



KRISHNA AVANTI

PRIMARY SCHOOL

2016 - 2017

PARENT HANDBOOK



The Ethos of Avanti Schools

Our School prepares students for their respective life-journeys by promoting educational excellence, character formation and spiritual insight. Emphasis on independent thought and personal choice fans every student's innate and emerging passion for learning. This personalised approach provides tailor-made learning paths for all students, ensuring their long-term progress and fulfilment, and is supported by a mentorship system delivered in close partnership with parents. We also work collaboratively with the wider community, especially partner organisations, to prepare students as responsible British citizens. The School promotes holistic, responsible lifestyles through a vegetarian diet, a curriculum that integrates yoga and meditation, and a built environment that actively fosters environmental concern. By drawing on the teachings of Krishna Chaitanya*, our School embraces a universal, inclusive approach to spirituality, aimed at rekindling a personal, loving and spontaneous relationship with the divine (Krishna).



To fulfil this vision, the school promotes ideals, namely:

1. Educational Excellence
2. Character Formation
3. Spiritual Insight

1. Educational Excellence



Our School motivates and enables all pupils to become reflective, articulate and independent thinkers, laying solid foundations for their future learning, vocation and self-fulfilment. The broad and challenging curriculum focuses on core skills and subjects, and is distinctive in its values-based approach to the humanities and its emphasis on the artistic and spiritual realms.

This will be achieved through:

- Happy and fulfilled learners and teachers.
- Highly-skilled and actively engaged leadership and governance, dedicated to continuous improvement and to realisation of the School's distinctive vision and ethos.
- Continuous development of the professional knowledge and skill of all staff, and adequate respect for their professional discretion and integrity.
- Staff with high expectations, convinced that every child is both uniquely gifted and has identifiable areas for improvement.
- Personalised targets and learning paths for all pupils, supported by thorough, learner-focused mentorship and effective ICT systems.
- Provision of a broad, flexible and challenging curriculum that allows students to develop in the direction best suited to them, at their own pace, and as promotes realisation of their full potential.
- Curriculum that includes a focus on philosophy, religious and ethics, and the highest culture of ancient and contemporary civilizations.
- The study of Sanskrit** as the root of almost all eastern and western languages.
- Progress-tracking using rigorous intra-year staff assessment, self and peer assessment, formative assessment, detailed reporting, and - as needed - early intervention and support classes.
- Lessons designed to be relevant to students' lives, to develop learning and questioning skills, and to deepen motivation, understanding and personal insight.
- Sincere and committed engagement of parents (and other family members) as co-educators.

2. Character Formation



The School acknowledges that personal virtue, responsibility and a wholesome sense of identity underpin success in all endeavours, material and spiritual. It nurtures conduct consistent with the universal virtues of respect, integrity, humility, courage, empathy, gratitude and self-restraint.

This will be achieved through:

- A curriculum that challenges students to reflect, think for themselves, explore the links between character and conduct, develop moral literacy and make their own well-informed lifestyle choices.
- Empowerment of students to empathise with others and to deeply reflect on their own choices and their social and personal impacts.
- Dedication to community cohesion, especially through service to the local community and active partnership with other social, charity and community-based groups.
- Encouraging students to adopt conscientious and balanced lifestyles, underpinned by a sense of stewardship and an innate reverence for life, nature and the earth's resources.
- Provision of classes in yoga and meditation, and a vegetarian diet that is healthy and freshly cooked.
- Clean, uncluttered and sustainable learning environments that support the School's emphasis on mindfulness.
- Visits to diverse sacred places and educational venues.
- A broad offering of competitive and non-competitive sports, both within the curriculum and as extra-curricular opportunities.
- Opportunities for developing leadership, team building and personal integrity through partnerships with other organisations.
- Dedication to leadership at every level and nurture of students' voice and involvement, up to Governance level.

3. Spiritual Insight



Rooted in the teachings of Chaitanya, our School promotes an inclusive, accessible approach to spirituality. It aims at a personal, loving and spontaneous reciprocation with the divine (Krishna). Self-discovery is supported through song, mantra meditation, service to humanity, contemplative prayer and the study of exemplary role models. This

prepares all students to make lasting contributions to society as loyal, responsible and broad-minded citizens.

This will be achieved through:

- Positive and uplifting experiences of RE and Collective Worship.
- The singing of the names of the divine, with special but not exclusive focus on Krishna.
- Opportunities for self-discovery and spiritual exploration.
- Effective pastoral care that supports each student's personal, emotional and spiritual journey.
- Dedication to working in partnership with other faith schools/organisations to provide students an authentic experience of diverse spiritual traditions.
- Recognition that all of the world's great spiritual traditions represent the divinity in their distinctive ways.
- Authentic understanding of the worldviews underlying various external manifestations of religion and spirituality, with stress on their shared essence: a loving reciprocal and personal relationship with the divine.
- Exploration of faith and spirituality across different traditions in a probing and dialogic manner, with constructive critique of practices, philosophies and epistemologies to promote honest and empathetic dialogue.
- Encouragement of students to develop a broad-minded perspective by acknowledging the key roles of free choice, fidelity to tradition and exemplary role models.
- The warm and welcoming enrolment of young people from all backgrounds.
- Preparation of students to make up their own minds on issues of faith and belonging, religious and otherwise.***

Rekindling of an awareness of an essential spiritual identity that unites all living beings, transcending all designations related to age, race, gender, species, faith affiliation and ability.

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

You will receive the Principal's weekly newsletters electronically. Alternatively, you can visit the school website to keep up to date with school matters. We are an ECO friendly school determined to focus upon issues of sustainability and reducing waste. Cutting down on the use of paper will support the Avanti ethos. Please ensure we have your correct contact details and email address.

The School Day

Nursery Class: 8.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m.

Reception Class and onwards: 8.00 a.m. to 2.25 p.m., Break 9:45 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and Lunch break is from 12.00 p.m. to 1.00 p.m.

Please note School Office is open from 7:45a.m. - 3:00p.m.



Arrival

All Children need to be on the playground by 7.55am. They are requested to walk to their classroom. Children can then settle themselves, once the doors have opened and commence a range of "early bird activities".

The class teacher/classroom assistant greets the children by welcoming them into the classroom each morning. Parents are requested not to have lengthy discussions with the teacher at this time, as they must focus on completing attendance registers accurately, supervising the children and preparing for the day ahead. If you need to speak to class teacher please make an appointment to see the teacher at the end of the day alternatively, you can request the school office to forward a message to the class teacher.

DEPARTURES -COLLECTING CHILDREN ON TIME

The school team will dismiss the children when one at a time when eye contact is made to the authorised named adult (must be 18 or over) at the classroom door. Please wait in an orderly queue to ensure safe dismissal of the children. Older siblings under 18 are not permitted to collect younger siblings for reasons of safety.

If for any reason you cannot collect your child, please contact the school office by 1:30pm to inform us about alternative arrangements. Please ensure that the alternative adult collecting your child has prior written consent already signed and dated by you.

