and teachings. We are also blessed to have a Darbar Sahib at ATAM Academy, which all pupils and staff have an opportunity to visit on a weekly basis.

To further enrich Sikhi at the school and to maintain the Darbar Sahib at ATAM Academy, we are reaching out to invite you to support the school through direct debit contributions to our Sikh Studies Fund. These funds will prove to be vital in helping us offer a range of enrichment experiences, special events, Sikhi educational resources, and more. Please note that the maintenance of the Darbar Sahib is not funded by the Department for Education. For the past 6 years, all costs associated with the Darbar Sahib has been borne by seva from the Sikh Studies team, the Trust and a small group of parents/ local community members.

As a PTA, we plan to establish a separate fund which is exclusively ring fenced for promoting Sikhi at ATAM Academy and maintenance of the Darbar Sahib. This fund will be managed by the PTA and on a termly basis, a ledger of all income and expenditure will be shared with all parents. This will ensure transparency and accountability.

We are requesting a voluntary contribution of £2.00 per month (per family) towards the PTA Sikh Studies fund. If you would like to contribute, setting up a direct debit is simple and convenient:

1. If you are using online banking, please set up a regular monthly payment to:  
Account Name: ATAM ACADEMY PTA  
Bank: NatWest  
Sort code: 60-05-01  
Account: 1474-2748  
Ref: "PTA Sikhi Fund"

LOCAL COMMUNITY  
Fostering  
REDBRIDGE

**It takes a special person to care for a special person**

**Foster for Redbridge Council**

020 8708 6068  
[www.redbridge.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.redbridge.gov.uk/fostering)

**KIRTAN / HARMONIUM LESSONS**

Saturday's 11am-12pm

Location: Karamsar Gurdwara

Teacher: Amrit Kaur  
07920107589  
£5 per student

Kirtan taught in ascribed raags

Please note - parents must stay with children during the lesson



# NOTICES



## Dilruba Classes

As part of Atam Academy's after school enrichment programme, the school offers Dilruba classes every Wednesday, with Rajinder Kaur from Raj Academy.

Dilrubas are a classical string instrument which originate from over 300 years ago from the time of the tenth Guru of the Sikhs, Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji. Dilruba is Persian for 'heart stealer' – as the instrument has a beautiful, engaging sound which captures your heart in an instant. The Dilruba is a smaller version of the Taus, and during battles it could be carried on horseback by the Khalsa army.

Dilrubas are an expensive instrument to purchase (approximately £500 each) and we appreciate that learning the Dilruba requires a significant financial investment. Both the PTA and Atam Sikh Studies team are keen to improve access for our pupils to learn traditional Sikh instruments.

Therefore, the PTA are delighted to announce that we have bought 5 Dilrubas for our pupils' use. These Dilrubas are hand crafted from a specialist supplier in New Delhi, India. We are thankful to our generous donors who donated £2,500 towards this purchase.

If your child attends the Wednesday club and would like to borrow a Dilruba for practice at home, please contact the PTA for more information [pta@atamacademy.com](mailto:pta@atamacademy.com)

## Work Experience Placements for Year 10-12

Work placements offer hands-on experience, helping students explore careers and develop workplace skills. We invite professionals to give talks, sharing career insights and inspiring students about different industries. For more details or to volunteer, please complete this form: <https://forms.gle/c7BdiwjgByRLcUrt9>, or contact the PTA at [pta@atamacademy.com](mailto:pta@atamacademy.com)

## Atam Academy Wellbeing Garden

We are pleased to introduce you to our Atam Academy Wellbeing Garden. The PTA, students and some of the staff here at Atam have been hard at work for the last few months trying to put together a wellbeing garden for the school. Research has shown gardening is beneficial for mental and physical wellbeing. Gardening helps keep children grounded and thinking about how the ecosystem works. Each bug has his or her own important part to play in keeping the garden alive. It also helps you think about what you eat and where it comes from.

How much hard work, love and care it takes to produce a fruit or vegetable. The garden brings to life the ethics of Guru Nanak Dev Ji's teachings.

Over the last year, we started sowing a few vegetables and plants. We had some lovely produce, ranging from giant yellow courgettes to strawberries. The PTA has just helped build a beautiful sheltered area so students from primary all through to secondary can spend some time out there throughout the year.

All though it is still in the early stages, we are looking at long-term eco-friendly ways to run the garden and school. We will be implementing the garden in many areas of the curriculum, from food technology through science, art and DT.

We are hoping to start an after school gardening club in the early months of spring next year, so WATCH THIS SPACE!

If you would like to donate or get involved, please speak to your PTA team

