

# Welcome to Avanti Fields Reception 2023-2024

Information booklet for Parents and Carers



Parents and families have the most direct and lasting impact on children's learning and development. As the first educators of their children, they play a crucial role in their children's educational journey. Avanti schools work with parents to ensure there is the committed engagement of parents and carers as co-educators.

Avanti Fields School

Furrow View off Colin Grundy Drive, Leicester LE5 1FY

Contents page
Welcome messages
Our Ethos and vision
Inclusion
What to expect
Getting ready to start Avanti Fields
What will your child learn?
Observation and assessment
Preparing your child to make the most of their Reception education
The daily routine
Working in partnership with parents and carers
What does my child need to bring to school?
Gate times

## Welcome messages

## Head of Primary welcome message

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We are delighted you have chosen Avanti Fields School as your choice for your child's Primary education. At Avanti we know how important this decision is and are pleased your have embarked on the Avanti way with us.

This booklet will help you to answer any questions you might have and to give you some information about us and what we do.

If you have any other questions, please do not hesitate to contact our friendly office staff who will support you.

We hope that this will be the start of a rewarding and enjoyable partnership with Avanti Fields School.

## Yours Sincerely



Ms Thakore
Head of Primary

## Welcome message from the Chair of Governors

A very warm welcome to Avanti Fields where you will find we have a happy, caring and nurturing environment where behaviour and attitudes to learning by our pupils is exceptional. We are also privileged to be supported by a highly skilled and dedicated team consisting of our senior leaders, teachers and support staff. It is this environment which I believe allows pupils to settle in very quickly and be enthusiastic about the learning they receive. This is not only the start of their journey with us, where we will see them develop the skills needed in life as they progress through the school but also the start of your journey, as parents and carers, as we welcome you all into our Avanti Family. Alongside the opportunities the school gives you to visit the site, there will also be many community events, both fun and spiritual, that we arrange giving you the chance to see this amazing environment we have created for yourself.

I look forward to meeting you on one of these visits, I always try and attend, so if you see me, please feel free to come over and have a chat.

Thank You

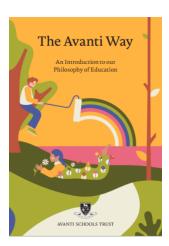


Dipak Patel SSC Chair

## Our Ethos and Vision

We aim to provide each child with exciting, challenging and valuable experiences that develop their intellectual curiosity about the world around them. With strong relationships and true partnerships with parents and carers we aim to build on your child's home experiences and develop them into well-rounded human beings.

Our approach is based on the Avanti Way. We want all children to grow into confident, reflective human beings that are inspired to become life-long learners. The Avanti



Way supports each person's life journey along three parallel paths: Educational excellence; Character formation; and Spiritual insight. Alongside this there are 6 core principles in which we embrace to help each, and every child become a well-rounded human being;

- We have incredible potential and can achieve this when nurturing all parts of ourselves intellectual, emotional, physical and spiritual.
- · We choose how we wish to respond to life and what we nurture within.
- We care for and respect all life human, animal and plant and live in a way that causes the least possible harm.
- We each observe the one same reality from our own unique perspective and engage in open-minded dialogue to deeply enrich our vision.
- We serve a higher purpose by living a meaningful and satisfying life of contribution.
- We are nourished by personal relationships that fulfil our need to love and be loved, encouraging us to be the best we can be.

To read more about the Avanti Way click the following link; The-Avanti-Way.pdf

We are committed to an inclusive curriculum and want all our children to flourish within this. Please do not hesitate to ask if you are unsure of anything.

## **Inclusion**

At Avanti Fields School we are committed to the inclusion of all pupils. All pupils have the right to be cared for and educated to achieve the best possible outcomes, to share opportunities and experiences and develop and learn alongside their peers. We provide a high quality, positive and welcoming environment where pupils are supported and educated according to their individual needs. We recognise that some pupils may have additional needs that may require particular help, intervention and support. These needs may be short-lived for a particular time in the child's life or may require longer-term or lifelong support. At all times we will work alongside each child's parents and with consent from parents, any relevant professionals to share information, identify needs and help the child and their family access the support they need.

We do all we can to meet the needs of a pupil who may have special educational needs (SEND) and/or disabilities and we will strive to make any reasonable and appropriate adjustments required. Where we believe a pupil who attends may have learning difficulties and/or a disability that has not previously been acknowledged, we will work closely with the pupil's parents and any relevant professionals to establish the pupil's needs and to secure any action that may be required. We recognise that pupils with disabilities may not have SEN but may require reasonable adjustments to be made. Where we have emerging concerns about a pupil and/or where a pupil has identified additional needs or a disability, we will find out as much as possible about the needs of the pupil to ensure we are able to meet them and any support the pupil or family to ensure the pupil makes the best progress in their learning and development. This applies equally to pupils in EYFS and across school. For further details please see our SEND policy on the school website.