Unfortunately, last year, it was disappointing to find out that numerous children had not been picked up at 2.25pm. This is our finish time. The school team understands that occasionally there may be an emergency. However, if this is the case you must ring the school office to let them know.

Occasionally a supply teacher may dismiss pupils, in which case if there is a message for the class teacher, please speak to a member of the office staff.

All children who are not collected on time are escorted to the school office. A register is kept to log late collections.

The school team are not available to provide child care arrangements after this time.

Having investigated the matter, most schools place the children safely into the school child minding services. With this in mind, we shall commence this policy. A charge will be made for using Sherpa Kids facilities. Alternatively, the school reserves the right to charge parents for the additional hours worked by our staff.

In addition to this, a meeting will be held to discuss the reason for the late collection. We will ensure that each child receives a high standard of care in order to cause as little distress as possible.

Student Planners for Key Stage 2

Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 our partnership is secured through the use of the student planner. The planner holds essential information for both children and parents, so please do take time to look at this carefully with your child. The planner should also be used as a communication between yourself and your child's class teacher. Please check and sign the planner weekly.

Children must bring their planner to school every day

Together we have a crucial role to play in supporting the successful education of your child at school and at home.

Approaches towards teaching and learning

At Krishna-Avanti School, we aim to encourage pupils to take full responsibility for their learning, developing skills for life-long learning. We use strategies that promote life skills, high ordered cognitive thinking, co-operative learning, reciprocal teaching as well as independent, class and team learning.

In order to instil independence in your child's development please ensure that on joining the Nursery and Reception classes, your child is fully toilet trained and can use the toilet without adult support.

All children must come to school able to look after their belongings, and arrive fully equipped with stationary so that they have the tools to work independently.

National Curriculum, Assessments and Home Learning

At Krishna-Avanti we aim to provide a high standard of education and believe that every child has the right to succeed. The School is divided into three phases as follows:

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), (approximately 3-5 years of age)

National Curriculum Key Stage 1 (KS1), (approximately 5-7 years of age)

National Curriculum Key Stage 2 (KS2), (approximately 7-11 years of age)

The Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum

The Foundation Stage includes Nursery and Reception classes. The areas of learning include:

1. Personal, Social and Emotional Development
2. Physical Development
3. Communication and Language
4. Literacy
5. Mathematics
6. Understanding of the World
7. Expressive Arts and Design
8. Philosophy and Ethics.

The children in Foundation Stage will be taught a curriculum which incorporates indoor and outdoor learning. Learning is planned to ensure awe and wonder, interest, enjoyment and meaningful play-centred activities that are both child-initiated as well as planned and led by the adults.

National Curriculum for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2

As an academy, we teach the full national curriculum and more. We fully accept the worth of teaching a broad and balanced curriculum, and develop a broad range of skills, knowledge and attitudes necessary for children to live a fulfilled adult life in the 21st century.

Subject specific knowledge and skills are joined up to create interesting contexts for purposeful learning experiences. Philosophy, ethics and religion is taught as a discreet subject and the values emanating from our faith-based curriculum permeate throughout all learning and ethos of the school. . We use cross-curricular themes such as environmental education, economic and financial literacy, to encourage a creative approach to teaching and learning to promote enjoyment, curiosity, logical and analytical thinking in our children.

English, Mathematics, Science, computing, Sanskrit, Physical Education, and Philosophy, Religion and Ethics are taught as discreet subjects. While specific skills and knowledge and skills are taught in History,

geography, music, arts, design and technology, these subjects are taught through project work to create important links across these disciplines. There is a strong emphasis on providing children with ample opportunities to use and apply the key skills of communication, problem-solving, research, collaboration, and independent thought across all areas of learning. .

We endeavour to maximise success for our children by ensuring that all elements of our teaching are good or better. We use a range of personalised teaching methods to meet the individual needs of children. . We value pupil led learning as a powerful tool for ensuring high standards of academic achievement, self-esteem, personal confidence and motivation.

English



There is a strong emphasis on teaching a high level of skills of speaking and listening, reading and writing. As speakers of many languages, we know that while it is very important for our children to develop and maintain the use of their home languages, acquisition of a high level of fluency in English is of paramount importance. Opportunities for self-expression and development of excellent spoken English and debate and discussion are given in independent work, group work, class work, assemblies, class debates, presentations, drama and theatrical productions.

Daily literacy lessons involve children as individual and groups in:

- Speaking, listening and responding in formal and informal settings;
- Sharing both fiction and non-fiction texts;
- Learning to read through a systematic approach to phonics using letters and sounds to develop handwriting, spelling and grammar;
- Accessing a systematic reading programme where real books and colour-coded readers are used to provide support and challenges for all pupils;
- Developing comprehension strategies and critical thinking skills;
- Writing in different genres for different purposes and different audiences;
- Private reading and discussion of a wide range of children's literature and

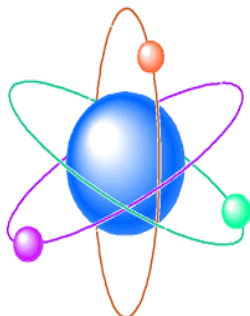
We encourage children to use the classrooms and school library freely in order to read books of personal interest and to research material. We endeavour to cultivate fluency of reading and a love of books.

Mathematics

From the earliest age children are encouraged to develop their numeracy skills and use them in a variety of practical ways to develop their understanding of Mathematics. As they go through the school, number and algebra, data and shape space and measure are all areas that are studied on a weekly basis. The use of technology is encouraged at all levels.



Science



In science, varied aspects of scientific knowledge such as Forces, Electricity, or Human body is taught throughout the school every half term. Children use key investigative skills and participate in a series of practical experiments which encourage prediction, observation and evaluation. All classes have equipment and resources necessary to develop the skills of scientific enquiry. Our curriculum is enhanced by in-school visits from various scientific workshops and children's visits to places of interest such as the museums and field study centres.

Computing

Computers and ICT are increasingly used to support children's work in many areas of the curriculum. Children are taught specific skills that they can apply to their work. All children have opportunities to use digital cameras, scanners, tablets and laptops.



We encourage partnership working in all learning areas and value the extended home learning environment, where children can practice their skills in the core areas by taking part in everyday activities, in a meaningful in real life manner.



e-Safety

All pupils use technology facilities using tablets and internet access as essential parts of their learning in school and as a requirement set out by the National Curriculum.

As parents you will be aware that there have been rapid changes in the technology of image production and that the taking and publishing of pictures is now very simple, often just one click of a button is sufficient to share a picture with many people across the world, with little knowledge of who they are, what they do or who the image will be shared with. This creates a dilemma for schools, as the distribution of images and/or a video is extremely difficult to monitor and/or control.

Our School follows e-Safety guidelines to ensure that children access only appropriate material on the internet and that they are always supervised by a member of staff whilst using the internet. Children go through regular training to learn how best to use the internet and social media safely. Teaching them about their personal safety is given the highest of priorities.

