



KRISHNA AVANTI

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Prospectus

Krishna Avanti Primary School

Welcome from Mr Peter Burton, Principal



As a parent, I am very much aware of the responsibility that my staff and I have in ensuring the highest standards of teaching and learning – to enable academic, social, physical, moral and spiritual development for all our children. As a strong believer in lifelong learning, my priority, as Principal, is to ensure that Krishna Avanti Primary School Croydon attains high standards

by promoting and creating opportunities to live out our vision, drawn from the teachings of Chaitanya Mahaprabhu, of: Educational Excellence, Character Formation and Spiritual Insight, thus preparing our children for their life journeys.

Education in the 21st Century may seem different from education in the past, especially with recent technological advances, but the principles of quality learning leading to an excellent education remain the same. With curious minds, combined with opportunities to draw out what children already know and are willing to discover, major breakthroughs can still take place to reshape the world of the future.

Academic excellence, however, without a well-developed character is of little benefit. That is why I believe that forming a solid character is vital to being considered a true success.

The fully inclusive nature and approach to spirituality is another positive feature of our school. The relationships we establish each day prepare us for our respective life-journeys, again for a future that is unknown.

Being educated at Krishna Avanti Primary School is a truly unique and remarkable experience that parents want their children to be involved in.



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The Three Pillars

Our school prepares pupils for their respective life-journeys by promoting educational excellence, character formation and spiritual insight.

Educational Excellence



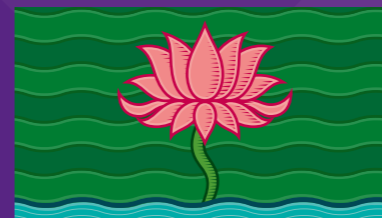
An emphasis on independent thought and personal choice fans every pupil's innate and emerging passion for learning. Our personalised approach provides tailor-made learning paths for all pupils. This motivates and enables all pupils to become reflective, articulate and independent thinkers, laying solid foundations for their future learning, vocation and self-fulfilment. Our approach is characterised by a mentorship and academic support system that is delivered in close partnership with parents.

Character Formation



Trust schools prepare pupils to take their places as loyal, responsible and broad-minded British citizens. Our ethos acknowledges that personal virtue, responsibility and a wholesome sense of identity underpin success in all endeavours. It nurtures conduct consistent with the universal virtues of respect, integrity, humility, courage, empathy, gratitude and self-discipline. Trust schools promote holistic, responsible lifestyles through a vegetarian diet, a curriculum that integrates yoga and meditation and a built environment that actively fosters environmental concern.

Spiritual Insight



The development of spiritual insight is at the heart of the curriculum and draws on the teachings of Krishna Chaitanya*, which embrace a universal, inclusive approach to spirituality, aimed at rekindling a personal, loving and spontaneous relationship with the divine (Krishna). The curriculum offers opportunities to explore the philosophies and traditions of different faiths. Collective worship includes the following practices: kirtan, meditation, worship, reflection, song, prayer, and story-telling.

* Our ethos draws from the teachings of Chaitanya Mahaprabhu Chaitanya was born in 1486 in Nadia, then East India's epicentre for learning and scholarship. At an early age he founded what quickly became the region's foremost school, widely renowned for its teaching in logic, grammar and rhetoric. He went on to lead an early civil disobedience movement, contesting religious sectarianism. In later life, he turned his attention to spiritual ideals that transcended social and religious boundaries and thus paved the way for a great spiritual renaissance. He taught that the essence of education is to appreciate how everything has a special relationship with the divine and that such an understanding culminates in a profound spiritual realisation of love, compassion and selflessness – the original, pure nature of every being. He emphasised spiritual equality and advocated that humanity can be united through a shared love of God, expressed through the singing of God's many names. Chaitanya's exemplary life heralded the dawn of an inclusive spiritual resurgence that continues to inspire people from all faiths.

Tour of the School



Reception ▲

Pass through our welcoming reception where a member of staff is always ready to help and serve our community.



Play Area ▼

Playgrounds surrounding both the lower and upper part of the school provide our pupils with access to their own sport and leisure facilities.



Classrooms ▼

Each room boasts its own uniquely themed personality, with abundant displays of outstanding work by our very own pupils.



Music Room ◀

This area supports the pupil's creative talents where they listen, perform, and learn from the masters of music!



