

Driving Code of Conduct The Ten Commandments of driving at AHPS:

1) Ashray (Keep faith in the system and the following rules... for the benefit of all)



Dear Parent/Carers,

If you are not new to Avanti House Primary School, you will be aware that we have had severe congestion issues at times of drop-off and pick-up of children.

This guide has been put together following extensive research about the way traffic works; coming in and going out of AHPS. Many parent volunteers collectively spent over 300 hours of their time observing and analysing what happens during these times.

As most children come to school by car, it is important that we all follow some basic rules to make sure (i) the system works, and all children can be in or out of the school as quickly as possible, (ii) that our children, staff and or volunteers helping to marshal are as safe as possible.

We appreciate your cooperation in advance in helping things run smoothly.

Many thanks
The AHPS Pick/Drop Working Group

2) Ahimsa (Non-violence...towards staff, marshals/other drivers)



Drivers must be courteous and respect the directions of the school marshals.

Please follow the directions you are given. We will explain the procedures to you if you are denied access or asked to park off-site and walk in, Please adhere to the Avanti Values and display respect at all times, this will set a good example for our children.

3) Pratikshaa (Waiting around...for early birds)



If you are early for your child's time slot we ask that you please find a safe off-site place to park and wait until your time slot, this will help alleviate the flow of traffic. Suggested places to park are Hive Road or Squires. This offers a great opportunity for some peaceful reflection and meditation!

Whilst avoiding the following scenarios:

Cars have been observed waiting on Common Road in the lane to turn right into school because they are early. This causes confusion for those actually looking to turn right, affects the visibility of other road users, and forces the driver to make a sharp right when they are ready to go in. So NO waiting in right turn lane from Harrow side if not intending to turn in immediately.

Some cars wishing to turn left into the school, either because they have arrived outside of their child(ren)'s timeslot, or because there is insufficient room to enter the school due to build-up of traffic, have taken to stopping on the hatched area in the middle of the road.

Not only is this against the Highway Code it could also result in legal action. There were a few occasions where drivers decided to cut across the carriageway to turn into the school which resulted in a near collision. So, NO waiting in the middle island near the entrance to school from the Bushey side.

4) Asteya (No desire to possess or steal...others' slots)



Drop off: Arrive during time slot for older sibling.
Pick up: Arrive during time slot for younger sibling.

The system can only work if the timeslots are adhered to. Please observe the times. If you are early, please wait in the nearby roads such as Hive Road or Squires until you are within your allocated timeslot. If you try to use a different timeslot you run the risk of being denied access – the marshals are looking to keep things moving smoothly.

5) Dhairya (Tolerance and Patience...even if it takes you longer)



NO right turn allowed when exiting the school at any time please.

We know this is contentious because it inconveniences many people. We are aware that it is not legally enforceable, however, we witnessed many heart stopping near-misses which could have resulted in a serious accident or worse. Common Road is a 40mph road that attracts much commuter traffic.

Impatience among drivers and bad visibility caused by cars trying to turn right at busy periods will inevitably result in a crash or worse.

We appreciate your understanding! .

6) Shaucha (Cleanliness...in the air)



Drivers should turn their engines off whilst waiting in a stationary queue and minimise the gap between cars so more can be on-site but being careful to not block cars coming the other way.

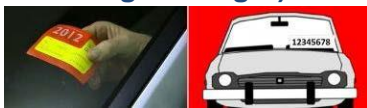
Let's show respect towards the environment and the air that is being breathed in by our children around the school.

7) Vivek (Respect for...speed limit and rules)



Drivers must keep to the 5mph limit inside school grounds. Overtaking is only allowed via the clear lane for the purposes of exiting the site and with the guidance of staff/marshals.

8) Sudarshan (Correct vision...numbers give insight)



Every car MUST have a valid number sticker displayed clearly on their windscreen for all children being dropped off/picked up each day. Stickers are issued at the beginning of term by the school office and are the responsibility of parents thereafter.

The school operates a 'no sticker displayed, no child released' policy for safeguarding reasons because volunteers and staff are reliant on reading these stickers to identify authorised vehicles and ensure that the correct children go into the correct car – it is the only way we can quickly and accurately do this. If do not display a sticker, you will be asked to park up and sign for your child.

9) Aparighara (Non-corrupt...be fully in or fully out)



Please wait until there is sufficient space in front for the whole of your vehicle to clear the road completely, especially when turning left into the school. There have been many instances where cars are sticking out, forcing traffic to swerve around, or cause blockages.

It is an inconvenience, but please continue driving, turn around, and come back. Be careful not to obstruct the road or put others in danger by encouraging other drivers to potentially consider bad maneuvers. Please do not stop in the middle of the road!

10) Maun (Silence from within...only talk at appropriate times)



Drivers must refrain from engaging staff in conversation at pick up and drop off times to avoid delays. As much as everyone likes to have a chat, the time is so constrained that literally every second counts... please don't slow things down at peak periods.

So there you have it; these are our golden rules! If we can all observe these guidelines then it will lead to a smooth running system that works for everyone.



Seva Opportunity!

Running a smooth system is not only about following rules but also relies on there being enough manpower available to guide and usher our cars and children safely. So this is an urgent request for those of you who can spare any time to help with marshaling our system. In the first instance we ask you to simply indicate below if you are interested in doing this seva and the school will be in touch to provide further information.

Last but not least, we ask you to sign your name below to show that you have read and understood 'The Ten Commandments of driving at Avanti House Primary School and also to indicate whether you are happy to be contacted by the volunteer coordinator to help with marshaling.

Please tear off and submit the slip below to the school (keep the rest of the document for your reference – you can also access it on the school website):

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I have read and understood the code of conduct document 'Ten Commandments of driving at Avanti House School' and agree to follow these guidelines for the smooth running of the system and safety of all. I will ensure that all persons authorised to drop and pick up my children have read this document and abide by these rules.

Your name: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Name/Class(es) your child(ren) are in: _____

If you are interested in volunteering for a marshaling role please give your contact details below:

Email: _____

Tel: _____