Please ensure that your child is supervised at all times, when using the internet for any school work done at home and the school has a set of e-safety rules for all our children.

On admission, all parents sign a parental consent for the school to take photographs, video recordings of children in activities and their use of the internet. Please refer to our e – Safety policy.

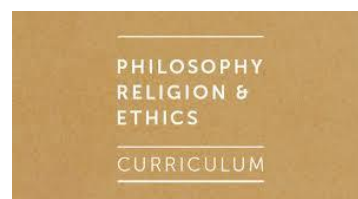
Collective Worship

As with all faith school in the United Kingdom, at Krishna Avanti we take part in daily acts of collective worship, which, inclusive to all, will balance the major faith traditions with our distinctive ethos and understanding of spiritual worship. Collective worship at Avanti Trust Schools involves: Kirtan, song, mediation, prayer, worship, reflection and story -telling.

Children can be withdrawn from these sessions although we strongly encourage everyone to be involved as they are vital opportunities to break down barriers between different faiths and belief systems. Please talk to the principal should you wish to discuss this further.

Philosophy, Religion and Ethics (PRE)

Philosophy, Religion and Ethics Education builds upon our school's six school values. Elements of Personal, social and health education as and are an integral part of our Philosophy, Religion and Ethics curriculum. PRE is taught by specialist teachers working closely with the class teachers. The subject is taught with appropriate references to its unique as well as universal teachings of Lord Caitanya and the Vaishnav traditions of Hinduism as one of the major world faith. There is a strong emphasis on teaching children to respect their own alongside others' faiths and beliefs, including those of humanists and people of no faith.



P.E. and Yoga Lesson Days

- All children should wear their outdoor PE kit to school on P.E. days only.
- Pupils will change into their black trainers during their break or activity if they are wearing their school shoes.
- The weather is not suitable to wear plimsolls all day with the P.E Kit.
- In accordance with good practice guidelines, all children now participate in indoor activities involving bare feet. Children will change into their trainers, plimsolls or have bare feet depending on the PE lesson. Please note that plimsolls are no longer used for some indoor P.E. – i.e. gymnastics and dance.
- Girls need to keep a pair of socks with their kit if they wear tights to school.



Behaviour for Learning

Krishna Avanti Primary School operates an approach towards behaviour management that recognises that all behaviours are highly influenced by the teachers' and children's ability to:

- communicate with each another;
- form positive relationships;
- understand what initiates differing behaviour patterns in both ourselves and others, by gaining a growing awareness of our emotions and emotional regulation techniques; and
- reflect on our patterns of behaviour and influence our thought processes and subsequent actions, to ensure we all take ownership of our actions.

The school culture is underpinned by a clear set of values; independent thinking, mutual respect for others and taking responsibility for our actions. This is reflected in our policies and everyday practice. The ethos in the school fully supports our approaches towards the management of behaviour that sets out to enable children to become reflective and self-regulating rather than place an emphasis on sanctions and punishment as a means of control.

The school team are helping the children to remember our school expectations. Please spend time at home talking to your child about demonstrating the right behaviours for learning. Sometimes too much chatting, talking unnecessarily, fidgeting, calling out without permission, being slow to start work or follow instructions, using equipment inappropriately can slow down or stop the teaching. These types of behaviours interrupt the lesson and valuable learning time.

**By talking to your child about our rules, we can all look forward to a good year!
We shall be "catching children making the right choices" and praising them in assembly.**

Pupils are expected to follow the school's Golden Expectations that form the basis of our Home-School Agreement which each family enters into at the point of admission to our school.

Our Golden Standards

1. Be kind, helpful and gentle: think of others
2. Be respectful: listen and act respectfully, use good manners
3. Be honest and responsible: think before you act; tell the truth
4. Be Safe: care for people and property
5. Be courageous: Learn Brilliantly! Never give up.





Protection and Safeguarding of Children

At Krishna Avanti School, we take our duty in safeguarding and protecting children **extremely seriously**. Disclosure Barring Services (DBS) checks, safer recruitment procedures are all an integral part of our everyday practise. All staff members, club leaders and volunteers who work at the School are subject to rigorous checks and receive specialist bespoke induction and safeguarding training.

Parents can contact our Designated Child Protection Officer (DCPO) or the Deputy Designated Child Protection Officer (DDCPO) who will be happy to provide advice and practical tips on preventing abuse and identifying inappropriate behaviours. Their names are published around the school and the school entrance.

We believe that all members of our community have the right to learn in a secure, safe and stimulating environment. Krishna Avanti Primary School acknowledges the school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010, in respect of safeguarding and in respect of pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN).

The School has a policy on safeguarding our children and you will receive a copy of this policy, along with a safeguarding acknowledgement form, to state that you have read and understand our approaches towards safeguarding our children. This is also displayed on our school website.

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

Should you have any concerns about a child's welfare, Please speak to designated members of staff for Child Protection and Safeguarding:

Ms Pandya

Mrs Rai

**Krishna Avanti Primary School Governor with responsibility for Safeguarding is
Mr Yuvraj Rana**

ATTENDANCE, PUNCTUALITY, HOLIDAYS AND EXCEPTIONAL LEAVE OF ABSENCE

ATTENDANCE

A child should not be kept away from school for reasons other than illness. It is a legal requirement that the school should be informed of any absence.

Regular attendance and punctuality is of great importance in children developing positive attitudes to school and learning self-discipline. We expect all children to attend school every day by 7.55 am unless your child is unwell and we work in close partnership with families, to ensure that this is the case.

Please telephone the school between 7.45am and 8.15am if your child is absent for any reason. Do note the school phones may be very busy during the above times therefore for ease of parents we have created a link which will take you to complete a short form online to report your child's absence.

Fines are now issued to parents who take their children out of school in 'un-authorized' circumstances and this is monitored very closely by the Principal and the Education Welfare Officer.

Attendance and punctuality is a serious matter and good or better attendance is vital to ensure good or better progress. We keep very detailed records of attendance and punctuality, as required by the law. Reasons for absence and lateness are noted and tracked.

The school rewards good attendance and supports our children where attendance is not good or better. We have a clear and very robust Attendance Strategy which contains clear procedures, to ensure consistency and fairness in our approaches. At the same time, due care and consideration is also given to overall school attendance levels in relation to individual attendance levels, which all pupils contribute towards.



On the child's return from absence, a letter should be given or sent to the teacher to justify the absence and if the absence was more than three days you will be required to provide proof of visit to GP (letter, appointment cards, prescriptions issued).

If you need to collect your child during the day due to unavoidable reasons you will be asked to complete a form and sign in a book to indicate you have taken your child out of school and on return sign to indicate they are back in school. Please note routine opticians, dental and doctor's appointments should be made out of school hours. Hospital appointments should be booked during school holidays if possible. We would like to remind you that our school times are different than other Local Authority school and parents should be able to book appointments after school.

Punctuality



The school gate will be locked at 8.00am. If you arrive after this time please go straight to the office where your child will be given a late mark. Please make every effort to give your child the best chances in life.

