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## Avanti Fields School, Leicester



## Welcome to Avanti Fields School, Leicester. (AFS)

On behalf of the students, staff and School Stakeholder Committee, I warmly welcome you to Avanti Fields School. Our ethos is built around three key principles of Educational Excellence, Spiritual Insight and Character Formation.

Every educational establishment should strive for excellence. Every student should be given every opportunity to be challenged and achieve well,

attaining excellent results in all academic subjects, equipping them with the necessary skills for the next stage of their life and learning.

I believe that every person is capable of great things, given the opportunity. We all have our different strengths and Avanti Fields School will strive to give everybody the opportunity to shine - whilst congratulating, supporting and celebrating the successes of others. We do this with a personalised approach to education, ensuring that each student develops a sense of worth, grows in confidence, and reaches their full potential in all aspects of their lives.

As Principal of Avanti Fields School, I will be working hard and leading the team to ensure that we find out what your child enjoys; what your child needs help with; and with the positive collaboration of parents through positive dialogue, help all students, your children, to be the very best they can be.

As always, working together for your children.

Vanessa Bardsley Principal











# Our purpose and virtues

Our purpose is simple, yet profound:

To inspire spiritually compassionate changemakers



We realise our purpose by developing six virtues

### Self-discipline

This virtue is a foundation of our capacity to express free will by the ability to regulate our actions and emotions.

### Respect

This virtue is an essential ingredient for positive educational interactions.

### Empathy

This virtue builds our capacity to deal with complexity by broadening our perspective and not rushing to assumptions.

### Integrity

This virtue enables us to build trusting relationships and a healthy sense of self-worth.

### Courage

This virtue frees us from artificial boundaries that limit our growth.

### Gratitude

This virtue helps us develop a deeper connection with others and the world by recognising their contribution to our success.

## The three pillars

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



### Spiritual Insight

A healthy tree has deep and strong roots to withstand storms. The roots of our spiritual life similarly keep us grounded. Watering our roots is essential to their care, reminding us of the importance of our internal journey of self-discovery.



### **Character Formation**

A strong trunk stands firm to bear a vibrant crown. Our strength of character similarly enables us to engage positively with all that life has to offer. That character grows from spiritual roots and is strengthened through the quest to make the world a better place, starting with ourselves.



### **Educational Excellence**

A healthy tree has a flourishing crown, with fruits that enrich the lives of others. Similarly, our unique gifts are nurtured through educational excellence and enable us to contribute to the world.



1

### Realising potential

We believe we each have incredible potential which can be nurtured intellectually, emotionally, physically and spiritually.

2

## Empowering choice

We believe that while we cannot always control our circumstances in life, we have the capacity to choose our responses; to respond with goodness and to nurture goodness within.

3

# Strengthening interconnection

We believe all life is interconnected and therefore strive to care for and respect all life – human, animal and plant – living in a way that causes the least possible harm.

4

### Enriching diversities

We believe we each observe the same one reality, but from our own unique perspective; it is through open-hearted dialogue that we deeply enrich our vision.

