

Avanti Fields School

Admission Policy for 2019/20

Introductory Statement

Avanti Fields School (“the School”) is part of the Avanti Schools Trust and is an inclusive Hindu faith-designated school which welcomes children of all faiths and none. More information about the School can be found by visiting the website at www.avanti.org.uk/avantifields.

The Trust Board of Avanti Schools Trust (“the Trust Board”) is the “admission authority” for all schools within the trust, and is responsible for determining and implementing the admission arrangements for those schools.

The temporary accommodation for the school shall be located at Narborough Road, LE3 0BT in 2018/19 and 2019/20.

The permanent site for the school shall be a new building on part of the Manor Farm site in Thurmaston Lane, LE5 0TF.

Please note that the school may be in temporary accommodation for up to 2 academic years. More information about the permanent and temporary sites for the school can be found at www.avanti.org.uk/avantifields.

Published Admission Number (“PAN”)

Year 7

The published admission number (“PAN”) for entry to Year 7 is 180.

Where fewer applicants than the published admission number for the relevant year group are received, offers will be made to all those who have applied.

Following the offer of a place at the School, parents/carers can be asked to provide proof of their child’s birth date and main residence. The forms of identification may include the child’s birth certificate, NHS registration card, council tax bill and recent utility bills.

Applications for Admission

Year 7

The school is part of the Leicester City admissions process and, therefore, the local authority administers all admissions to the Academy.

All parents wishing to apply for a place at the School should do so via Leicester City Council, the address of which is on their website. Parents have a right to express a preference for the school they want for their child. Applications are online via the Leicester City website and must be submitted to the Council by the specified date which is published annually, usually the end of October.

Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan

Children with an education health and care plan (“EHC plan”) which names Avanti Fields School must be admitted.

Oversubscription Criteria

Where the School is oversubscribed, after the admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care plan naming the school a, priority for admission will be allocated to those children who meet the criteria set out below, in the following order of priority:

1. Looked after children¹ and previously looked after children who became subject to adoption, a child arrangements order or special guardianship order immediately after being looked after.
2. Feeder school²: Children who attend Krishna Avanti Primary School (Leicester) at the time of application.
3. Children of a member of the School’s staff who was recruited to fill a vacant post for which there was a demonstrable skill shortage.
4. Remaining applicant pupils will be allocated places on the basis of distance lived, using straight line measurement from 2 admission points to the centre of the child’s home, with a maximum of 90 places allocated on distance from each admission point.

The candidates living closest to their nearest admission point will be given priority for the places available to that admission point. The admission points will be:

- a. Avanti Fields School temporary site front entrance on Narborough Road , LE3 0BG in 2018/19 and 2019/20; and
- b. Avanti Fields School permanent site front entrance on Thurmaston Lane, LE5 0TF.

A map is attached to this policy showing the geographical location of these 2 admission points.

5. If at the end of the allocation process there are spare places in any admission point, these will be allocated to the children living nearest to that admission point (even though not their closest admission point) using the same criteria as set out above.

Tie Breaker

Where two or more children live an equal distance from the School, random allocation supervised by someone independent of the School will be used as a tie-breaker to determine the order in which places are allocated.

Random allocation will not be applied to multiple birth siblings (twins and triplets etc.) from the same family tied for the final place. We will admit them all and exceed our PAN.

¹ A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of a Local Authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a Local Authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989).

² Krishna Avanti Primary School in Leicester is included as a feeder school as it is the only Hindu faith designated primary school in Leicester. The trust wants the pupils that attend that school to have the option to continue their education in a Hindu faith designated secondary school.

Child's Home Address

For the purpose of this policy, the child's home address will be the residential address at which the child lives and sleeps for more than 50% of their time from Monday to Friday during term time. It will usually be the address at which Child Benefit is claimed or, if ineligible, the address at which the child is registered with their GP and dentist. Business addresses will not be accepted.

The child must be living at the address at the time of application and is anticipated to be living there at the time of admission.