Frequent lateness will result in a meeting about the matter and a conversation with the Education Welfare Officer. We will of course support families while they are having difficulties in exceptional circumstances.

Unauthorised Absence

Please note the school day finishes at 2:25 p.m., therefore, you are advised to book dental and hospital appointments out of school hours or during term holidays, otherwise this impacts negatively on overall and individual attendance levels and their progress.

If your child is absent from school you must notify the School Office by 8.15 a.m. on each day of absence, informing us of the reason for absence. For all absences a signed note, stating the reason for absence, should be brought to the School Office by the first day of your child returning to School.



Parents or carers who are not able to bring their child to school due to personal circumstances, such as illness, will need to make alternative arrangements to drop off and collect their children (this type of absence is recorded as unauthorised).



Permission for Exceptional Leave

Requests for exceptional leave / special leave can only be given granted by the Principal and must be requested by the completion of a request form, which can be obtained from the office.

You should not:

- Pre-book any holidays or leave during term time for any reasons, **before** your request has been granted;
- Presume that you will receive permission to attend an event like a religious celebration, wedding or personal family event, as these kinds of requests will not be sanctioned as the school already has extended their school holiday times to accommodate the faith element.

Exceptional leave is only given in very exceptional circumstances and if your request is refused, this may ultimately result in the loss of your child's placement at the school.

Assessments and Parent Consultations

Progress of all pupils is assessed on regularly through formative (daily and on-going) and summative tests (end of term or year). This information, along with on-going teacher assessments enables the school to be 'data rich' and all data from assessment is used to inform planning of teaching at an individual and group level.

Pupil progress is checked and tracked every half term and across the different phases and very rigorous moderation of any levels assigned to the pupils takes place on a termly basis, involving external professionals.

One to one parent-teacher consultations take place termly and this allows parents the opportunity to see your child's work and discuss their progress. All parents receive a full end of year report at the end of the summer term.

All staff can be available at an agreed time to discuss your child's progress on an individual basis and any children who are placed on our Special Educational Needs register or who are classified as vulnerable, are reviewed far more frequently.

Parents in Class

There is ample evidence to confirm that parents as co-educators play a vital role in promoting achievement. We welcome parental contributions such as sharing of a language, making presentations and suggesting ideas for topics or supplying resources or attending and supporting visits. Very often help is focused on reading, but parents can also support us in a variety of ways. Parents' help is a very valuable resource to the school and we appreciate any support, particularly if you have a specific skill, interest or contact outside of the school, particularly with the business world.



Home Learning

Homework is sent on a regular basis by e-mail to all parents. If you require a hard copy of the homework please inform the class teacher and the school office. Opportunities to do research or extend learning outside of the classroom are encouraged and become more formal as the children progress through the school.

A termly curriculum overview for your child's class is sent at the beginning of the term to inform you about the learning that will be covered in all the subjects of the curriculum. Teachers will regularly make a note in the Home School Book and send reading books, activity sheets or learning projects home.

Research has shown that a faster pace of learning takes place when parents are actively involved with the education of their child. We encourage you to work together with your child to promote interest and enjoyment.

You can help your child develop reading skills at home by:

- ✓ Spending five to ten minutes each day on reading
- ✓ Allowing your child time to self-correct
- ✓ Acting as a model by reading some of the text and then asking the child to participate
- ✓ Encouraging your child to make predictions about the story
- ✓ Asking open and closed questions about events, illustrations, characters and settings
- ✓ Creating story boxes using small toys and objects for retelling stories
- ✓ Playing word games
- ✓ Acting out stories
- ✓ Using your local library for homework and research
- ✓ Showing your child that you enjoy reading

Break, Snack- Fruit /Vegetable, Water Access



During morning break all children in the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 will be provided with a piece of fruit or vegetable and water. The Nursery and Reception classes will also receive milk. Pupils in Key Stage 2 can bring their own fruit/ vegetable snack to school daily. No nuts, sweets or sugary drinks are allowed in school. We are a nut-free zone.

Water in School

All children have access to water. We want children to bring water bottles to school. Research suggests that the water intake of most children is nationally seen to be below recommended levels. The availability of water in the classroom has been proven to increase levels of concentration. Please make sure the water bottle is clearly labelled.



School Lunches- Menu planning, Free School Meals, Cost & Payments

(Not applicable to Nursery children)

Good quality, well-balanced, low-fat and nutritious vegetarian lunches are hygienically prepared for children. We promote the sattvic vegetarian lifestyle and where possible organic foods. Our food is free of eggs, onions or garlic.

Sharing sumptuous, healthy School lunches together is part of the overall educational and curriculum experience at Krishna Avanti Primary School, where children learn about Vaisnava and British etiquette, table manners and honouring food. This is essential for developing and enhancing social skills and ensuring that lunch-time is a happy experience. The children are encouraged to eat with their right hand. School staff enjoy taking lunch with pupils to create a family atmosphere.

Pupil Voice is taken into consideration when developing the termly school lunch menu. The school will also request parents' views on school lunches.

The school office will send termly menu's by ParentMail and is published on the schools website on www.avanti.org.uk/kapsharrow.

Free School Meals

SCHOOL MEALS Harrow has introduced a change to the way parent/ carers apply for Free school meals. They will no longer be accepting paper applications. If you think you could be eligible, you will need to log onto the website <http://fsm.lgfl.net>. **It only takes a moment!** Once you have accessed the website, you will be able to quickly and easily check if you are entitled. It gives you an immediate "yes" or "no" response and you will need to take a screen shot and e-mail this to notify the school.



If you are eligible for a free school meal please collect an application form for Pupils Premium claim and return it to the school office with the attached proof of evidence. Any forms received by the school will be kept confidential.

Did you know that every child who is known to be eligible for Free School Meals allows their school to gain extra funding to ensure that they achieve the highest standards and do not fall behind. This funding is used to improve staffing and facilities that benefit the children.

IF YOUR CHILD WAS ENTITLED TO FREE SCHOOL MEALS LAST YEAR, YOU MUST STILL RE – APPLY USING THE ABOVE WEBSITE.

Please can I kindly request that this is done by Middle of September each year. If we do not receive information from you your child will be removed from the Free School Meal List.

As always, please do not hesitate to ask the school office for help.



Cost and Payment for School Lunches and ParentPay

The cost of the School lunches is kept to a minimum in relation to the quality of food and will be £2.00 a meal (this can change). Pupils in Year 3, 4 5 & 6 must pay for school dinners. Pupils in Reception class to Year 2 are entitled to Universal

Infant Free School meals. If you have a child in Reception – Year 2 classes you will not need to pay for your child's school dinner. However, if you have a child in Reception- Year 2 you may still be entitled to free school meals and other support.