As part of the school admission pack there is an opportunity to raise any concerns or needs of your child including SEND, medical and dietary requirements. As part of the school's induction processes, we will also support with applications for Pupil Premium to ensure those pupils who are eligible get the added funding to support their education.

## What to expect

## What can you expect from us?

- A warm welcoming environment for you and your child.
- The highest standards of care in a setting which is designed to engage your child in wonder and awe.
- To provide activities that are accessible, yet challenging for your child's development
- A commitment to the development of the 'whole' child growing positive and reflective characteristics which support that love for learning.
- To treat each child fairly and equally.
- To respect your child's religion and beliefs
- To inform you of any concerns we may have about your child and to act on any concerns or worries you may have.

## What we expect of you?

- To bring and collect your child punctually. Please remember when you are late it can unsettle your child as well as the class.
- To tell us of any concerns you may have about your child's time in school.
- To work in partnership with the school to develop your child's independence; encouraging them to walk rather than be picked up, put on their own coat and shoes etc.
- To support your child's reading development with regular home-reading.

### Attendance

Attendance at school has a direct relationship to students' achievement and progress. Our emphasis on attendance is as a reflection of our commitment to ensuring each child fulfils their potential

At our discretion we can authorise absence for educational reasons, religious observance or on compassionate grounds where we have been pre-notified. Please see our attendance policy for further details.

If your child is ill and cannot attend school, you will need to notify the school by 7.30am:

- Email: attendance.afl@avanti.org.uk
- Alternatively call on: 0116 326 6813 (Ext 1)

Please provide the full name of your child, class name and reason for absence

## Getting ready to start Avanti Fields

Parents and Carers of children who have accepted a place in Reception starting in September will be invited to an induction meeting that will take place in the summer term.

Pupils will have an opportunity to visit the school for a stay and play session prior to starting their Reception place. For the first two days of the Academic year children will have a staggered start to support with the transition to full-time school education. Each class will be split into two groups. In your induction pack you will be notified which group your child will be in.

	Group A	Group B	
Tuesday 29th August	Morning session-	Afternoon session-	
	8.00am- 11.00 am	12.00pm- 2.45pm	
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Afternoon session-	Morning session-	
August	12.00pm- 2.45pm	8.00am- 11.00am	
Thursday 31st August	All children in full-time 8.00am- 2.45pm		



## Uniform

It is part of our School Uniform Policy that all children wear the school uniform. It sets a good tone and standard in addition to identifying the school and promoting our uniqueness.

All compulsory items bearing the embroidered school logo can be purchased from Brigade Clothing via their online service called **PARENTS DIRECT**. The school *does not* take orders for uniform and *does not* hold any stock of uniform items. Please visit the uniform section on our school website for support. If you are having any difficulties with uniform, please let the office know who will do their best to support you.

Uniform expectations are as follows

	Boys	Girls	
To be ordered from Brigade Clothing	Avanti Boys V Neck Knitted Jumper	Avanti Girls Knitted Cardigan	
	Avanti Book Bag	Avanti Book Bag	
Other compulsory items that	White polo shirt	White polo shirt	
you DO NOT have to purchase from Brigade	Grey trousers	Grey trousers or grey below- knee skirt	
clothing	Black/grey socks	Black/grey socks/tights	
	Black school shoe	Black school shoe	
Summer options	Grey shorts	Navy blue gingham pinafore dress	

Please go to the following link for more information about uniform and details about P.E kit- Primary-Uniform Uniform — Avanti Fields School

## Labelling uniform

It is vital that all children are able to locate their own property as it facilitates early reading skills, independence and self-esteem. Please ensure that all your child's clothing and property including shoes are clearly labelled. Your child's name should appear in lower case letters, with the first letter of their name/surname in capitals.

## Jewellery

No jewellery should be worn in school. For children who have pierced ears, only stud earrings are acceptable.

## What will your child learn?

Avanti Fields School is a safe, secure, and friendly learning environment, which aims to meet the needs of all its pupils. Encouraging and challenging children to become confident learners.



The phase of education for children aged Birth to 5 years is known as the Early Years Foundation Stage. At Avanti Fields children embark on this journey with the school as early as 3 in the Nursery and then moving on to Reception at the age of 4 and 5 years.



Avanti Fields EYFS offers every child a broad and balanced curriculum which supports children to develop in all domains of learning. In Reception children receive a broad and balanced curriculum to support all domains of learning:

The seven domains are-

Type of domain	Domains of learning	
Prime domains	Communication and Language	
	Personal, Social and Emotional	
	development	
	Physical development	
Specific domains	Literacy	
	Mathematics	
	Understanding the world	
	Expressive arts and Design	

Along with the above, all children will participate in regular Yoga and PRE lessons (where they will also begin to learn Sanskrit).