5

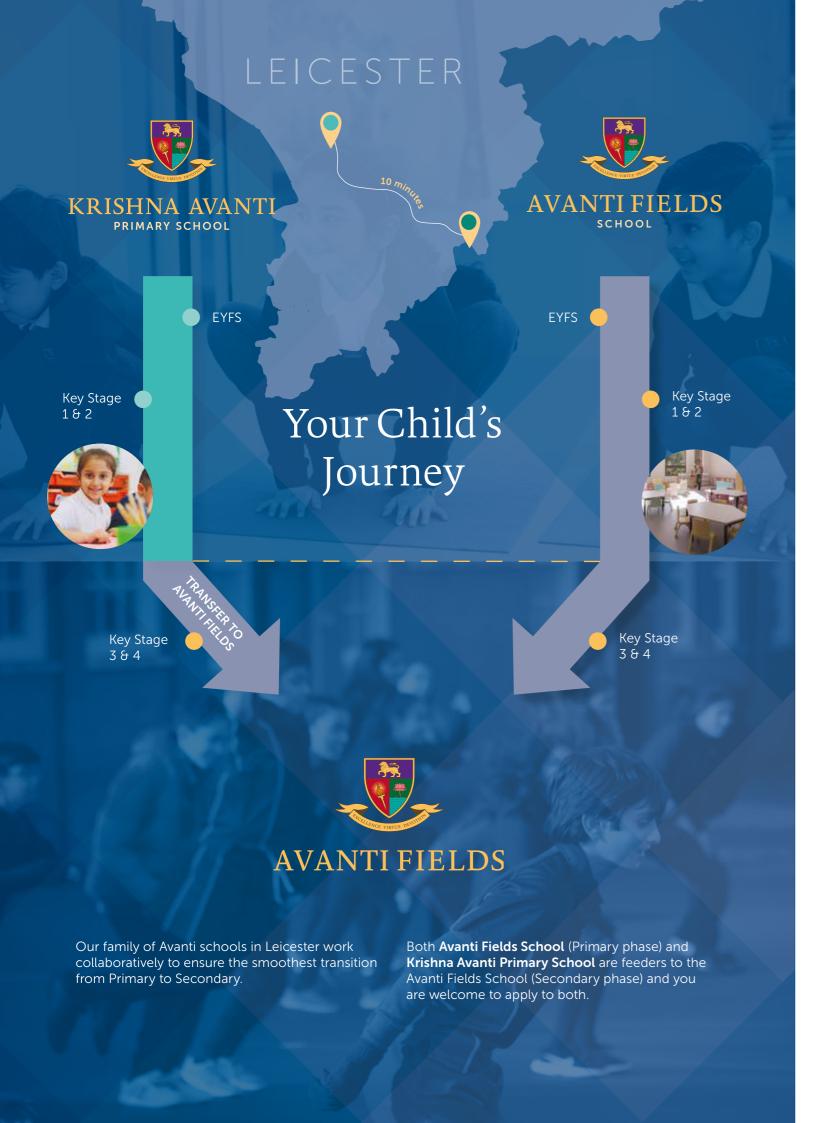
### Expanding purpose

We believe by serving a greater purpose, we can live a meaningful and satisfying life of contribution.

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# Nourishing loving relationships

We believe relationships which nourish our need to love and be loved encourage us to be the best that we can be.



## Head of Primary, Anita Thakore

Welcome to Avanti Fields School. Our growing school caters for children from Pre-School to Year 11. In the Primary sector, we focus on growing key skills and knowledge to allow all of our children to strive for and achieve the Avanti



Trust three-fold path; Educational Excellence, Character Formation, and Spiritual Insight. These three elements are based on a holistic approach to learning and will continue to be a focus throughout their educational journey at Avanti Fields.

As the Head of Primary, I am very excited to welcome children into our Primary phase which continues to have the well-established family ethos of Avanti Trust. I endeavour to work with all of the team to ensure every child reaches their full potential and receives the benefits of growing in our distinctive all-through school.

I value the importance of community and parental engagement. As part of The Avanti Way, we will work closely with the community and families to ensure all our children receive a balanced, well-rounded curriculum whereby every child develops a sense of worth, confidence, and strives for high aspirations.

It is a very exciting time for all of us as we see the school continues to develop into an all-through school. I hope that you will take this opportunity to discover more about Avanti's ethos and we look forward to working with you to provide the best education for your child.

Ms Anita Thakore Head of Primary

## Head of Secondary, Nisha Kholia

It is my privilege to warmly welcome you to Avanti Fields School as the Head of Secondary.

At Avanti Fields we strive to enable students to understand and develop into the best version of themselves, undertaking a journey



of self-discovery in order to fulfil their intellectual, physical, emotional and spiritual potential.

Our vision is built from the Avanti three pillars of educational excellence, character formation and spiritual insight and the Avanti values of respect, self-discipline, courage, integrity, empathy, and gratitude.

To achieve this, we:

- Engender a love of learning, promote independent thought, and inspire students to take calculated risks and think creatively.
- Provide students with the tools and guidance to succeed, flourish and maximise their potential
- Create an environment where students feel safe and secure, community and where relationships are forged on understanding, dialogue, and mutual respect.
- Provide an ambitious curriculum that is broad, balanced, and holistic preparing our students for life beyond school.
- Provide the climate, opportunities, and support to develop spiritual insight and to explore their personal relationship with the divine.
- Support and inspire all staff to strive towards and achieve excellence.

I am passionate in providing our students with the best provision possible and supporting our students on their journey of growth and development ensuring the highest standard of education is an entitlement for all students.