We only accept electronic payments for all services (school dinners, clubs, trips, residential visits). This easy and simple process is facilitated by ParentPay. ParentPay offers you the freedom to make payments whenever and wherever you like, safe in the knowledge that the technology used provides the highest internet security available. You will have a secure online account, with a unique user ID and password. You can change these to something you will easily remember and merge accounts of two or more children. Parents who are unable to make payments online can request a Paypoint Card. This will enable parents to pay at any store which displays the Paypoint sign.

Options for Payments and Lunch menu will be sent by letter at the beginning of the year and may be posted on the website. Reminders will be sent in the newsletter or a separate letter. This information is also available on the school website. Payments for school lunches must be made by the 1st day of the start of the term or in advance in half term, full term, or yearly instalments.

If you have trouble with your username or password or have any concerns regarding your parentPay account, please email the school office or speak to a member of the office staff who will be glad to assist you.

Celebrating Birthdays or Special Events

If you would like to mark your child's birthday day or a special event, you can do so by:

- Donating a book for the class library;
- Distributing items such as books or stationary to each child;

Please do not send confectionery, such as chocolates and sweets as these foods can trigger allergies, and do not promote a healthy learning environment.



Educational Visits



In order to bring the curriculum to life and to broaden the children's range of experiences, we occasionally arrange educational visits to museums, galleries, parks, places of worship and residential trips. These are always closely linked to the subjects/topics being taught at school. The outings will require a voluntary contribution; however no child will be excluded if they cannot pay. The school adopts a robust approach towards Health and Safety and adheres to the standards set out by the HSE and Avanti School Trust with respect to assessing the risks.

The 1998 Education Act requires the governing body to state its policy on charging for educational activities. There will be a number of occasions during the school year when visits are organised in school time to support the school curriculum. The Governors and staff believe that it is most important for all children have the same opportunities. Parents will be invited to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost of some activities. If insufficient contributions are received, a planned visit may have to be cancelled. The following covers the main points:

1. Where activities take place in school session time e.g. a school journey in school hours, parents will usually be invited to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost of an activity on a pro-rotta basis. No child will be excluded from taking part in activities because his/her parents cannot, or will not contribute.
2. Where activities take place completely or mostly outside school session time, charges will be levied as appropriate.
3. Any application for a full or partial remission of charges will be considered in strictest confidence by the Principal.
4. The school may charge for ingredients or materials or require them to be provided if parents have indicated that they would like to keep their children's work.
5. Parents may be required to meet the cost of breakages, damages or losses where this is the result of their child's behaviour.
6. Parents will be expected to make a contribution towards the cost of replacing lost reading books and library books.
7. Although the school will provide children with school equipment, parents are expected to provide basic stationery items e.g. pencils, felt-tip pens and notebooks throughout the year to support their child in the school and home learning.

The Governing Body may, from time to time, amend the categories of activities for which a charge may be made. Nothing in this policy statement precludes the Governing Body from inviting parents from making a voluntary contribution towards the cost of providing education for pupils.

Money in School

Children should only bring money into School, if it is requested by the school. All money should be brought in a sealed envelope, clearly marked with the child's name, class and the purpose, for example non-uniform day / Educational trips etc. ParentPay and Cheques are the preferred method of payment.

Please note money should be given to the office staff or other staff members by hand and not to be sent in children's book bag. The school will not take responsibility for money sent through your child's book bag.



Out of hours activities - Afterschool Clubs



Please note that there will be no clubs on the first week or last week of the Autumn, Spring and Summer term. (This does not apply to Sherpa Kids).

The school will send details of afterschool clubs that support and extend children's learning. Details will be sent by ParentMail in advance of the term. This will also be uploaded on the school website. www.avanti.org.uk/kapsharrow .

There are limited spaces for clubs and bookings will be on a 'first come first serve' basis. Refunds will only be given if the sessions are cancelled by the club leader or the school. Please speak to club leader for refund

queries or any queries / concerns you have.

Bookings:

If your child wishes to attend an Afterschool Club, please pay for the club via the club leader (see their flyer on how to pay). For health and safety & safe guarding procedures, please complete the booking form (provided by the club leader) and submit to the club leaders (one booking form is required for each club booked). Your club leader will be able to confirm your child's place in the club.

Pupil Premium:

If your child is entitled to pupil premium, please complete this link (click link) https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/PP_After_School_clubs for the two clubs you would like him/her to join. There is a maximum of two free clubs per child per term. The school office will confirm your child's place in the club.

Additional Items:

Allergies, Medical and Medications - Please ensure you inform the club leaders of any allergies, medical concerns and any medications your child may be taking. Uniform/KITs – As parents can you please ensure that their children have the necessary items or clothing/shoes/trainers as requested by the club leaders. Snacks – Only fruit, vegetables and water is to be provided as snacks.

Collection:

Club leaders will dismiss all children from the entrance of the main school black gates and children will only be sent home with their parents or the person specified on the booking form. Any changes to the collection of your child on the day must be notified to the club leader prior to the start of the club. However, if you are unable to reach the club leader please inform the school office by 1.30pm who will inform the class teacher/club leader. Please ensure you collect your child at the correct time. Some club leaders may charge a penalty fee if you arrive late.

If for any reason you need to collect your child early from their afterschool activity please make the necessary arrangements with the club leader and not the school.

Photographs:

Photographs may be taken of the children and displayed in the school and our school website. If you do not wish a photo to be taken of your child, please inform the club leader in writing. By attending these sessions, you are agreeing to your son/daughter's photographs/videos or recordings being used by the school or club leaders.

Although the afterschool clubs / activities take place at Krishna Avanti Primary School please note that club leaders are responsible for their own clubs. Should you have any concern please inform the school office in writing.

After School Care

There is a childcare facility available for the children.

At home-time, Sherpa Kids Club, operate in the school. They deliver high quality care. A range of fun and exciting activities are planned for the children until you are able to collect them. They also provide a light snack. For fees and further information please contact club leader. Further details can be found on the school website.

School Uniform

School Uniform sets a standard at Krishna Avanti Primary School. We believe that the wearing of a school uniform gives children a sense of belonging with their school; it is practical and smart, reinforces a positive work ethos and reduces expenditure for parents and carers by avoiding inequalities in terms of possessing the latest designer fashions.

I am sure you will appreciate the many advantages of wearing school uniform. The Krishna-Avanti School uniform has been chosen to be practical, easy to wash, cotton rich and **economical** to purchase. It is part of our School Uniform Policy that children from Reception class and above wear the School uniform (this does not apply to Nursery Class). It sets a good tone and standard in addition to identifying the school.



If there are any problems preventing you from ensuring that your child wears school uniform please do not hesitate to make an appointment to discuss the situation with the principal.

I would like to thank you in advance for working together so that we can maintain our school's high standards.

Our School Uniform and PE Kit with our school logo are available to purchase from Brigade Clothing Ltd. To purchase the uniform items order online via their website www.brigade.uk.com or email directly to sales@brigade.uk.com. We do not stock any uniforms at the school however if you would like to check the size of the uniform please speak to member of the school office to arrange a convenient time.

