



# AVANTI HOUSE

## PRIMARY SCHOOL



Prospectus  
2019 - 2020

Information guide for parents in Harrow

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# From Our Principal

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Welcome to Avanti House Primary School; first opened in September 2012, we are a Hindu-faith school – part of the multi-academy, Avanti Schools Trust.

Our core values are central to all we do in developing young people. Whilst drawn from the Vaishnavist tradition of the Hindu Faith, our ethos also attracts students from families from across all faiths and from those of none. We are a fully inclusive school with no faith-based admissions criteria.

At Avanti House we deliver a rounded education to nurture confident and creative young people who will thrive in adult life. We put an equal emphasis on the highest academic achievement alongside the development of character and spiritual insight.

Avanti House is a very happy school where the behaviour and attitudes to learning, by all students are exceptional. When Ofsted inspectors visited the school in July 2014, they reported:

*"The behaviour of pupils is outstanding. They are, without exception, respectful and polite. New pupils are immediately included, and those with additional needs or who experience difficulty settling in are sensitively inducted until they feel safe."*

**Shriti Pandya**  
Principal





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# Our Vision

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Avanti schools prepare us for our life-journeys with educational excellence, character formation and spiritual insight.



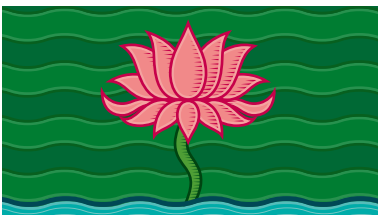
## Educational Excellence

Nurtures our passion for learning. We are encouraged to become reflective and thoughtful individuals. We learn to take positive risks in a safe environment. Our learning lays firm foundations for our vocation, lifelong learning and self-fulfilment.



## Character Formation

Drives our becoming exemplary citizens. Our character and conduct set a worthy example and support our every success. We are conscious of how our choices impact the world around us, including all living beings.



## Spiritual Insight

Rekindles our unique, personal and loving relationship with Lord Krishna. Spirituality is made relevant and accessible to all, irrespective of faith or belief.

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\* 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.

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# Aiming for excellence

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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 and in Collective Worship. 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.

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# Ofsted Report

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“Students show increasing ability to work well independently, developing important skills for life.” **Ofsted 2018**