Admission of Children Outside their Normal Age Group

Parents may request for their child to be admitted to a school to a year group other than their child's year group, either above or below. It is, however, for the Trust Board to determine whether to agree or refuse the application.

The procedure for asking for admission of a child to a year group other than the child's normal year group is by letter to the School emailing avantifields@avanti.org.uk giving details of all relevant circumstances and attaching any relevant supporting evidence. The Trust Board will consider the request and make a decision on the basis of the circumstances of the case and in the best interests of the child concerned, taking into account the parent's views, the Principal's view, information about the child's academic, social and emotional development, the child's medical history and the view of their medical professionals (where relevant), whether the child has previously been education outside their normal age group, and whether they would have naturally fallen into a lower age group if they had not been born prematurely.

Parents should note that, where the Trust Board refuses a request for admission to a year other than the child's normal age group, there is no statutory appeal against that decision as there is with the refusal of a place, however parents may submit a complaint under the School's published Complaints Policy. Where a request is refused, the Trust Board will write to the parents clearly setting out their reasons for doing so.

Where the Trust Board agrees a request in principle, they will write to the parents confirming their agreement. A request for admission outside normal age group is not an application for admission, and parents will need to submit a separate application for admission in the usual way at the appropriate time. Where a request for admission to a different year group has been agreed in principle, the letter from the Trust Board confirming this must be submitted with the application for admission.

It is important for parents to note that obtaining the Trust Board's agreement in principle to admission to a different year group does not mean that the child will achieve a place in that year group. The separate application for admission will be considered with all other applications for that year group and the oversubscription criteria applied where necessary.

In-Year Admissions

Applications for in-year admissions should be made to the School. If more applications are received than there are places available, applications will be ranked by the governing body in accordance with the admissions/over subscription criteria as outlined above. Applicants will be notified of the outcomes by the School.

Fair Access Protocol

The School is committed to taking a fair and reasonable proportion of children who are vulnerable and/or hard to place, as identified in the locally agreed Fair Access Protocol. Accordingly, outside the normal admissions round, the Trust Board will admit a child for whom a place is requested under the Fair Access Protocol agreed for that school year, even where this will result in the PAN being exceeded.

Waiting Lists

The School operates a waiting list for the duration of the school year. The names of all children who do not achieve a place in Year 7 will be placed on the waiting list, and it will be open to other parents to ask for their child's name to be placed on the waiting list following an unsuccessful application.

A child's position on the waiting list will be determined solely in accordance with the oversubscription criteria set out above, and not by reference to the date that the application for admission was made. This means that a child's place on the waiting list may go down as well as up, as more applications are received from children with higher priority.

Statutory Right of Appeal

Parents have a statutory right of appeal to an independent appeal panel in the event of a refusal of a place. Appeals are dealt with strictly in accordance with the School Admission Appeals Code 2012.

Information on the appeal timetable (including the deadline for requesting an appeal) will be published on the School's website (www.avanti.org.uk/avantifields) on or before 28 February after the closing date for applications for that year. Information will also be included in the letter sent to parents notifying them of a refusal.

False and/or Intentionally Misleading information

Parents should note that an offer of a place is likely to be withdrawn if it is found that it was made on the basis of fraudulent or intentionally misleading information provided by parents.

Notes

Definition of “Parent”

In this policy, a “parent” is defined as including a natural or adoptive parent of a child (irrespective of with whom the child lives, or whether the parent has contact with or parental responsibility for the child), as well as non-parents who have care of, or parental responsibility for, the child.