All compulsory items bearing the embroidered School logo **must** be purchased from Brigade. Items listed below that do not specify a School logo may be obtained from either our supplier or a supplier of your choice. Please note all children must also have a book bag and a full PE kit including appropriate school shoes/ trainers.

Supplier and how to purchase:

The Avanti uniform has been chosen to be practical, easy to wash and cotton rich. The full uniform is available from Brigade Clothing via their online service called **PARENTS DIRECT** - (please click the link to visit the Brigade website). We are consistent with Avanti Schools Trust 'family of schools'.

You would need to log onto www.brigadeuniformdirect.uk.com enter your child's school name (Krishna Avanti) and select the school from the drop down list provided (*registration will be required for first time users only*).

Welcome to Brigade Schoolwear – Parents Direct On-line Ordering Service

DELIVERY LEAD TIME

ORDERS ARE CURRENTLY TAKING 10-14 DAYS, HOWEVER THIS CAN VARY DEPENDENT UPON STOCK AVAILABILITY.

Thank you for choosing Brigade to purchase your quality embroidered School Uniform. Our easy to use website has been set up with passcode protection. To obtain a passcode to access the site, you will need to initially register your details and a passcode will be emailed to you.

Returning Customers

Email:
Passcode:
 [Forget your passcode?](#)

New Customers

Search for your school name to begin...
School:

As required by Data Protection, Brigade have effective safeguards in place to ensure personal information is kept securely and not shared with other parties.

Our School Uniform

KS1 (RECEPTION – YEAR 2)	
<p>Boys: White polo shirt (optional with logo) School V-neck sweater Grey trousers (not black or charcoal) Black/brown shoes (no trainers) Black/grey socks</p> <p>All PE kit items must be plain school uniform wear</p> <p>PE Kit: blue shorts, plain white T-shirt, black plimsols, trainers, blue jogging bottoms, warm top</p> <p>Summer term: optional grey shorts</p> <p>Bag: School Book Bag with logo Games/PE Kit Bag - The most suitable bag is a simple drawstring bag (navy blue). These are most easily accommodated in the limited cloakroom space. Bags must be named clearly on the outside.</p>	<p>Girls: White polo shirt (optional with logo) School buttoned cardigan Grey trousers or grey below the knee skirt (not black or charcoal) Black/grey socks/tights Black/brown shoes (no trainers)</p> <p>All PE kit items must be plain school uniform wear</p> <p>PE Kit: blue shorts, white T-shirt, black plimsols, trainers, blue jogging bottoms, warm top</p> <p>Summer term: optional blue gingham Pinafore with white socks</p> <p>Bag: School Book Bag with logo Games/PE Kit Bag - The most suitable bag is a simple drawstring bag (navy blue).</p>
KS2 (Y3 – Y6)	
<p>Boys: White Shirt School V-neck sweater Grey trousers (not black or charcoal) Black/brown shoes (no trainers) Black/grey socks School tie for Year 6 only</p> <p>All PE kit items must be plain school uniform wear</p> <p>PE Kit: Blue shorts, white T-shirt, black plimsolls or trainers, blue jogging bottoms, warm top</p> <p>Summer term: optional grey shorts</p> <p>Bag: School Book Bag with logo Games/PE Kit Bag - The most suitable bag is a simple drawstring bag (navy blue).</p>	<p>Girls: White blouse/shirt School buttoned cardigan Grey trousers or grey below the knee skirt (not black or charcoal) Black or grey socks/tights Black/brown shoes (no trainers) School tie for Year 6 only</p> <p>All PE kit items must be plain school uniform wear</p> <p>PE Kit: Blue shorts, white T-shirt, black plimsolls or trainers, blue jogging bottoms, warm top</p> <p>Summer term: optional blue gingham Pinafore with white socks</p> <p>Bag: School Book Bag with logo Games/PE Kit Bag - The most suitable bag is a simple drawstring bag (navy blue).</p>

Book Bag- compulsory for all pupils

Children will need a school bag with our logo. This develops positive and organised attitudes towards learning. The school bag must be brought to school and taken home each day, along with their Home School Books.

PE Kits- compulsory for all pupils

Learning to change out of uniform and into PE kit is an important learning task for young children. It also creates a growing self-awareness of what is appropriate in different settings. Children need a change of clothing for Physical Education which must be brought into school on the day of the lesson or sports activities.

Games/PE Kit Bag - The most suitable bag is a simple drawstring bag. These are most easily accommodated in the limited cloakroom space. Bags must be named clearly on the outside.

- **Children have the option to wear their Outdoor PE kit for school on PE days only.**
- **Children who come to school wearing their uniform will get changed into their outdoor or indoor P.E kit in the classroom.**
- Black shoes must be worn on all P.E. days
- Pupils will change into black trainers, white trainers, or dark blue Trainers. These are our colours and must be brought in a bag for P.E.
- The weather is not suitable to wear plimsolls all day with the P.E Kit.
- Children will change into their trainers, plimsolls or have bare feet depending on the PE lesson. Please note that plimsolls are no longer used for some indoor P.E. – i.e. gymnastics and dance. In accordance with good practice guidelines, all children now participate in those indoor activities in bare feet.
- Girls need to keep a pair of socks with their kit if they wear tights to school.

Lost Property

The school displays lost property on a outside the Nursery class. Please note items not collected after five weeks will be disposed away. The school cannot accept any liability for loss of, or damage to, such property and possessions.

It is vital that all children are able to locate their own property as it facilitates early reading skills, independence and promotes their self-esteem; hence children must be able to read their first name independently. Please ensure that all your child's clothing and property including shoes are clearly marked in permanent black ink with your child's first name using lower case letters. The best option is to purchase pre-printed iron-on name labels which will last throughout your child's School years and are easily available online.



Medicines



We only give children prescribed medicines in school. If your child suffers from a medical condition you will be required to complete a form to give consent for school to administer medication.

Please give the medications to the school office in the original bottle/containers with the pharmacy label clearly visible. Please ensure you renew your child's medication regularly or before it expires. Please check with the school office if you are not sure when your child's medication expires.

If your child suffers from asthma, it is vital that you teach your child how to use the inhalers by themselves.

A member of staff qualified as a first aider, will assist your child in administering medications/inhalers where necessary.

Sun cream must be applied from home before the start of the school day. The school cannot apply sun cream to any children unless it is prescribed from the GP. If you wish to top up sun cream please make arrangements to come during lunch time and before school finishes if your child attends an after school clubs.

Allergies

All children with allergies should be identified by parents and will be required to complete a personal care plan. All first aiders are trained to administer allergy medications.

Some children may suffer from allergies which could be **life threatening therefore, please remind your child never to share food brought to school. Do not send nuts or foods containing traces of nuts – we operate a nut-free zone.**



Personal Effects Policy

This policy has been devised based on guidance from Harrow Advisory Service for Physical Education and must be adhered to in order to ensure the safety of your child and other pupils. The term 'personal effects' refers to items such as religious artefacts, jewellery, body-piercings, watches, hair accessories, Sensory aids such as spectacles and hearing aids are considered as separate items and any risks attached to this aids, will be assessed fully via an individual risk assessment and will be shared with the parents and child to ensure both the child's and other children's safety at all times. The school will adhere to the recommendations laid out in the Equality Act 2010 and any subsequent school guidance.