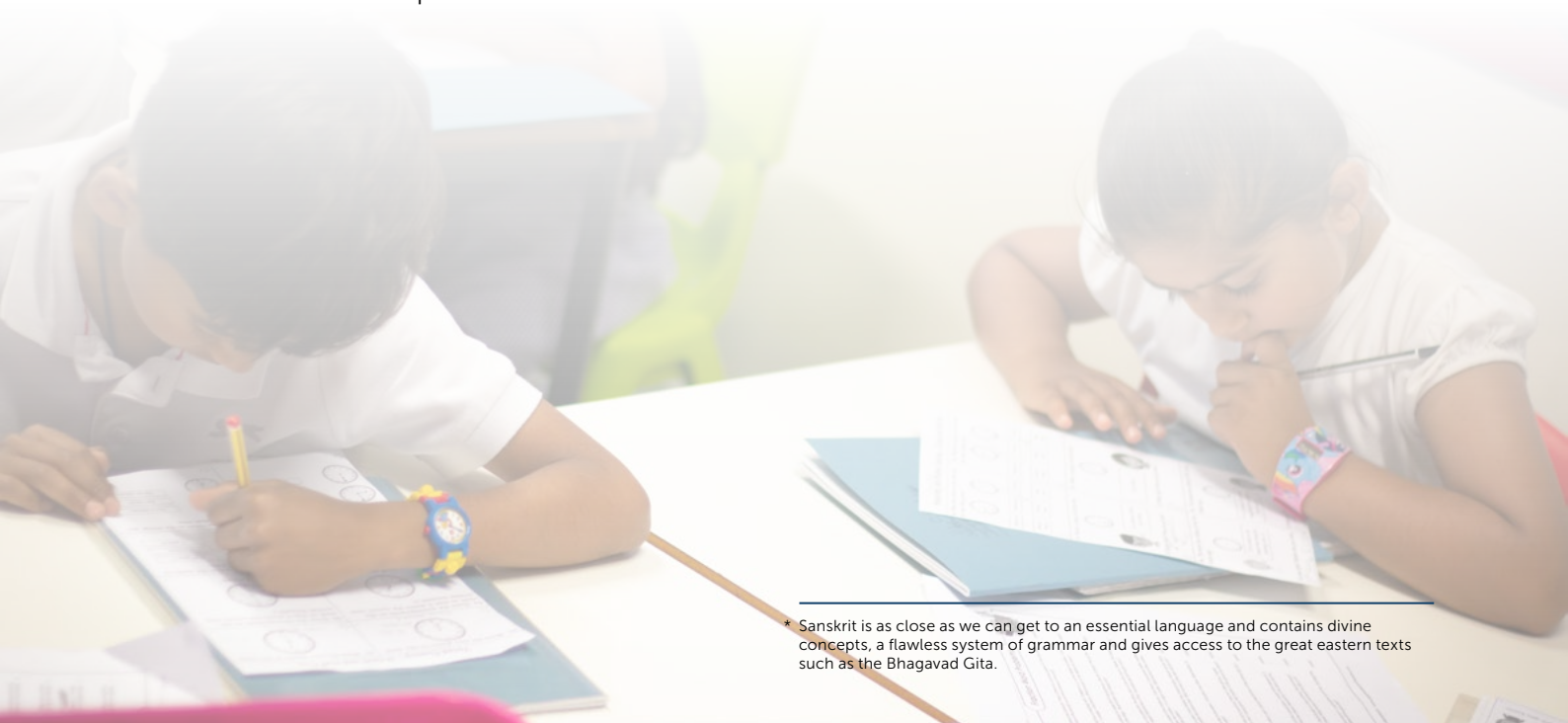
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# How we achieve our ethos

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## Educational excellence will be achieved through:

- 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.



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\* Sanskrit is as close as we can get to an essential language and contains divine concepts, a flawless system of grammar and gives access to the great eastern texts such as the Bhagavad Gita.



We motivate students  
to become reflective,  
articulate and  
independent thinkers



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# How we achieve our ethos


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## Character development will be achieved through:

- 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.







Our students develop  
personal virtue and  
leadership, side by side

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# How we achieve our ethos

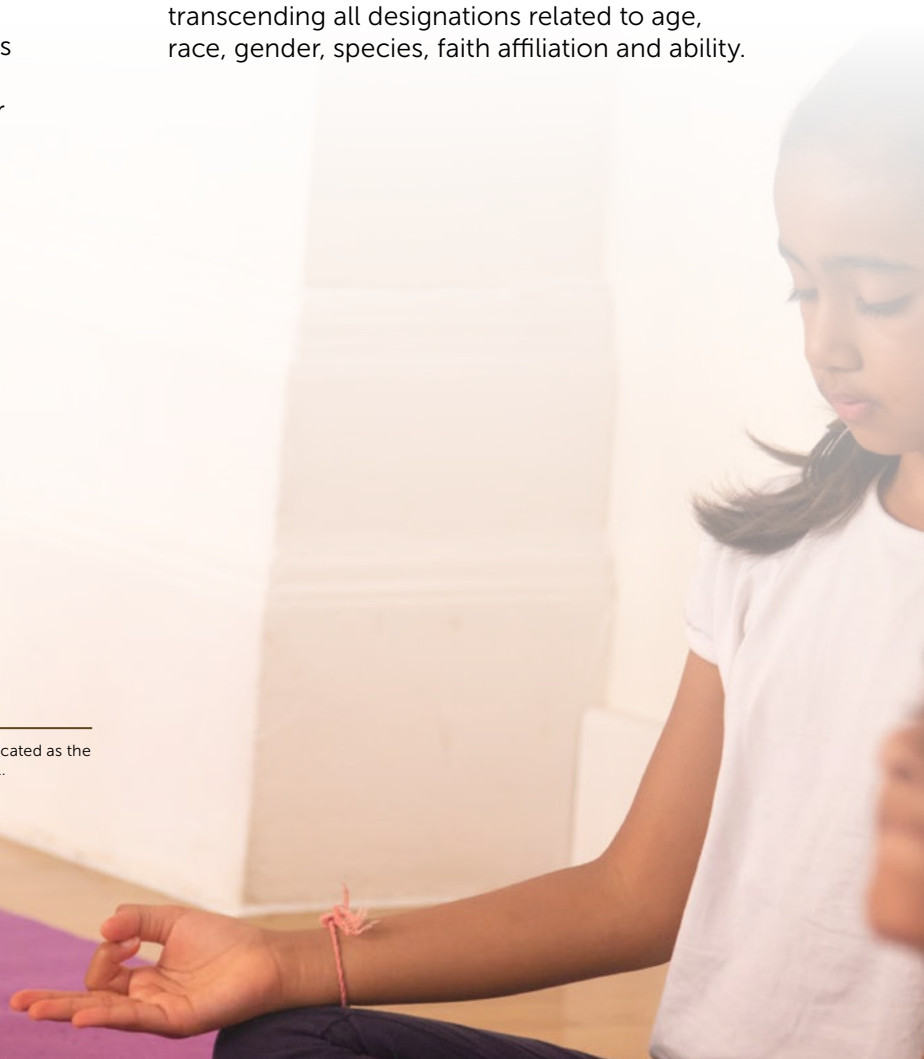
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## Spiritual insight will be achieved through:

- 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.

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\* This element of the school's work will become increasingly more sophisticated as the pupils grow in experience and maturity, but it will be an entitlement for all.





Students experience  
an uplifting and inclusive  
sense of spirituality







# Curriculum – Key Stages 1 and 2

Throughout Key Stages 1 and 2, pupils will continue to develop a love of reading, through an effective balance of synthetic phonics, drama, speaking and listening tasks, guided reading and story telling. 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 and Science
- Arts (Music, Art, Dance and Drama)
- Computing
- Physical Education (PE)
- Humanities and Religious Education (RE)
- Yoga and Meditation
- Spanish and Sanskrit (Years 4, 5 and 6)
- PSHE (Personal Social Health and Economic education, including philosophy and ethics)

We aim to enrich the curriculum with memorable learning experiences, including educational visits and outdoor learning opportunities.

Pupils will be largely taught together in their class but will be supported by focused interventions,

where needed, so that no child is left behind. The topic-themed approach to planning will be enriched further by discrete special events including termly Maths Challenge Days and an annual Creativity Week. As a school specialising in Mathematics and Performing Arts, we aim to provide extra opportunities for pupils to expand their knowledge and understanding in these areas. All pupils will take part in performances and key skills in Mathematics will be secured by high-quality teaching.

By the end of Key Stage 2, we aim for all our pupils to have the confidence, resilience and increasing maturity to deal with changes in school and at home, whatever they may be. We expect them to have developed: a love of reading; a thirst to enquire, ask questions and find out; positive relationships; good behaviour; and key maths, musical and artistic skills to prepare them for their next phase of education.

Our compassionate and caring pastoral approach, based on the teachings of Hindu scriptures, 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. We want them to understand the impact of their choices on themselves, on others and on their environment, both locally and globally. We expect them to be positive contributors as British and World citizens.

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# Performing Arts Specialism

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At Avanti House Primary School, we see Performing Arts as a powerful means for helping young people develop self-confidence and communication skills in a wide range of settings. It is also a key element in living out the distinctive faith and aesthetic ethos of the school. Among other real benefits for your child, Performing Arts can help develop:

- their understanding by bringing together the spiritual, physical, aesthetic and intellectual
- a growing understanding of the role of performance as an offering and service to the Divine and to others
- an awareness of the relationship between excellence, skill and practice
- growing confidence in working with and for others in a variety of roles, including leadership
- a growing ability to deal with new situations, to problem-solve and a range of linguistic, musical and movement registers.