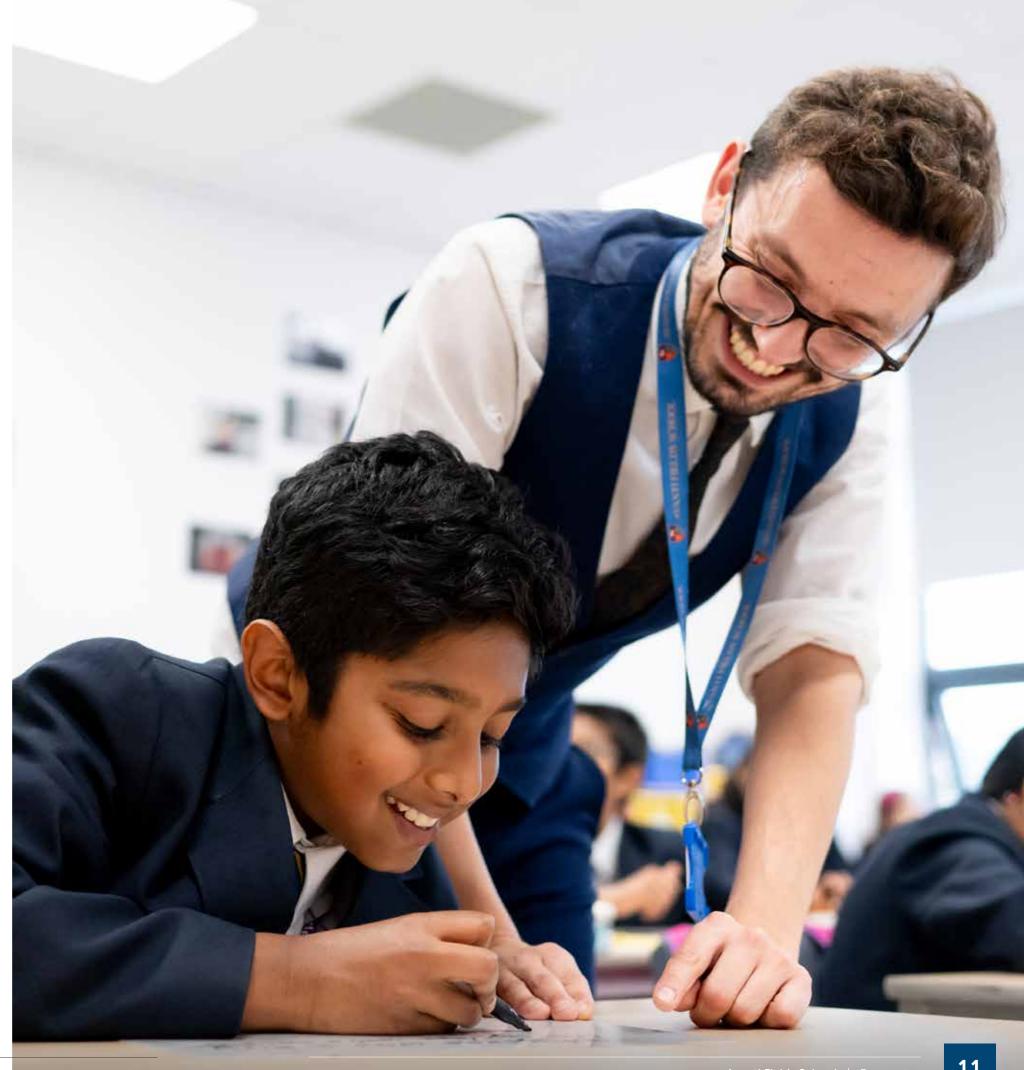
Ms Nisha Kholia Head of Secondary

# Our commitment to parents, carers and students

We want to involve you as parents and carers fully in your child's education. By working closely with you we can ensure that each stage of your child's journey is stimulating, positive and enriching.

### We will provide:

- The very best teaching in every subject and every classroom;
- A rigorous curriculum that challenges and stretches every student to be the best that they can be;
- A regular and robust assessment and reporting system that clearly informs you about your child's progress;
- An enrichment programme that includes academic, sport and music related activities;
- A wide range of local, national and international educational visits;
- Clear and precise feedback that enables every student to master key skills and build their understanding;
- Opportunities to contribute to the life of the school and develop their leadership skills;
- A safe learning environment in which your child can flourish and be happy











## Our school

The school is a place of learning for students from Pre-School all the way through to GCSE As an all-through School, Avanti Fields has been designed to create a cohesive sense of one school whilst providing appropriate and bespoke facilities for each phase.