Main Hall ▼

The main hall has been our stage for many assemblies and works of art. It also doubles as a dedicated lunch area for pupils to enjoy nutritionally balanced and delicious vegetarian meals prepared and served with love.



Temple ▶

The heart of the school which is home to our Deities can be found inside our main hall where all our congregated activities take place.



Yoga Studio ▶

A room furnished for learners to find their inner calm and enjoy a different pace of school life.



The Curriculum

Early Years Foundation Stage

At Krishna Avanti Primary School, we want our students' first experiences of education to be enjoyable and engaging. We expect all members of the school community to work collaboratively, with high aspirations and expectations of everyone, consistent with our ethos.

By the end of the Foundation Stage (Reception Class), we aim for all our children to have developed positive attitudes to school supported by positive relationships with adults, strong friendships, meaningful learning activities set in an engaging, calm environment and strong links between school and parents/carers. We also expect them to have a firm understanding of phonics, and will offer additional directed support to those with need.

Children will be offered a broad, balanced Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum. This allows plenty of opportunities to learn through play in a wide variety of contexts and focuses on: personal, social and emotional development; communication, language and literacy; problem-solving, reasoning and numeracy; knowledge and understanding of the world; and physical and creative development. Teaching will encourage all children to ask questions and talk about their play and learning.



COMMITTED TO INCLUSION

A dedicated Inclusion team ensures each child is viewed holistically



YOUR TIME TO SHINE

Performing Arts is a fun way to build confidence through self-expression

Key Stage 1 & 2: Ages 5 - 11

Krishna Avanti Primary School offers a unique curriculum, which is developing at pace. We currently teach all the subjects in the National Curriculum i.e: English, Maths, Science, Computing, Design & Technology, History, Geography, Music, Art, Citizenship plus Personal, Social Health Education (PSHE).

We also have a number of visiting specialists who support learning and the development of innovative practice in ICT, Expressive Arts, Modern Foreign Languages, PE and Yoga.

We encourage our children to experience learning outside of the classroom setting and often extend their learning opportunities by taking the children out on extra-curricular visits to different places of interest, in order to reinforce their learning and encourage further engagement in particular topics, themes or subject knowledge.



How we achieve our vision

How we recognise educational excellence:

- 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.
- A broad and challenging curriculum focused on core skills and subjects.
- 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-focussed mentorship and effective ICT systems.
- Provision of subject and qualification choice, ensuring that each learner maximises his or her talents and never becomes lost.
- 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 which promotes realisation of their full potential.
- Curriculum that includes a focus on ethics, philosophy, the creative and performing arts, and valuable cultures of ancient and contemporary civilizations.
- Values-based approach to the humanities and its emphasis on the artistic and spiritual realms.
- 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.
- Partnerships with universities, links with businesses, and opportunities for apprenticeships and work-related learning.
- Sincere and committed engagement of parents (and other family members) as co-educators.



Educational Excellence



How we achieve our vision

How we recognise character formation:

- 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 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.
- Working collaboratively with the wider community, especially partner public agencies.
- 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.



Character Formation



How we achieve our vision

How we recognise spiritual insight:

- 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 underpinning various 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.



Spiritual Insight





Aiming for Excellence

Avanti Schools Trust is driven by five strategic aims which allow us to measure our progress and effectiveness.

I Outstanding in every Ofsted category

Using Ofsted's framework as the benchmark, Trust staff and consultants carry out support visits, audits and mini-inspections to ensure awareness of a school's grading in each Ofsted category. The best possible support is provided to each of our schools to accelerate progress towards outstanding and beyond.

II A national family

The Trust maintains and keeps under regular review a pipeline of new school proposals. The current status, next steps and projected start date are reviewed to ensure that we are well prepared for the new schools that join our family and that our growth is optimal in terms of rate, location and nature of offering.

III Excellent service to Trust schools

The Trust team provides a set of central services and brokers and quality assures a small number of critical external providers across the family of schools, such as IT and HR advice. All of these services are kept under review to ensure that they are both excellent and best value.

IV Enriching the nation's education

We are committed to contributing to the heart of the nation's school system. This will be delivered through partnership with Government and DfE, teaching alliances, universities and other organisations working in education. The Trust aims to develop its own Teaching School status with associated partner organisations.

V Leaders in ethics-based education

The distinctive ethos of the Trust is manifest in its Philosophy, Religion & Ethics curriculum. The Trust seeks to become a thought leader in these areas with a view to developing a unique and accredited programme for spiritual and ethics-based education.