We appreciate the support of all parents in ensuring that children maintain a high standard of hygiene, cleanliness and appearance at all times. Hair must be of natural colour and hair-cuts should be conservative, non-trendy with no extreme haircuts. Hair that is shoulder-length or longer must be neatly tied back, with a soft dark item to prevent entanglement and obscuring of vision.

The wearing of personal effects constitutes a hazard both to the wearer and those in contact with the wearer. Inadvertent contact of personal effects with other people, equipment or clothing has caused tearing and piercing of flesh, and even strangulation resulting in death.

If a child arrives at school wearing any type of personal effects, other than the exceptions mentioned below, the parents will be contacted to be informed that staff will remove the item. Staff will not accept any responsibility for the safe-keeping of children's personal effects. Staff will adhere to school policy where any physical intervention takes place.

Hair accessories that are functional and made of a soft material are necessary and will be allowed. No other hair ties or bands with jewellery attached to them are allowed.

If Tulasi or holy neck beads and hand threads cannot be removed because of religious reasons they must comply with our guidelines. Sacred beads and hand threads must only go around the neck or hand once. Sacred beads must be threaded on a plastic string that would break easily if it were to become entangled in an object. They need to be worn very close to the body so that they do not get caught on anything; the child should only be able to place one finger between the string and his/her neck. Hand threads also need to be worn close to the body; the child should only be able to place one finger between the thread and his/her wrist. The ends of the hand threads must **not** dangle down from the wrists. In the event of an emergency where swelling occurs we may have to cut the neck beads or thread. If any child does is not complying with this request, the beads will be removed until the end of the day and you will be informed of any actions that needs to take place.

Newly pierced ears can take up to six weeks before they are fully healed so it is important that ears are pierced at the beginning of the summer holidays to allow sufficient time for earrings to be safely removed before the start of the autumn term. If the ears have not fully healed by the time the child returns to school you must cover the earrings with tape, ensuring that the spike at the back of the ear is also covered effectively. Please note that the child will not be allowed to actively participate in PE sessions where physical contact can be foreseen until the earrings can be safely removed, as tape will not provide sufficient safety in sessions where there is physical contact.

Please note that the school does not allow the following:

- Nail varnish
- Jewellery – only stud earrings without stones are allowed in school
- Make up.

Sensory aids:



For activities where no physical contact is foreseeable and during free-play sessions in the playground, a child who utilises sensory aids may participate with or without the sensory aid, whichever situation is safer for the wearer and the other participants.

When physical contact is expected a child who utilises a sensory aid can only participate actively if the sensory aid can be safely removed without creating more risk of injury to the wearer and others in the group. This may mean that the activity needs to be adjusted in some way if possible. If the situation cannot be made safe, then the child must only participate in a non-active capacity.

The co-operation of parents/carers in implementing this policy will be greatly appreciated.

Sickness

Many of our staff are fully qualified First Aiders.

Occasionally children fall sick. If your child is ill do not send him/her to school. Please ensure you inform the school office by 8:15am of the specific reasons for your child's illness and inform the school when your child can return back to school.

To avoid spreading germs in school, please do not send your child to school if he/she has chickenpox, has a tummy bug, high fever or vomiting. If you are unsure, please contact the school office for guidance.



If your child is due to undergo an operation or will be off for a longer period of time, please make an appointment to see the Deputy Principal so that the school can support your child's needs better.

If your child falls ill, or is injured during the school day, we will assess your child initially. Once a decision has been made if the child is well enough to remain at school, they will be treated for the injury and will be monitored. All incidents will be recorded at a school level and you will be informed by the class teacher via an Incident letter or a message in the home school book or by telephone from the office. Letters will be given to parents for serious injuries which will explain what signs to look out for with respect to your child's specific injury.

Occasionally we will send your child home. We will contact you as soon as possible if the decision made is to send your child home. We will ask you to collect your child from school as we do not have the facilities to care for sick pupils for any length of time. The person listed first in your admissions form priority list will be contacted first in the event of an emergency. Please ensure the school has your up to date contact details including mobile numbers, addresses and GP details.

For more serious injuries we will use your emergency consent and in an event where we have to call an ambulance and you are not available. However, as a parent we will notify you of serious injuries immediately or as soon as we are able. If you have any concerns regarding your child's health or would like to inform the school of an injury that took place at home please speak to your child's class teacher, School office or book an appointment to see the Deputy Principal.

If your child has a behaviour issue which may cause injury to other children in school, we will invite you into school to discuss these issues and will also compile a behaviour support or learning plan in consultation with yourselves, your child and class teacher. This will be co-ordinated by the deputy Principal.

School Nurse Visits



School nurses make an annual visit to the school to monitor pupils in reception class and year 6. They will send medical questionnaires to be completed (For reception class only) which should be returned to the school office by the deadline date.

Disability

If at any time you or your child require any special assistance or have a specific need please inform the school office. Parents/Grandparents who are registered disabled should inform and speak to school office to ensure disabled parking is available when required. This information will also be collected in the School's Admissions Form but any changes should be informed asap. We will be happy to assist in any way we can.



Transport to School



[Download letter templates for your class to decorate and display](#)

The Government agenda is to reduce carbon emission and encourage walking to school. We strongly advise that those who live locally walk to school in order to minimise unnecessary traffic and pollution. Those who live too far from the school to walk should try and car share.

Walking or cycling to school helps to promote:

- A healthy lifestyle
- A sense of well-being
- Alertness and concentration in class
- Awareness of geographical location
- Road safety knowledge
- Reading skills

Cycle and scooter racks are provided to assist parents in bringing children to school by cycle or scooter.

Parents must not under any circumstances park in the school car park as this is reserved for staff. Please ensure that you park considerably outside of the school grounds and that you do not cause any obstruction or hinder traffic flow. Please drive carefully to ensure the safety of our children and show courtesy to other road users and local residents.

Please **DO NOT**:

- Double park to drop or pick your child
- Stop in the middle of the road to drop or pick your child
- Leave younger siblings in the car unattended; this is illegal and parents can be reported for negligence.
- Enter and block the school entrance (Staff Car Park, Drop-off and collection zone).

Please see our web site for further guidance.

Vouchers

Please support our school by sending any vouchers schemes taking place. Please send vouchers to school office through your child's book bag or simply give them to the school office. We are collecting vouchers for Cereal boxes, Morrison's and Sainsbury's.



Parent Workshops



The school offers workshops for parents, which cover a variety of areas as follows:

- EYFS Curriculum;
- KS1 Curriculum;
- KS2 Curriculum;
- SATS;
- Phonics;
- Reading;
- Writing;
- Mathematics

You will receive details of these workshops nearer to the time in our whole school newsletters.