The school building provides specialised teaching spaces, outdoor learning facilities, sports pitches and a sports hall that enhances the curriculum and learning for all students.



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# The Avanti approach to Learning and Teaching

Learning and teaching in all Avanti Schools is underpinned by the Avanti Teacher Toolkit. Our teachers and teaching assistants are guided by the 12 Avanti Habits, rooted in cognitive science and evidence-informed practice. All our teachers are continuously developing their practice through exceptional professional development from the Avanti Institute, ensuring that our pupils benefit from the highest quality teaching in every lesson.

### 12 elements of great learning and teaching in Avanti Trust Schools

Through a planned programme of training and development supported by The Avanti Institute, we ensure that all Avanti Trust Schools have a highly developed sense of what constitutes great teaching. We continuously train and coach our staff on every feature of high quality pedagogy, in order that every student gets an education that is second-to-none.



We ensure that all our teachers:

- 1. Build positive relationships with pupils and each other
- 2. Begin and end lessons calmly with familiar routines
- 3. Use intentional seating and classroom set up
- 4. Create a flourishing learning environment by managing behaviour effectively
- 5. Have clear and ambitious learning intentions for all pupils
- 6. Are always context considerate and adapt practice appropriately
- 7. Activate daily review of prior learning
- 8. Present new material in small steps
- 9. Provide modelling and scaffolding
- 10. Give opportunities for guided and independent practice
- 11. Ask effective questions and check for pupil understanding
- 12. Review learning regularly before moving on to new content





## Curriculum

### **Early Years Foundation Stage**

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 as early as 3 in the Pre-School, 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. Children will learn through play-based experiences as well as adult focussed tasks. They will get opportunities to explore their learning in different contexts and will learn through both indoor and outdoor environment to explore media and scales. The curriculum will be taught through exciting topics and books to develop that love and curiosity for learning.

Our curriculum for EYFS is based on the statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage 2021. We use Development Matters in the Early Years Foundation Stage; non-statutory guidance material which supports the implementation of the statutory requirements of the EYFS in both our Pre-School and Reception classes. At the end of the Reception year, each child will be assessed against the 17 Early Learning Goals (ELGs), each one linked to one of the seven areas of learning highlighted in the EYFS curriculum.

Children will also participate in regular Yoga and PRE lessons to support with the Avanti Way to education ensuring all children grow into well-rounded human beings.





## Primary curriculum

### Key Stage 1 and 2 (Year 1 to Year 6)

Throughout their primary years, pupils will continue to develop a love of reading, through an effective balance of synthetic phonics, drama, guided reading and storytelling. We know that pupils who can communicate orally and in writing, and who understand the value and pleasure of reading, are more likely to have happy, fulfilling academic and personal lives; with these skills, pupils will access a broad and balanced curriculum that includes:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Arts (Music, Art and Drama)
- Computing
- Physical Education (PE)
- History
- Geography
- Yoga and Meditation
- Sanskrit
- Spanish
- PSHE (Personal Social Health and Economic education)
- Philosophy Religion and Ethics (PRE)

At Avanti Fields School we aim to enrich the curriculum with memorable learning experiences, including educational visits and outdoor learning opportunities. Pupils are largely taught together in their class but will be supported by focused interventions, where needed.

By the end of Key Stage 2, we aim for all our pupils to have the confidence and increasing maturity to deal with changes in school and at home. Our pastoral approach will encourage all pupils to reflect on their own faith or belief system, to explore their spirituality and enter the secondary phase of education with a reflective, critical thinking and compassionate mind.

# Secondary curriculum

All students have access to a broad and balanced curriculum, which alongside our extra-curricular programme, will enable each child to find and nurture their individual talents.

For the first three years (7, 8 and 9) students follow a broad and challenging academic curriculum. This includes the following subjects:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Philosophy, Religion and Ethics (PRE)
- Geography
- History
- A modern foreign language (Spanish)
- PSHE
- Art
- Computer Science
- Drama
- Design & Technology
- Music
- PE and Yoga

However, we believe that building firm foundations in English and Mathematics enable students to thrive in all their subjects and their adult life. To facilitate this, we offer extra time for English and mathematics in order that our students master their literacy and numeracy skills and are therefore able to choose and succeed in the very best GCSE subjects at Key Stage 4 (Year's 10 and 11).

