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- 1) This document sets out the admission arrangements for Avanti House School, Harrow ("The School"). Supplementary guidance can be found on the school website.
- 2) Avanti House School has a Published Admission Number of 60 pupils in Year R and 180 students in Year 7. The School will admit the admission number of pupils/students in the relevant age group each year if sufficient applications are received. If there are more applications than available places, the oversubscription procedure will be applied.
- 3) If the school is oversubscribed, after the admission of pupils with a Statement of Special Educational Needs where the school is named in the Statement, priority for admission will be given to those children who meet the criteria set out below, in order:
 - i. <u>Looked after children:</u> A 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after, but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, a child arrangement, or special guardianship order¹. A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989).
 - ii. <u>Siblings:</u> Children with a sibling attending either Avanti House School or Krishna Avanti Primary School (Harrow) at the time of application. Siblings are defined in these arrangements as natural brothers or sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers and sisters.
 - iii. <u>Krishna Avanti Primary School (Harrow) pupils</u>: Children that are on roll at Krishna Avanti Primary School (Harrow) at the time of application. (This applies to children applying for a Year 7 place)

¹ An adoption order is an order under Section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002.

A 'Child Arrangements Order' is an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live under Section 8 of the Children Act 1989. Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).

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Of the remaining available places²

- iv. Half will be offered to children who live nearest to the site of the School³ measured by "as the crow flies" from their normal family home to the centre point of the School using the agreed Local Authority measure of distance from the respective permanent sites for the primary and secondary phases. The planned-for permanent sites are at Common Road, Stanmore (Primary) and at Wemborough Road (Whitchurch Fields), Stanmore (Secondary).
- v. The remaining half will be offered by random allocation using an independently scrutinised process. This process will be equally applied to all applicants who have not obtained a place under all the above over-subscription criteria.

In the event of there being insufficient vacancies to admit all applicants in any of the categories detailed above, priority will be given to children whose home address is the shortest distance from the centre point of the school site. Where two or more applicants live equidistant from the school and places cannot be offered to all children, the places will be offered using random allocation in the presence of an independent witness.

<u>Twins and Multiple birth</u>: In cases where only one place is available and twins (or other multiple birth children) tie for that place, both (or all) will be offered a place even if this exceeds the planned admission number.

Fair Access Protocols

The school is committed to taking its fair share of children who are vulnerable and/or hard to place as set out in locally agreed protocols. Accordingly, outside the normal admissions round the governing body is empowered to give absolute priority to a child where admission is requested under any local protocol that has been agreed by both the I-Foundation and the governing body for the current school year. The governing body has this power even when admitting the child would mean exceeding the published admission number.

In-Year Admissions

Applications for In-Year admissions are made directly to the Council using a common application available from Harrow Council. If more applications are received than there are places available then applications will be ranked by the governing body in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. If a place cannot be offered at this time then you may ask us for the reasons and you will be informed of your right of appeal. You will be offered the opportunity of being placed on a waiting list. This waiting list will be maintained by the governing body in the order of the oversubscription criteria and not in the order in which the applications are received. Names are removed from the list at the end of each academic year and a renewed application may be made by the parents if they wish to continue seeking a place at the school.

² In the event that the remaining places are an odd number, the distance criteria will apply to 50% to the nearest whole number rounded down; the remaining places will be ascertained by random allocation. ³ The primary school site for site for Reception year and Secondary school site for Year 7

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When a place becomes available the governing body will inform Harrow Council that the school is making an offer.

APPLICATIONS FOR CHILDREN OUTSIDE THE NORMAL AGE GROUP

Parents can apply for a school place outside of the normal age group of their child, for example, if the child is gifted and talented or has experienced problems such as ill health.

If parents wish to apply for a place during an in-year round in a lower or higher year group, they must contact the local authority with the request in writing providing a reason and professional advice if available with the request so it can be considered.

Parents of summer born children may choose not to send their child to school until the September following their fifth birthday and may request that they are admitted out of their normal age group – to reception rather than year 1. The term summer born children relates to all children born from 1 April to 31 August. These children reach compulsory school age on 31 August following their fifth birthday (or on their fifth birthday if it falls on 31 August). It is likely that most requests for summer born children to be admitted out of their normal age group will come from parents of children born in the later summer months or those born prematurely. The Local Authority as the admission authority for community schools will need to make decisions on the basis of the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned. In making the decision the following will be taken into account:

- views of the parents;
- information about the child's academic, social and emotional development;
- where relevant, their medical history and the views of a medical professional;
- whether they have previously been educated out of their normal age group; and
- whether they may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely.

Parents seeking admission to an age group below the child's actual age should submit their request for the September of the year before the year when children of the same age are due to start school. This enables a parent to apply for a school place in their child's actual age group before the closing date on 15 January, if the request for later admission is refused by an Admissions Authority.

If the Admission Authority approves the request, the parent will be advised to re-apply in the following year and provide a copy of the decision. However there can be no guarantee of a place being available at the school, as this is dependent on the number of applicants that year. <u>It is not possible to reserve a place for the following year</u>. Parents are therefore advised to have alternative arrangement in place.

Parents have a statutory right to appeal against the refusal of a place at a school for which they have applied. This right does not apply if they are offered a place at the school but it is not in their preferred age group.

For more information on the appeals process, please visit our web site.

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