Friends of Krishna Avanti School (FOKAS)

If you would like to join FOKAS or simply get involved or help during events, fete, please e-mail info@fokasgmail.com and someone will be in touch with you soon.

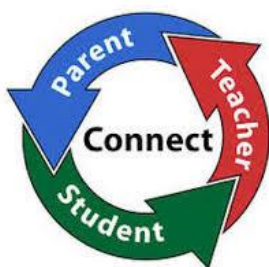


Wider Community Relations

At Krishna Avanti School we foster relationships with:

- Faith schools including Christian, Jewish and Muslim schools
- State schools locally, nationally and internationally
- Local communities
- Special schools
- Places of worship
- Local clubs such as Belmont Football Club

Developing Positive Relationships with all Staff



At Krishna Avanti Primary School we pride ourselves in being able to develop positive relationships with all our parents. We believe that effective relationships are built upon effective communication and as set of shared values. It is important that you have open and honest dialog with your child's teachers and inform them of any changes which may impact on your child's learning or development in a proactive manner. We view our parents as co-educators and work hard at developing positive and productive relationships with all our parents. We promote reflective practice at all levels.

Communication - Partnerships for Success

Effective communication and partnership working are key to helping us ensure that your children are happy, challenged and engaged in their learning both in and out of school. This will involve you talking to us about any concerns, or worries that you may have about your child either at school or at home.

The flow chart below shows the process of communicating with the school with respect to individual matters related to your child's academic or social progress.

STEP 1	Talk to your child's class teacher after school and/or make an appointment to see them. Unfortunately, teachers are not available to discuss issues before the school day, as they will need to be prepared for the children.	Identify issue, discuss possible solutions, agree how to monitor the situation or agree what the outcome will be.
STEP 2	If you are not happy with the outcome, make an appointment to see the deputy Principal.	Discuss concerns, agree the way forward.
STEP 3	If the issues or concerns are not resolved, make an appointment with the Principal.	Issues or concerns will be conveyed to the Principal and closely monitored. Referral to other services will be made where necessary.

The Principal or Deputy Principal are available to meet with parents/carers to discuss any concerns, although on most matters the process shown above should resolve any issues. Schools are very busy places and we communicate with parents via our newsletters and Home School communication systems. We will also write to parents with information about specific issues, events and important notices and copies of all communications will be e-mailed via ParentMail. We will also post information on a parent/carer notice board. Our website will also be regularly maintained to ensure that the information is relevant and current. Parents/carers are asked to check these sources of information regularly. ***We are very much partners in your child's future success.***

Website – www.avanti.org.uk/kapsharrow

The school website is updated on a regular basis.

School Closures

A text message will be sent to the parents via ParentMail and the school will also update its website of any emergency school closures by 6:45 am where possible.



ParentMail



We use the ParentMail® service to enable us to communicate directly with parents by email and text message. This service is already being used by more than a thousand schools around the UK and Krishna-Avanti has been using this since 2009. We will use this service to text you about child's absences, outstanding dinner money, cancellations to clubs, school closures and sending letters / newsletter or invitations to events & assemblies by e-mail.

The ParentMail form is sent with the admission forms. If you change your details please log into www.parentmail.com and change your details. Please remember to inform the school office of your changes. **Please speak to the school office if you are not receiving ParentMail messages.**

E-Newsletters

The school promotes eco friendliness and are aiming to be paperless. Newsletters are sent home regularly by ParentMail. They will give details of the school's activities, special events and diary dates. Please speak to the school office if you are not receiving ParentMail messages.

Emergencies



From time to time we may need to contact parents/carers by text message or e-mail for example due to medical or severe weather emergencies. It is therefore vital that you keep your details updated on ParentMail with any changes to your contact details. Please inform the school if there are any changes.



Checking of school status during wintery weather conditions

The school can experience delays when sending text messages via ParentMail to parents during busy periods (severe weather conditions). Therefore, please check the school's website or 'Open Check' service on the day by 7am daily.

To check the status of the school through Open Check, dial 020 8408 7508 and enter the school's 7 digit Department for Education (DFE) Code.

DFE Code: **310 3513**

Please DO NOT ring the school main number or Site Manager's mobile number to check the status of the school.

School will be open unless stated on the school's website and Open Check by 7am.

Please remember that we welcome all parents and carers each Friday morning for our worship time at 8.00am.



Suggestions and Feedback

We welcome and value your suggestions to make Krishna-Avanti School a better place for all members of our community. Please feel free to share what you are pleased about and any ideas that you may have as to how we might be able to improve our school. You can place your comments in the **suggestion box** located in the School foyer adjacent to the School Office. This will ensure all voices are heard.



Welcome to the family of Krishna Avanti Primary School!



HOME SCHOOL CONTRACT

We are very pleased that you and your child are now members of our school community. At Krishna Avanti School, we believe that a close partnership between home and school is essential to help children get the best from their education. This agreement sets out clear expectations to enable us to achieve this. We are determined to give each pupil every possible chance to succeed and to learn the skills which will enable them to become responsible Global citizens. The School promotes holistic, responsible lifestyles through a vegetarian diet, a curriculum that integrates yoga and meditation, and a built environment that actively fosters environmental concern. By drawing on the teachings of Krishna Chaitanya*, our School embraces a universal, inclusive approach to spirituality, aimed at rekindling a personal, loving and spontaneous relationship with the divine.

Children's Pledge

I will:

- Attend school regularly and on time.
- Follow the schools expectations focused on being safe, respectful, courageous, kind and understanding other people.
- Be organised and ready for learning.
- Wear the school uniform and be tidy and smart in appearance: Look Smart! Think Smart!
- Always try my best to learn and challenge myself
- Join in and contribute to Krishna Avanti life.

Parents/Carers

I/We will:

- I/We shall ensure that;
- I/We will make every effort for my/our child to attend school regularly, punctually and properly equipped.
- I/we will inform the school on the first day of any absence.
- I/we will make the school aware of any concerns or problems that might affect my child's learning or behaviour.
- I /we support the school's policies and guidelines for behaviour.
- I/we will attend parents' evenings and discussions about my child's progress.
- Reinforce at home the values taught at school to ensure continuity of what is learnt at school;
- Support my/our child with homework and return it to school promptly;

School

The School will:

- Provide the best possible learning environment for your child, one that is safe, caring and nurturing and sets high expectations;
- We provide a balanced curriculum focused on our three pillars of Educational Excellence, Character Formation and Spiritual Insight and meet the individual needs of your child.
- Ensure your child achieves their full potential as a valued member of the school community.
- We achieve high standards of learning and behaviour through building good relationships and developing a sense of responsibility.
- We will keep you informed about general school matters and your child's progress in particular.
- We will be open and welcoming at all times and offer opportunities for you to become involved in the daily life of the school.

Agreement

I/we have read and understood the Home School Contract.

Name of child: Class:

Signature: Name: Date:
(Parent/carer)

Signature: Name: Date:
(On behalf of the School)