As students move into Key Stage 4, they will take options in regards to the subjects they would like to pursue and this typically leads to students studying ten GCSEs.





## Personal development

### Enrichment

Enrichment is a key part of students' learning and personal development at Avanti Fields School. We host a range of opportunities for students to engage further with their academic learning and to develop key character formation qualities through a range of events, visits, extra-curricular and super curricular activities.

### Student leadership

There are many opportunities for our students to develop their leadership skills at Avanti Fields School, both within curriculum areas and our extra-curricular provision. We aim to provide opportunities for our students to develop leadership skills by succeeding together as a community through a shared vision and our ethos, using student voice to make our school the best it can be. Student leadership is continually evolving as students take on more leadership roles and is ever expanding.

Examples of student leadership roles include:

Student council Prefects Friendly faces Subject Leaders

The Avanti Field School's careers curriculum follows the statutory guidance set out by the DFE and aligns with the Avanti vision to help each person become a well-rounded human being through intellectual, moral and spiritual growth, and so make the world a better place.

### Careers

Our careers programme is aspirational in both its design and its holistic approach, which ensures all students are supported to develop, embody and put into practice the essential workplace qualities and skills, as defined by the 'Avanti Fields qualities wheel' and learner descriptors. It is through this strategic academic, experience and holistic approach that we aim to support all our students in their quest to embrace and fulfil all opportunities open to them in the world of work.



## School lunches

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 cooked on-site are vegetarian (in line with the faith ethos of the school) and half-termly menus are also available on the school's website.

If the lunch provision on offer does not meet your child's needs, or if your child has specific diet requirements/preferences, please do speak to Govinda's (our catering provider) so that they can provide for your child accordingly. We encourage parents to visit the school to sample the school lunches in order to satisfy themselves with the quality of provision.

We strongly encourage parents who have financial constraints to apply for Free School Meals. An application form can be obtained from the school office. Any forms received by the school will be kept confidential.











### 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.



### Retreats

Students have planned opportunities to engage in Avanti Quests, including international trips for secondary students. These are fantastic retreats allowing; individuals to nurture and develop more friendships, engage in fulfilling activities whilst going out of their comfort zone, improve overall wellbeing and reconnect with nature.



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# 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.