Life at Avanti



Wide, rigorous and unique curriculum offer

Our schools offer a dynamic classroom approach in which students actively explore real-world problems and challenges and acquire a deeper knowledge. Students at all ages engage in projects, from studying the environment to social experiments to working on scientific innovations.



Yoga ◀

Every student has access to Yoga and Mindfulness sessions ranging from 20 minutes to 1 hour a week. Yoga and Mindfulness help ground students, relieve stress and improve their overall health and wellbeing.

Avanti Nights ▶

Avanti hosts regular events called "Avanti Nights" for parents and the wider community. This is a series of events focused around wellbeing and development for parents in their personal and family lives. We've had events ranging from "Conscious Parenting" to "the Business of Life." These events provide an opportunity for parents to hear expert speakers and gain wisdom and insight into every-day topics.



Fresh Vegetarian Meals ▲

We believe a healthy gut is the basis of a healthy life, and that's why it's so important to us that we only use the freshest ingredients when preparing our tasty, nutritious vegetarian meals available for all children.



Retreats

Avanti Getaway! Staff and students get the opportunity to go to annual off-site retreats. These are a chance to develop friendships, go out of their comfort zone, improve their wellbeing and reconnect with nature.

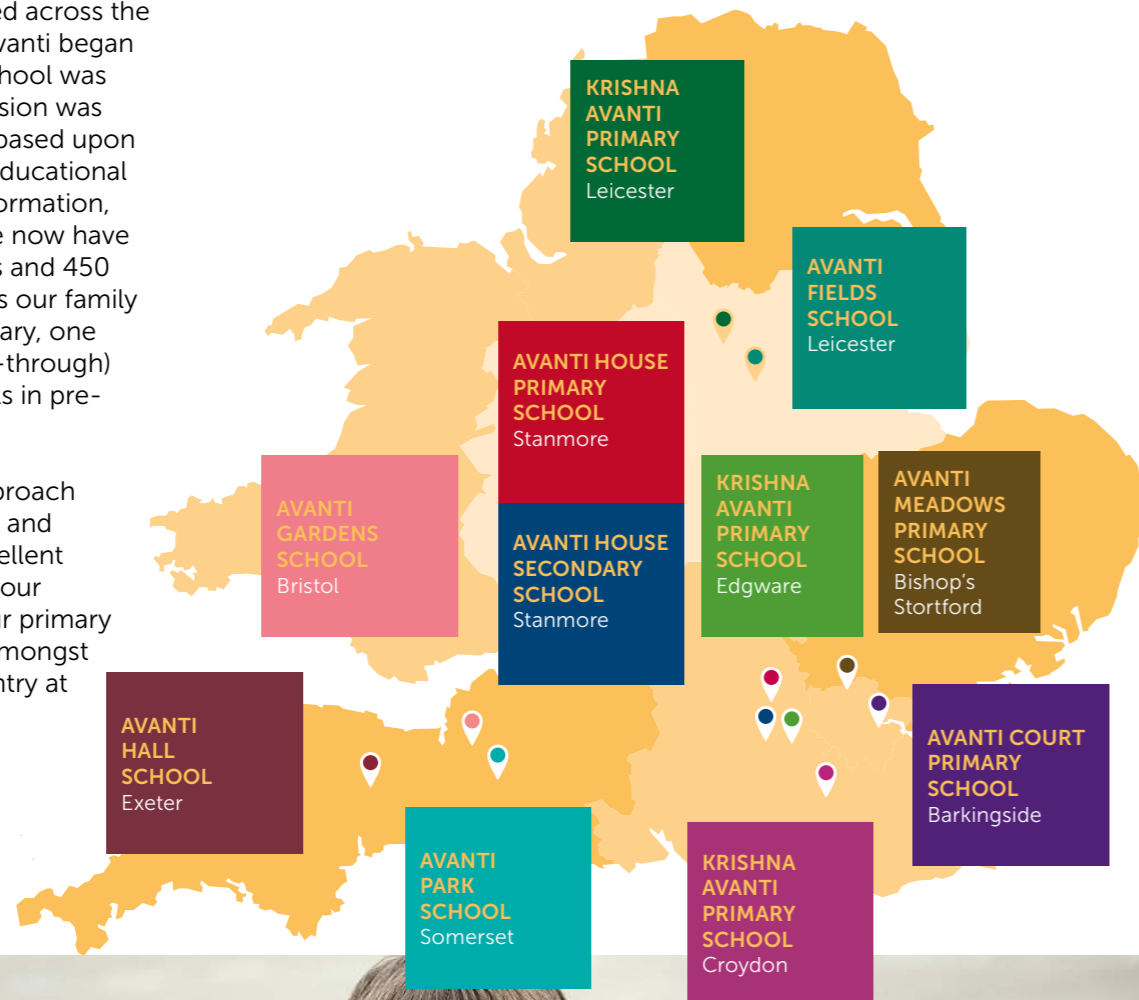
Wellbeing Wisdom

Avanti staff have access to regular wellbeing sessions. Our previous sessions have been led by medical professionals, corporate coaches and even monks! We discuss everything from how to overcome stress to learning about meditation.

Avanti Schools Across the UK

Avanti Schools are based across the country. The idea for Avanti began in 2003 and our first school was opened in 2008. Our vision was for a family of schools based upon our core principles of educational excellence, character formation, and spiritual insight. We now have close to 4,000 students and 450 members of staff across our family of 10 schools (five primary, one secondary, and four all-through) with three more schools in pre-opening.

Avanti has a proven approach to school development and improvement, with excellent pupil outcomes across our schools for example our primary school outcomes are amongst the top 10% in the country at Key Stage 2.



Reviews of Avanti

"The provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is exceptional.

School leaders and governors, through the Avanti Trust, are wholly committed to ambitious outcomes for all pupils."

Ofsted

Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills

"Thank you for welcoming me to the school today. It has been inspiring to meet staff and students so engaged in learning. My congratulations to everyone involved in the conception and opening of this splendid premises."