Children access their learning through play-based activities as well as more structured adult led activities. At Avanti Fields school outdoor learning is a part of the curriculum and it is an expectation that all children are equipped for all weathers.

## Observations and Assessment

Formative assessment is at the heart of our Early Years practice. Observations are recorded in a variety of ways including videos, photographs, and notes of your child's development. As a parent/ carer you will have the option to attend three parents' evenings throughout the year, as well as various parent workshops where you will have the opportunity to see your child in their learning environment.

## Preparing your child to make the most of their Reception education

It is very important that you prepare your child for Reception. Here are some of the ways we think you can help your child prepare and support them once they have started school.

## Listening skills

Children need to be able to listen carefully to each other and to adults. Having small conversations with your child and getting them to recall things, or stories you have looked at together can help. Also, giving your child simple one step and two steps instructions such as; can you put your shoes in the cloakroom? Will help your child develop better listening skills.

#### Concentration

Children in Reception will need to develop an ability to concentrate on an activity for short periods of time. They should be able to sit and listen to short stories, nursery rhymes, complete age-appropriate puzzles and join in simple games with the support of an adult. Exploring these concepts at home will support your child develop this skill.

## Memory

This is very important for a child's language development and mathematical understanding. It provides a firm foundation for literacy and numeracy development. Singing songs and nursery rhymes with your child can help improve this, alongside reading stories and playing memory games such as pairs.

## Independence

Developing your child's independence is part of their educational experience. At Reception we aim for all children to be able to;

- Put on their own coat and use a coat peg.
- Put on their own shoes.
- Recognise their name
- Express their needs and wants such as feeling thirsty.
- To be able to drink from a cup
- Use tools such as a knife and fork where appropriate for eating, scissors for cutting etc

Please encourage your child to have a go at things independently. We will be supporting your child with the above and more too!

## The daily routine

At the start of each session, we will greet your child when they arrive, before bringing them into the Reception.

Before your child enters the classroom, we encourage them to take off their coat and hang it on their peg. The peg will be clearly marked with their name on it. We know they will need help at first, but they will soon recognise their own name.

Children will be encouraged to participate in their first morning activity on the carpet such as a song, story or active dance.

After register, children will have opportunities to learn through play on their topic themed learning. They will also have short bursts of daily phonics and maths. In phonics children will be using the Read Write Inc programme to develop their early reading skills.

During the day children will also take part in focused activity connected to one of the domains of learning. This activity will support and broaden their topic skills and knowledge. For example, when learning about the Gruffalo the children may write about his features, make a collage of the character, or even create a Gruffalo house.

The children will have access to both indoor and outdoor learning opportunities. It is essential that your child is equipped to be out in all weathers as part of accessing our broad and balanced curriculum.

All children will have the opportunity to access fruit. Milk will also be available. For those children over 5, parents can sign up and pay for milk using the external provider 'Cool Milk'. Please see the induction pack or speak to the office for further information.

All children will have a hot, nutritious meal that is freshly prepared on site for their lunch. You have the option to pre-order your child's choice of food a term in advance by completing a menu option form. This will be emailed to you in advance of each new term.

## Example menu



Please note: An important part of our ethos is around the provision of hot, fresh, nutritious meals. Sharing tasty, healthy school lunches is an integral part of the educational experience at an Avanti school. It's also an opportunity to enhance social skills and table etiquette, ensuring lunchtimes are a positive experience for all. School staff often enjoy taking lunch with pupils, creating a family atmosphere.

The lunch meals are vegetarian (in line with the faith ethos of the school) and termly menus are also available on the school's website.

All children in Reception to Year 2 are entitled to free school meals. From Year 3, low-income families would be eligible to claim for Free School Meals for their children, but we recommend that families that meet this criteria apply from Reception as this funding is used for other educational purposes beyond Lunches.

## Working in partnership with parents and carers

Working in partnership with parents and carers is a fundamental part of creating a positive education for children. We will work closely with you to provide the best possible learning experiences for your child. This will include:

Meet and greet at the beginning of every session

Parent/carer stay and play workshop sessions

Parents evening

## What does my child need to bring to school?

It is important that your child brings a water bottle to school and has suitable clothing for outdoor weather.

At the beginning of the year children will be encouraged to bring their own wellies for them to use during rainy weathers and outdoor messy play.

## Gate times

Session	External gate	Car park	Reception Gate	External gate
time	opening timings	opening timings	opening timings	closing timings
	(Thurmaston			(Thurmaston
	lane)			lane)
8.00am	7.45am	7.45am	7.55 am	To remain open
				for other year
				groups
2.45pm	2.30pm	2.30-pm	2.40pm	To remain open
				for other year
				groups

Please note if you are late for your child's session time you will need to report to the office.