### 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.

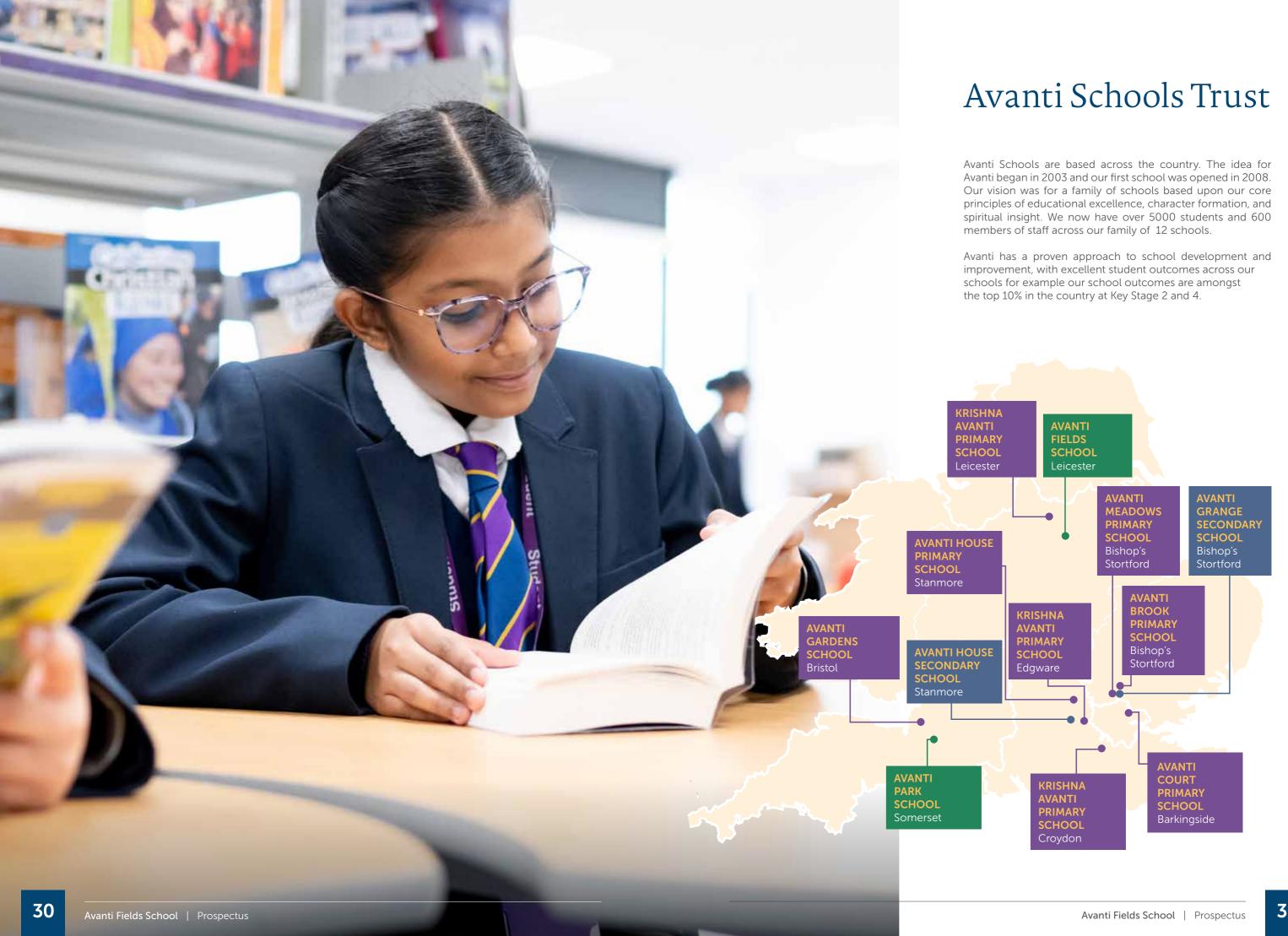


Avanti Nights

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.

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# Reviews from parents, guests and students

"We are very happy with the way our eldest daughter has settled into the school in a very safe and friendly environment that is focused on learning. The transfer from primary to secondary was very smooth and has allowed her to flourish in her education and in her confidence as a young person. The school offers a great variety of opportunities and extracurricular activities for the pupils to take part in and our daughter has thoroughly enjoyed taking part in these. We have had no hesitation in sending our younger daughter to the school and would wholeheartedly recommend Avanti Fields to any other parents."

Parent Avanti Fields School

"A beautiful, stimulating environment. It is clear a lot of thought and care has gone into arranging the classrooms and shared areas. We have been amazed at our daughter's progress and development.Lovely classroom and resources for kids. Great teachers to support them with their learning."

Parent Avanti Fields School

"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 at Avanti

'Staff in the early years are early reading experts. Children in the early years thrive. They are extremely well supported with love and care. They benefit from an exceptional curriculum that prepares them for the next stage. Leaders have ensured that there is no ceiling to learning for children in Nursery and Reception years.'

Ofsted Report

"Teachers help me to understand new concepts and we have daily retrieval in lessons which helps us to revisit previous learning. The teachers show us and model how to answer key questions and helps us when needed."

Student Avanti Fields School

'Leaders have embedded the 'Avanti Way' throughout all aspects of school life. This shared vision promotes educational excellence, character formation and spiritual insight. Pupils benefit from this approach. They become wellrounded individuals.

'Leaders have developed an ambitious curriculum for all pupils."

Ofsted Report

"There are many opportunities for us to get involved in student leadership and I have loved being a student leader and helping students different year groups. I really like organising and getting involved in House competitions!"