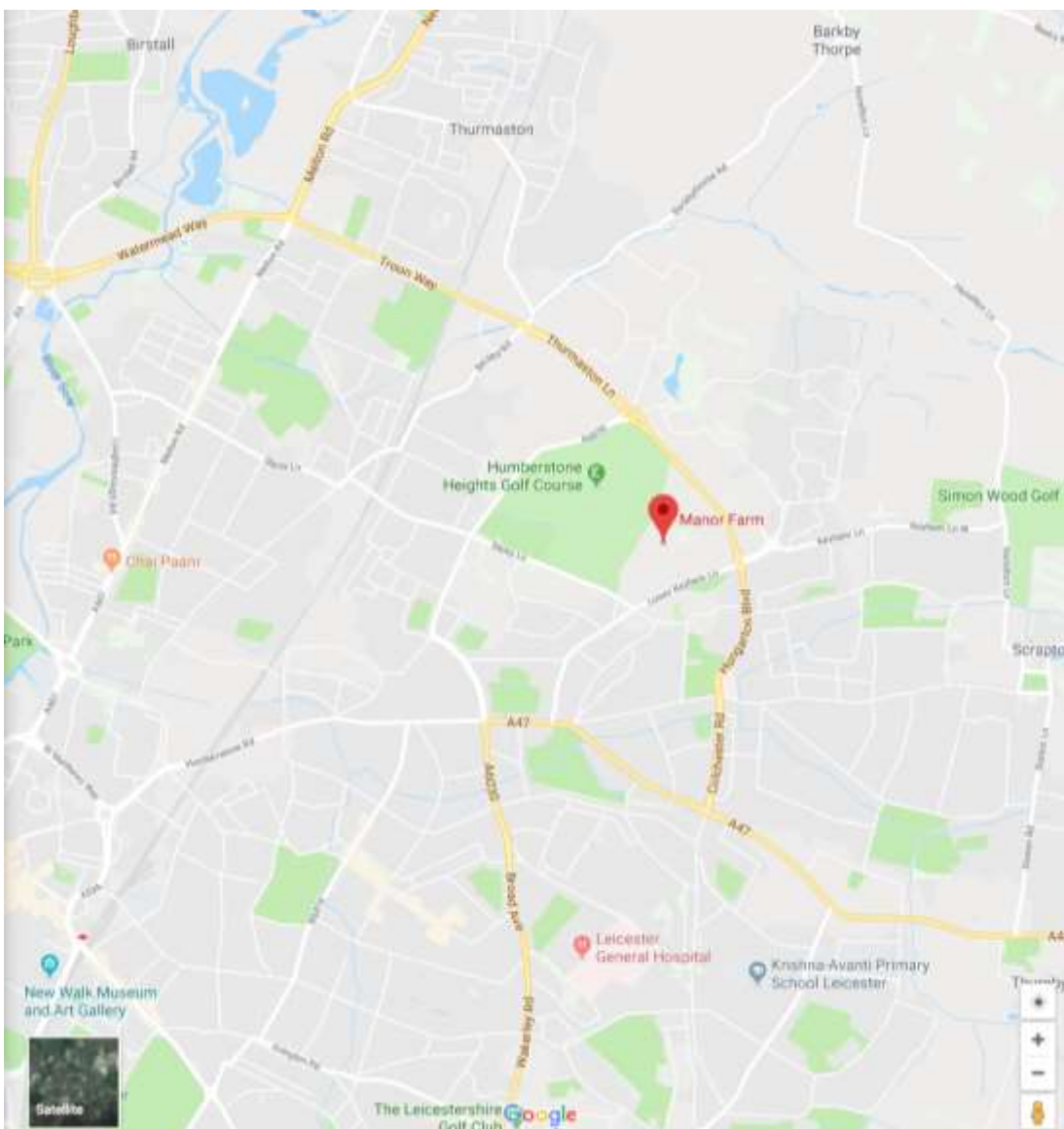
Child’s Home Address

Where an issue arises, the Trust Board reserves the right to seek supporting evidence that the residential address stated in the application for admission meets this definition before the child is admitted.

Children of UK Service Personnel and Crown Servants

The children of UK service personnel (UK armed forces) with a confirmed posting to the area of the School, and the children of Crown servants returning from overseas to live in the area of the School, will be regarded as living at the address stated in the application for admission at the time of application where it is accompanied by an official letter confirming the relocation date and a unit postal address or quartering address. This is an exception to the rule that the child must be living at the address at the time of application.

Map of the Permanent Site



Map of the Temporary Site

