

EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE NURSERY WELCOME PACK

AVANTI PARK SCHOOL

Welcome to our School! Avanti Park School is part of the Avanti Schools Trust. We are pleased that you have chosen our school for your child. Here is some more information about our Nursery places, to help you know what to expect when your child starts in September.

Our Offer

At Avanti Park we have nine places available for nursery aged children who are three in the September of the year they would like to join the school. We believe that mixed age groups mirror family life and encourages children to both learn from and guide one another. There is a strong emphasis on the cultivation of good habits in Nursery, an integral part of which being the unconscious acquisition of pre-literacy oracy and numeracy skills are acquired.

The Early Years teachers strive to build a bridge between home and school and to form a connection to each child's family. Children of this age learn through imitating the world around them. We aim to provide an example worthy of imitation and to nurture the child's imagination

Nursery Places

All our Nursery places are part time for 5 days a week. School starts at 8:45 am and finishes at 12:00 pm. It is important that you bring your child to school on time and collect them promptly.

All of our Nursery children spend time outside each day, as being in nature and enjoying the outdoors and the seasons is an important aspect of our education. Our EYFS classes provide a safe, nurturing environment where emphasis is placed on rhythm and imitation – a place where your child can take their first steps into the social world as a gentle introduction to school life.

EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE NURSERY WELCOME PACK

AVANTI PARK SCHOOL

Our Classrooms

'Inclusive, Engaging and Creative to nurture curiosity and promote exploration'



EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE NURSERY WELCOME PACK

AVANTI PARK SCHOOL

Our Classrooms

‘Inclusive, Engaging and Creative to nurture curiosity and promote exploration’



EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE NURSERY WELCOME PACK

AVANTI PARK SCHOOL

The Curriculum

We follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. This has seven areas of learning including three prime areas: Communication and Language, Physical Development and Personal, Social and Emotional Development; and four specific areas: Literacy, Mathematics, Understanding of the World and Expressive Arts and Design.

These are taught through topics which have been carefully planned to engage and interest the children. We encourage parents to contribute to the planning too by letting us know what your children are interested in. The first concept of the Autumn Term is 'Identity' with a Learning Question centered around this. This really helps us to get to know your child in their first few weeks of school. We will provide you with further information about the curriculum through future opportunities to visit your child's setting in 'stay and play' sessions and other mediums (workshops, wow moments and parent observation forms).

What to bring to School:

Please bring a spare set of clothes to school (labelled with your child's name) in a bag to hang on their peg. This is in case your child has an accident or takes part in some messy or wet activities.

Make sure that your child has appropriate clothes for outdoor play- warm clothes for the winter, waterproof coats for the rain and a sunhat and sunglasses in the summer.

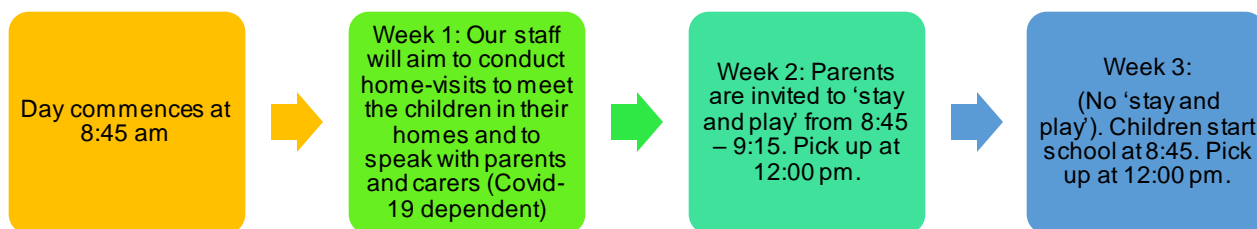
Please do NOT bring toys or games from home (unless asked by the teacher). Also please do NOT send your child with snacks or drinks (unless it is part of their packed lunch). As explained below they can access these throughout the day.

EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE NURSERY WELCOME PACK

AVANTI PARK SCHOOL

Phased Start arrangements

Nursery



The School Day

In the first week, we invite parents and carers to 'Stay and Play' from between 8:45-9.30am. During this time, you will be able to play with your child at a range of activities. This is also a chance for you to share things with us that your child has been doing at home.

We recognise that many parents work and cannot stay every day, but we invite you to stay as often as you can. We want to work in partnership with parents and stay and play is one of our keyways of doing this. Please note that you cannot use your mobile phone during stay and play sessions.

Group Sessions

Throughout the day, the children will come together in groups for a short time. During this time, they will be learning Phonics, Literacy, Numeracy in short sessions and other areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum.

Focus Groups and Free Flow

After the children have learned together, they will then can work in small groups with a teacher (focus groups) choosing from a range of activities across the settings. Children can access activities from both classrooms and the shared creative areas. These activities are important in helping children to develop their skills across the curriculum. During these activities, the teachers will make observations, take photos of key learning and record assessments. These are used to plan the next steps for each child.

Outdoor Play and Learning

Outdoor play and learning are a key part of our provision. The children spend time everyday outside, whatever the weather! It is important that you send your child to school in appropriate clothing so that they can access the outdoor environment. It is also helpful if they have a pair of wellies for accessing the garden.

EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE NURSERY WELCOME PACK

AVANTI PARK SCHOOL

Phonics

At different points throughout the school day, the Nursery children gather again in small groups. At this point they will be beginning to learn their letters and sounds, to help them read and write. We use Read Write INC (the government recommended phonics programme) to teach children phonics. We will give you more information on phonics in future parent workshops sessions.

Collection of Children at 12.00pm

Children will only be released from class with an authorised person. Should you wish for anyone else to collect your child, please advise us as soon as possible. We do not allow anyone under the age of 16 to collect a child from Nursery or Reception.

Behaviour for Learning Values

At school, most children behave well and follow our rules and routines. We use a system of rewards to praise children for doing the right thing. They may talk about being a 'star' of the day or for their 'green' sitting and listening.

These are our 'core values' that we follow at school:

- We are ready to learn.
 - We try our best.
 - We are good listeners.
 - We are kind.
 - We are safe.
-

EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE NURSERY WELCOME PACK

AVANTI PARK SCHOOL

Supporting the Children

Each child in the setting is assigned a key person in line with the foundation stage guidance. At school, the class teacher is the overall key person for all children in their class with other practitioners being co-key persons. In addition to this, we have several staff who help the children and can also provide support for parents

Learning Journeys

Every time your child achieves something new it is recorded in their “Learning Journey” in their book. The books are updated by our members of staff and they will happily share these with you during any parent meeting times.

In the books we will put examples of work, photos and record what the children say. The children’s progress is measured against stages of development in the early year’s foundation stage, and we track this termly and analyse progress. When the children start school the first 2 weeks are a period of observation and assessment. This enables us to gain a picture of what children can already do and their personal interests.

It is for this reason, why we ask you to complete the document named: ***All about Me Passport***. Ahead of your child starting. This will also give an extra insight into your child’s likes, dislikes and overall personality.

EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE NURSERY WELCOME PACK

AVANTI PARK SCHOOL

Home-Learning

We want to work in partnership with you. Children make more progress when their parents are working closely with the school. Please read with your child every night. We ask parents to complete a reading record book to show what they have been reading with their child. At this age it is important to read to them as well as encouraging them to talk about the story and begin to identify words.

Sickness and Absence

At Avanti Park, we strive for our pupils to achieve 97% attendance. We want your child to attend school every day so that they do not miss out on their learning and social development. If your child is unwell and unable to attend, please telephone the school office, by 8:45 am to report their absence and send an email on every day of absence for our records absence.ap@avanti.org.uk by 9:00 am. If you are unsure please send your child to school and let us know, we can call you if they feel worse during the day. Often children feel better when they get to school and see their friends.

Holidays

We ask that you do not take holiday during term time as we want the children to establish strong routines. This will support them in the transition to Reception the following year.

EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE NURSERY WELCOME PACK

AVANTI PARK SCHOOL

How We Keep In Touch (see appendix 1 for communication flowchart):

About your child's development:

- Through 'Stay and Play' where you can discuss your child's progress and share your experiences.
- You can request to meet your child's teacher at a convenient time.
- Parents / carers are invited to Pupil and Parent Review Meetings three times a year where we will discuss your child's progress in depth. You will receive a letter about making an appointment nearer the time. Children are expected to attend with their parents.

Allergies and Health

In the 'Starting School' form we have asked you about any health conditions that your child has, such as asthma, as well as any food allergies and vaccinations your child may have had. Please keep us updated if this changes during the year. We are keen to support your child with their medical needs in school. If your child needs any medication at school, please provide the medicine in the original box labelled with your child's name, with the GP prescription instructions from the pharmacy on the box, you will also be required to fill in a 'Medicine at School' form.

First Aid at School

We always have a qualified first aider at school. If children have a serious accident or any type of bang to the head, we will inform you by telephone. Please make sure your contact information is kept up to date by letting a member of staff know. Please be aware that it is normal for children to have non-serious bumps and bangs during their playtimes etc but if you have any concerns please do talk to us.

EARLY YEARS FOUNDATION STAGE NURSERY WELCOME PACK

AVANTI PARK SCHOOL

Before Starting School

There are lots of things you can do at home to help your child get ready for school. Read some books about starting school from the library. Show them how to hold a pencil. Show them their name and help them to recognise what it looks like. Count different objects with them so they are familiar with numbers.

Help your child to become as independent as is possible by encouraging and helping them to:

- Use the toilet and wash their hands
- Dress themselves
- Use a tissue to wipe their nose
- Share toys and take turns
- Put their toys away in the correct place.

Trips and Visits

The children will go on planned trips involving public transport or a coach. When these take place we will ask for your written consent. We may also ask for a donation towards these trips. Sometimes we need parent volunteers for these trips. We will let you know if you can help with this and we will give you guidance on how you can help.

Appendix 1 – Communication Flowchart



Avanti Park School

Park Road, Frome, Somerset. BA11 1EU

Phone 01373 832804

Email avantipark@avanti.org.uk

Website www.avanti.org.uk/avantipark

Avanti Fields School is part of the Avanti Schools Trust

Avanti Schools Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales

Registered No: 07506598 • Registered Office: Avanti Schools Trust, Wemborough Road, Stanmore, Middx, England, HA7 2EQ