Student Avanti Fields School

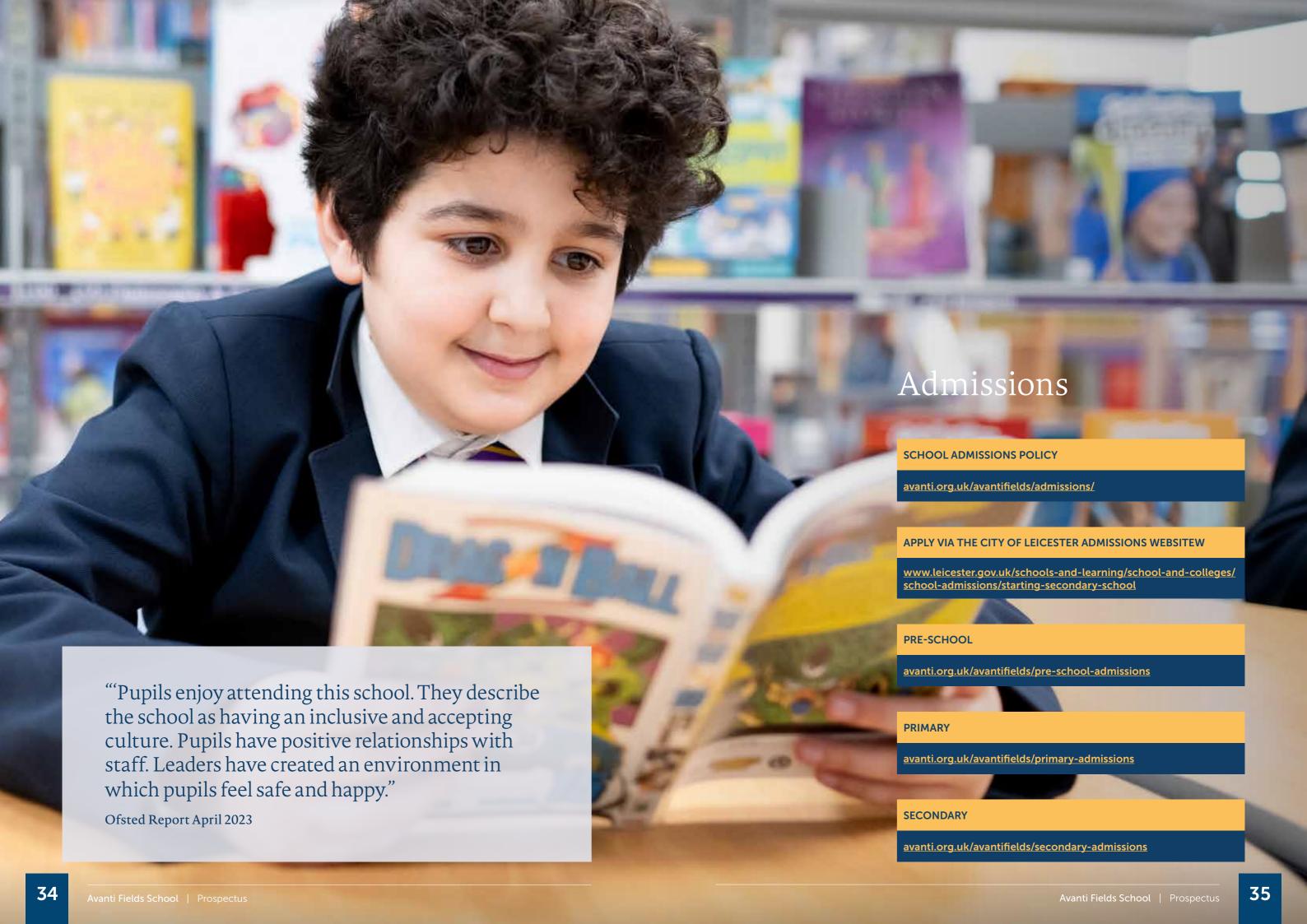
"Avanti Fields is a school like no other; it is a unique school with so many amazing qualities. The teachers are ever so supportive and it is great to know that they are always here for us no matter what. I am also a Friendly Faces Ambassador, which is an exciting opportunity to support and welcome our new Y7s to the school. I am so happy that Avanti Fields provides students with incredible opportunities like these."

Student Avanti Fields School

"The school's ethos and collective worship are just some of the things that make Avanti Fields stand out from other schools. Avanti Fields school ethos disciplines us and helps us to build our character so we can learn and become better people - not only at school but also at home. Collective worship unites the whole school, encouraging us to feel like many individuals part of one big family."

Student Avanti Fields School







### **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.



### **SCHOOL LIFE IN DETAIL**

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



www.avanti.org.uk

www.avanti.org.uk/avantifields

#### **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/avantifields

X

At Avanti Fields School we use X to keep everyone updated about the amazing work our teachers and pupils are doing.



@avantifields

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