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# Mathematics Specialism

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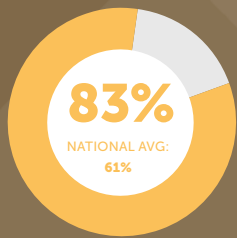


Similarly, Mathematics will suffuse the whole learning community at Krishna Avanti. As well as ensuring that all young people reach a level of numeracy that enables them to access and engage with the numerical requirements of society, mathematical approaches to the world and to learning will be essential elements of the distinctiveness of the school. The Mathematics specialism at Avanti House will give your child:

- the skills and knowledge to manipulate and use numbers with growing confidence and skill in a wide range of contexts
- a growing understanding of and engagement with the economic world we live in and their roles and responsibilities within it
- skills in shaping and posing questions and developing convincing arguments that can be presented in a variety of ways
- a growing understanding that, beyond the functional, Mathematics has rich spiritual, historical and cultural roots.



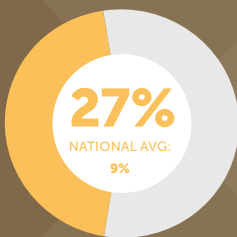
# Results



Pupils meeting the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics



Ofsted Rated: **Good**



Pupils achieving the higher standard in reading, writing and mathematics



**96%**  
Happiness Rating  
NATIONAL AVG: 88%







# Tour of the School



## Entrance

Enter the safe and welcoming environment of Avanti House Primary School.



## Playground

A hive of activities for children to enjoy including facilities for tennis, football, cricket and netball.

## The Temple

Our beautiful temple space provides a spiritual sanctuary for both weekly collective worship and personal reflection.





## Study Gardens

A peaceful space where children can work individually and in groups under the cool shade of trees, surrounded by nature.



## Library

Bubbling with life and colour, a comfortable reading area bridges the way between the temple and classrooms.



## Sports Hall

A spacious arena for games, drama, exercises and indoor sports.



## Courtyard

A central meeting point for field study, group discussions and co-operative learning.



## Classrooms

Each room boasts it's own themed personality for enhanced learning and play.



# Uniform

| BOYS                        |            | GIRLS                                       |            |
|-----------------------------|------------|---|------------|
| Avanti polo shirt           | Year R – 3 | Avanti polo shirt                           | Year R – 3 |
| White shirt                 | Year 4 – 5 | White blouse                                | Year 4 – 5 |
| White shirt with school tie | Year 6     | White shirt with school tie                 | Year 6     |
| Avanti V neck jumper        |            | Avanti cardigan                             |            |
| Grey trousers               |            | Grey trousers or grey below-knee skirt      |            |
| Grey shorts (summer option) |            | Navy gingham pinafore dress (summer option) |            |
| Black/grey socks            |            | Black/grey socks/tights                     |            |
| Black school shoes          |            | Black school shoes                          |            |





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# Applying for a Place

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Avanti House Primary School will operate admissions in collaboration with Croydon Council in order to best meet local demand and be able to attract pupils from different backgrounds. It will be a truly inclusive Hindu school with no faith criteria for entry – children of all faiths and none are welcome.

All children that will be starting Reception year in 2020 should apply via Harrow Council from September 2019.

## SCHOOL ADMISSIONS POLICY

<https://avanti.org.uk/avantihouse-primary/admissions2019/>

## WHERE TO APPLY

[https://www.harrow.gov.uk/schools-learning#id-school\\_admissions](https://www.harrow.gov.uk/schools-learning#id-school_admissions)



# 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](http://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.life](http://www.avanti.life)

## SCHOOL LIFE IN DETAIL

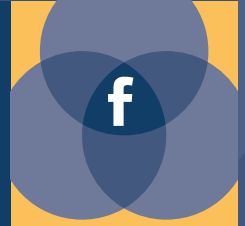
The school website offers up-to-date information on key aspects of school life, from ethos to admissions; school lunches to job opportunities.



[www.avanti.org.uk/kapscroydon](http://www.avanti.org.uk/kapscroydon)

## 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/avantischooltrust](http://www.facebook.com/avantischooltrust)

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**AVANTI** SCHOOLS  
TRUST

A Journey of  
Self-Discovery

Krishna Avanti Primary School Harrow is part of the Avanti Schools Trust  
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