

# Raising The Profile

How BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir ('Neasden Temple') is working to inspire the next generation of children, learners, and teachers

HHCL Event – March 2023

Jignasha Patel – [gujarati@uk.baps.org](mailto:gujarati@uk.baps.org)





# Why Gujarati? Why in the UK?

- Gujarati is a 'local' dialect from Western India
- It was one of the foremost wishes of our previous Guru, Pramukh Swami Maharaj, that children outside of India maintain their historical culture, values and traditions



# Teaching the new generation

---

Our School has been running in Neasden since the early-1980's using books and material sourced directly from India

---

By the early 2000's it was becoming very clear that the material that was being used was no longer accessible to the new 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>-generation children born and brought up in the UK

---

The School began a long-term project to develop new material, tools and techniques to better teach the language to these children

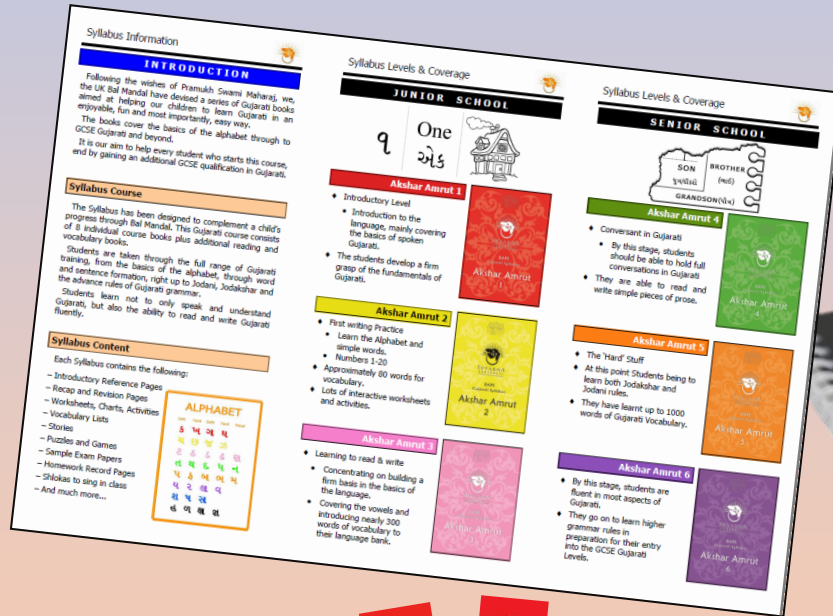
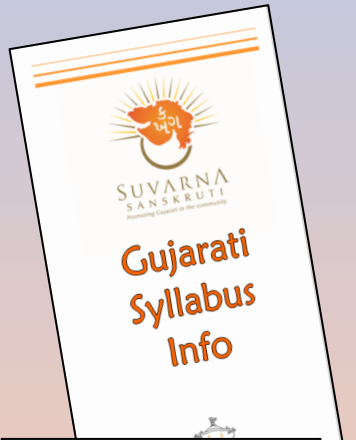
# Taking Gujarati to the 'masses'

- We ran a series of one-day seminars and events to pilot and assess new techniques to see if they would work for various audiences.



# Our new foundation

- By the mid-2000's we had developed our own set of core syllabus books and resources that formed the foundation of our teaching methodology



# Making it fun

- Once the fundamentals were embedded, the team worked on making the teaching of languages a much more fun and interactive experience



# Providing the skills

- Alongside all this resource development we worked on ensuring that our teachers were also equipped to teach using modern techniques



NRCSE Gold Award

The Queen's Award

Resources Leaflet

Gujarati Spinner

Card Machine

Certificates

Alphabet & Vowels Ref. Card

Pearson Edexcel Vocabulary Book

Alphabet Board

Rubber Play Mats

Gujarati Geet Mala

CIOL Threlford Memorial Cup

Gujarati Strips

8-part Gujarati Syllabus

BASLA Award (2012)

BASLA Award (2015)

Gujarati Whiz

Vocabulary Charts

Gujarati Cubes

Gujarati Flash Cards





# Raising the profile

---

Ensuring	Ensuring that the language is used outside of the classroom
Explaining	Explaining how it's a "Modern Foreign Language"
Keeping	Keeping it as a GCSE (and A Level) option
Working	Working with other schools to support each other



## We do this by...

... raising our quality standards of teaching through training

... strengthening our own in-house infrastructure

... developing lots of resources that are useful to children

... developing techniques and delivering seminars that help any age group learn Gujarati

... constantly innovating and encouraging the younger generation

... helping to grow the number of our centres where Gujarati is taught around the UK and Worldwide



# ब्रह्मविद्यानो पाठ - २७

११ ज्ञान्युआरी २०२०, पोष वद ५५वो संवत् २०७६



Education of heart  
is heart of education

**Why we strive to succeed and innouate**