



**KRISHNA AVANTI**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

## **2015-2016 Admissions Policy for Reception Class and Years 1 to 6**

Krishna Avanti Primary School ("the School") is part of the Avanti Schools Trust, which is a significant but focused multi-sponsor/proposer of high quality education for all with a growing number of schools, including VA schools, Academies and Free schools. The school started as a VA school and converted into an academy in 2012.

The Vision Statement of the School reflects its distinct character which is to help children realise their spiritual, moral and academic potential in a welcoming, secure and supportive environment centred about loving service to Lord Krishna. The school enables pupils to enjoy learning, to develop character and competence, and to prepare for secondary education & the responsibilities of adult life in contemporary Britain.

As such, all parents and carers as well as applicants are expected to give their full, unreserved and positive support for the aims and ethos of the School.

The School is a two form entry school and admit no more than a total of sixty pupils into its Reception Class in September 2014. Higher years will remain one form of entry with thirty places each.

Parents should be aware that the School does receive more applications than the number of places available and that the submission of an application does not guarantee the offer of a place at the School.

Parents need to apply for admission for a place in the Reception Class even for a child already admitted to the nursery. In accordance with the law, attendance at the nursery does not guarantee admission to the Reception.

### **Admissions and Oversubscription Criteria**

Where there are more applications for places than the number of places available, places will be offered according to the following order of priority:

- 1) All looked after children and All adopted children who were previously looked after (and children who leave care under a special guardianship or residence order) immediately following having been looked after.
- 2) Siblings of children who will be attending the School at the start date of the new entrant
- 3) Ten children per year from practising Hindu families who worship regularly at ISKCON Bhaktivedanta Manor (Hillfield Lane, WD25 8EZ) using the following criteria in order of priority:

- a) Families who have taken initiation (diksha) within ISKCON and are regularly attending Sanga (registered congregation programmes)
- b) Families who are registered candidates for initiation within ISKCON and are regularly attending Sanga
- c) Families who have taken initiation within ISKCON or who have graduated from an ISKCON gurukula
- d) Families who worship at least weekly at an ISKCON temple

(Applicants applying under this criterion must complete the Bhaktivedanta Manor Form section of the SIF. If more applicants apply under this criterion than available places, then unsuccessful applicants will be considered under criterion 6 and ordered in accordance to distance to the school.)

- 4) Community places: Any ten children per year group based on distance criterion alone, irrespective of their faith (Applicants applying under this criterion are not required to complete a SIF.)
- 5) Children of staff will be given priority where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made.
- 6) Children from practising Hindu families (Applicants applying under this criterion must complete all sections of page 1 of the SIF)
- 7) Children from other Hindu families (Applicants who complete the SIF but where the temple cannot verify regular attendance and adherence to the key tenets will be considered under this criterion)
- 8) Any other children

### **Tie-break**

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.

### **Twins and Multiple Birth**

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.

## **Children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs**

The admission of children with a statement of Special Educational Needs is dealt with by a completely separate procedure. Details of this separate procedure are set out in the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice.

## **Hindu and Bhaktivedanta Manor Places**

Bhaktivedanta Manor is the UK Headquarters of ISKCON. It helped to establish the School, assists with setting the ethos of the School and nominates a Governor to the School Governing Body. Priority is therefore given for ten places out of the sixty in each year to children who worship with their families at Bhaktivedanta Manor. The other fifty places in each year will be allocated according to the Admissions criteria.

Evidence of Hindu practice or attendance and of regular worship at Bhaktivedanta Manor (if claimed) is provided by applicants on the Supplementary Information Form.

Applicants must complete the relevant parts of the form and then ask an authorised officer at their local temple or at Bhaktivedanta Manor (as the case may be) to countersign the form. Higher years will remain one form of entry with thirty places each therefore, only five places out of the thirty in each year would be allocated to children who worship with their families at Bhaktivedanta Manor.

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

## **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.

## **Admission Procedure for a Place in Reception September 2014**

- a) Although not part of the procedure applicants are encouraged to attend Open Days before applying.
- b) Applicants must complete the Local Authority (LA) "Common Application Form" (CAF) that must be returned to the LA. They must also complete a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) if wishing to apply for a place on the basis of Hindu practice or attendance or for a Bhaktivedanta Manor place (BMF).
- c) The SIF must be returned to the School office and not the LA by the closing date.
- d) The CAF and SIF forms can be obtained from Access Harrow at the Harrow Civic Centre, online at [www.harrow.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.harrow.gov.uk/schooladmissions) and the School office. The SIF form can also be obtained online at [www.avanti.org.uk/kapsharrow](http://www.avanti.org.uk/kapsharrow)
- e) Applications must be submitted no later than the date specified for the return of the LA's CAF.
- f) Applications received after the closing date will be considered after those received on time.
- g) Offers of Reception places will be sent to applicants from Harrow LA.
- h) Unsuccessful applicants will be placed on a waiting list for each year group. If a place becomes available this will be allocated using the School's admissions policy and oversubscriptions criteria. This will be revised annually.
- i) Unsuccessful applicants have the right to appeal and information will be sent with the decision letter from Harrow Local authority.

### **Interpretation of the terms used in the Admissions Policy and Oversubscription Criteria**

**Looked after Children** - 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) at the time of making an application to a school.

Under the terms of the Adoption and Children Act 2002. See Section 46 (adoption orders).

Under the terms of the Children Act 1989. See Section 8 which defines a 'residence order' as an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live.

See Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 which defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).

**Hindu** - Either practicing or other Hindu families as defined below.

**Practicing Hindu** - Regular family attendance at a Hindu temple and following all the key tenets of the Hindu faith (as practised by the Temple) and which are both confirmed by the Temple Priest.

**Other Hindu families** - Family attendance at the Temple but where the Temple Priest cannot confirm that all the key tenets of the faith are followed.

**Family** - Those individuals who live at the residential address of the parents and/or parent carers and or legal guardians who are submitting an application for a place on behalf of a child.

**Sibling** - A child's brother or sister living at the same address. This includes a child's half brother or sister, adopted/foster brother or sister and step brother or sister. However this will not apply where the older child will leave school before the younger one starts.

**Distance** - Measured in a straight line from home to the centre point of the school site, using the Local Authority's computerised mapping system based on ordnance survey data. The journey is measured from the address point for the home address to the centre point of the school site.

**Home Address** - Where a child lives with parents with shared responsibility, each for part of a week, the address where the child lives is determined using a joint declaration from the parents stating the pattern of residence. If a child's residence is split equally between both parents, then parents will be asked to determine which residential address should be used for the purpose of admission to school. If no joint declaration is received where the residence is split equally by the closing date for applications, the home address will be taken as the address of the parent who receives child benefit. In cases where parents are not eligible for child benefit the address will be that of the parents where the child is registered with the doctor. If the residence is not split equally between both parents then the address used will be the address where the child spends the majority of the school week.