

BASINGSTOKE SIKH SABHA 10-YEAR VISION (2026–2035)



BUILDING A SIKH COMMUNITY THAT THRIVES FOR GENERATIONS

Why this vision?

Not just “a building” – but a lasting community legacy

Over the next 10 years we want to:

To establish and sustain a vibrant Sikh community united by an innovative, professionally run Gurdwara that is a permanent hub for spiritual growth, ethical leadership, community care, and Sikh-led social impact now and for generations to come.

This is more than finding four walls and a roof. It means:

- Deepening our relationship with Sikhi
- Putting seva into action within Basingstoke area
- Building solid finances and transparent governance
- Giving young people a real stake in the future

This is your chance to **understand this vision and underlying plan, question it, and help deliver it.**

Our purpose – rooted in Sikhi

What Basingstoke Sikh Sabha exists to do

Guided by our Constitution based on Sikh principles, we aim to:

- Advance the Sikh faith in Basingstoke and surrounding areas
- Celebrate Sikh festivals and religious events together
- Run programmes and classes – Gurbani, Punjabi, kirtan, tabla etc.
- Provide a Gurdwara when it can be sustained properly
- Offer pastoral care and ceremonies (weddings, funerals, naming etc.)

Living the Sikhi values of:

- Seva – selfless service
- Miri-Piri – spiritual and worldly responsibility
- Sarbat da Bhala – welfare of all

10 YEARS IN 3 PHASES

PHASE 1

2025-2028
BUILDING A SOLID FOUNDATION

Cohesive sangat, regular well-run programmes, strong charity governance and basic reserves; collect real data on attendance and donations. Establish a Gurdwara when the time is right.

PHASE 2

2029-2031
EXPANSION AND FULL INDEPENDENCE

Tight budget control, independent scrutiny of accounts, recruit key staff if affordable, expand education, youth and social-care work, become a spiritually viable Gurdwara.

PHASE 3

2032-2035
INSTITUTIONAL MATURITY AND LASTING LEGACY

A permanent, freehold, financially self-sufficient Gurdwara with a healthy annual surplus, at least £100k+ in legacies/endowments and a recognised Sikh heritage/learning hub.

OUR 4 STRATEGIC PILLARS WITH 12 PROGRAMMES

FOUNDATION

Building a best-practice ethical, professional, and financially resilient institution.

PEOPLE

Understanding our Sangat, increasing our knowledge of Sikhi and tapping into our passion whilst developing our youth and volunteer team for seva.

COMMUNITY

Our Gurdwara is a beacon of Sarbat da Bhala (welfare of all), delivering programmes and a key partner in the wider Sikh and British ecosystem.

FUTURE FACING

Leveraging our assets, financial and facilities management, technology, and best practice sustainability to achieve resilience, accessibility, and pride.

Legal Framework

Sangat Needs

Sangat Programmes

Finance and Facilities

Fundraising

Sangat Learning

Community Seva

Technology

Lead with Excellence

Future Leaders

Community Outreach

Sustainability

WHEN WILL WE BE READY FOR A GURDWARA BUILDING?

A Gurdwara is only sustainable if we can afford it, run it and fill it. The plan sets clear readiness tests in three areas: Finances, Sangat, and Risk Assessment.

FINANCIAL READINESS

Before starting a serious property search	Before purchase or lease
Minimum £100k in the bank	At least GBP 250k raised (UK-wide)
A full, agreed feasibility study and cost model	A robust funding plan for: •Purchase •Refurbishment •Ongoing running costs

*Initial spend (purchase + refurbishment etc.) could easily exceed GBP 500k–600k+
Likely running costs around GBP 7–8k per month (approximately GBP 84–96k per year)*

SANGAT READINESS

At least 50% of members voting “yes” in a ballot before any property decision

2025: Baseline 140 attendees at one programme per month

2026: Two programmes per month, baseline 170 attendees

2027: Programme every weekend, around 200 attendees per programme

Site suitability

Capacity for 250+, good parking, full accessibility, realistic planning prospects.

Risk preparedness

Live risk register, reviewed regularly; contingency reserves for unforeseen events.

Partnership frameworks

MoUs with local authorities and relevant Sikh organisations, working together rather than in isolation.

The Sangat can make this a success... A future we can all be proud of

- **Participation** – working groups, consultations, surveys and regular feedback.
- **Seva at the centre** – recognising time, skills and ideas, not just money.
- **Open communication** – regular updates on progress, finances and decisions through divans, WhatsApp, email and social media.
- **Youth leadership** – real roles for young people in design and delivery of programmes including our digital presence.

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO BUILD THIS FUTURE

- Read the full 10-year plan its online, sent to you by email plus print outs at every programme in February.
- Question it – challenge assumptions and suggest improvements.
- Offer financial help, skills and time – in fundraising, education, finance, youth work, IT, building, seva, or simply by turning up and voting.
- Help us test readiness – by supporting regular programmes and giving honest feedback on what works and what does not.

Together, we can build a Gurdwara that has strong foundations spiritually and financially, for a united Sangat.