Damian Hinds

Secretary of State for Schools

"As a parent an important aspect of education is the level of teaching. I knew as a new school, they had the opportunity to source and select the best teachers to deliver the curriculum. The teachers we have in the school at present are brilliant. They come with vast experience in their respective areas and they also have the same goal – for the school to succeed and children to excel."

Parent

Avanti Parent

"Being at Avanti makes work so enjoyable and a place that I look forward to going to work everyday, the environment is perfect not only for academics but for spiritual insight."

Teacher

Teacher at Avanti

"Avanti Fields is a place I can happily call my second home. The environment captures all aspects of a quality education where everyone aspires to be the best versions of themselves and exceed their expectations. I couldn't image a friendlier, more pleasant and safer place to be inspired to learn in."

Student

Avanti Secondary School



VIPs



HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

Avanti schools have hosted Her Majesty The Queen, Justine Greening (Secretary of State), Nick Gibb (Minister for Schools), Lord Nash and Michael Gove (Secretary of State) and even Swami Ramdev who came to teach the students yoga!

Students from Avanti have performed at venues as diverse as 10 Downing Street to Wembley Stadium for PM Narendra Modi and PM David Cameron, and the Royal Festival Hall.



DAMIAN HINDS, SECRETARY OF STATE



PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI & PRIME MINISTER DAVID CAMERON



PRIME MINISTER TERESA MAY AT DOWNING STREET



SWAMI RAMADEVA



PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI

Applying for a Place

In the event of receiving more applications than there are places, please refer to the Admissions Policy for our oversubscription criteria.

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS POLICY

<https://avanti.org.uk/kapscredon/admissions/>



KRISHNA AVANTI
PRIMARY SCHOOL



Staying Connected

AVANTI SCHOOLS TRUST

The Trust website is a good starting point to learn about the Avanti vision at play in our schools. Short videos are also online.



www.avanti.org.uk

HIGHLIGHTS AND UPDATES

The Avanti Life magazine brings you the very best of what's happening within our family of schools. Also available in print.



www.avanti.org.uk/life

SCHOOL LIFE IN DETAIL

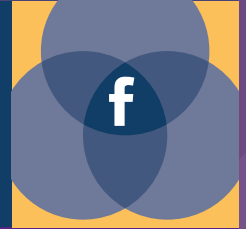
The school website offers up-to-date information on key aspects of school life, from ethos to admissions; school lunches to job opportunities.



www.avanti.org.uk/kaps croydon

SOCIALISING

We use Facebook as a shared community page where many school and Trust highlights are broadcast – a great way to stay informed and in touch.



www.facebook.com/avantischools

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KRISHNA AVANTI
PRIMARY SCHOOL

A Journey of
Self-Discovery