

Krishna Avanti Primary School (Harrow)

Nursery Admission Policy for 2020/21

Introductory Statement

Krishna Avanti Primary School (Harrow) (“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/kapsharrow.

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 School has an onsite nursery (“the Nursery”) offering part-time and full-time nursery education for one academic year.

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.

Number of Nursery Places

The number of places at the Nursery will be 26 full time equivalent places; of which 26 Morning places (08:00am – 11:00am), Afternoon places (11:30am-2:30pm) and Full time places (08:00am-2:30pm) *

*Please note, parents who do not qualify for 30-hour funding, can use their 15 hours free Nursery funding and thereafter pay for the additional hours once the schools waiting list has been exhausted. This will be on a first come first serve basis upon payments being made one term in advance via ParentPay. This arrangement is subject to termly review based on eligibility for extended entitlement of pupils. The arrangement to pay for the additional hours, may be declined for future where the place is required for a pupil eligible for extended entitlement. The charging schedule can be found on the school’s website. For further information, please speak to the school office.

When completing the Nursery Application Form, parents must confirm their preference for full day, morning only or afternoon only place, with an order of preference if more than one is chosen.

Applications will then be ranked in the order of priority as set out below in the oversubscription criteria before preferences are considered. Parents should therefore note that only requesting one type of preference will not increase their chance of achieving a place for their child. However, parents should only express a preference for a type of place if they would accept an offer of that type of place, as it may not be possible for parents to change the type of place achieved once an offer has been made.

An unsuccessful applicant will be placed on our waiting list for their preferred session; however, they will also be offered a place in the alternative session if one is available.

The afternoon session will only commence if:

1. The morning session is filled and;
2. There are 8 or more students in the afternoon

If these two criteria are not met, the afternoon session will not run. All applicants who have applied for the afternoon session only will be informed in sufficient time to allow them time to make other arrangements with other providers.

How to Apply

1. Complete the School Online Application form for Nursery 2020 by the closing date for receipt of application (24th February 2020) – Link can be found on the school website: <https://avanti.org.uk/kapsharrow/admissions>
2. Submit the SIF form if applicable to the school by the above deadline date.
3. 16 March 2020 – Outcome letters to be posted to parent/carers

Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan

Children with an education health and care plan (“EHC plan”) which names the Nursery will be allocated a part-time place. Parents are advised to speak to the school SENCO Lead to discuss further prior to the application deadline of February.

Age on Entry to the Nursery

Places are available in the September following your child’s third birthday. They must be born between 1st September 2016 – 31st August 2017.

Parents should note that there is no automatic transfer from the Nursery to Reception Year at the School. A separate application for admission to Reception Year must be made at the appropriate time in accordance with the Local Authority’s coordinated scheme.

Oversubscription Criteria

All applications will be ranked 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. Children with a sibling² attending the School at the time of admission.

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 ‘A “sibling” will include full or half brother or sister, an adopted brother or sister, a step-brother or sister or a foster brother or sister, provided that in all cases the sibling and the applicant child live permanently at the same home address (as defined by this policy) and are being brought up as siblings. For the avoidance of doubt, a child of a friend or extended family member (for example, a cousin) living at the same address will not be a sibling for the purpose of this policy. Parents must ensure that they have included full details of the sibling in the Admissions Application Form to be included in this category. Failure to do so will result in the child being placed into the next category that applies.’

3. Children of a member of the School or Nursery's staff who:
 - a. Has been employed by the Trust at the School or Nursery for two or more years at the time of application; and/or
 - b. Was recruited to fill a vacant post at the School or Nursery for which there was a demonstrable skill shortage.

For the avoidance of doubt, "a" and "b" above do not denote an order of priority – all children falling within this category will be treated equally, applying the tie breaker where necessary.

4. Up to 5 places to Hindu children with a practising Hindu³ parent who worships at the ISKCON Bhaktivedanta Manor temple (located at Hilfield lane, Aldenham, Near Watford, Hertfordshire, WD25 8EZ) in the following order of priority:

- 4.1 Hindu children with a practising Hindu parent who has taken initiation (diksha)⁴ and attends Sanga⁵; and/or

- 4.2 Hindu children with a practising Hindu parent who attends Sanga⁶

To be included in this category, a completed supplementary information form ("SIF") certified by a representative of the ISKCON Bhaktivedanta Manor temple must be submitted to the School by the closing date for applications, in addition to the Common Application Form submitted to the Local Authority. Children for whom a certified SIF is not received by the closing date for applications, and children falling into this category who do not achieve a place, will be included in the next category that applies.

5. Up to 5 places to Hindu children with a practicing Hindu⁷ parent. To be included in this category, a completed supplementary information form ("SIF") certified by a representative of the parent's temple must be submitted to the School by the closing date for applications, in addition to the Common Application Form submitted to the Local Authority. Children for whom a SIF is not received by the closing date for applications, and children falling into this category who do not achieve a place, will be included in the category below.

6. All other children.

³ For the purpose of this policy, "practicing Hindu" means worship at a Hindu temple at least monthly for at least one year at the closing date for applications. An adjustment to this requirement may be made by the temple's representative to take into account difficulties caused by disability or other unavoidable cause which has prevented this level of worship

⁴ "Initiation" is acceptance of the shelter of a bona fide ISKCON guru and commitment to follow the principles laid down by the authorities within ISKCON.

⁵ "Sanga" is a registered congregational programme which involves regular congregational spiritual development meetings (usually held at least once every month) led by an experienced practising devotee recognised by the temple.

⁶ See footnote 5.

⁷ See footnote 3.

Supplementary Information Form (“SIF”)

For children falling within Categories 4 and 5 above, parents must complete and submit a supplementary information form (“SIF”) certified by the practising Hindu parent’s temple to the School by the closing date for applications, in addition to submitting a completed Nursery Application Form. Failure to do so will result in the child being placed into the next category that applies, which will reduce the chance of achieving a place.

The SIF is available for download from the School’s website or in hard copy from the School’s office.

Order of Allocation

Nursery places will be allocated on the basis of our determined admissions arrangements. The order in which places will be allocated in each of the categories above will be by reference to the distance the child lives from the School, with those living closest to the School receiving highest priority. Distance will be measured from the centre point of the child’s home address to the centre point of the School site in a straight line using the Local Authority’s specialist software and in accordance to the Child’s Home Address paragraph section in the policy.

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.

Child’s Home Address

For the purpose of this policy, the child’s home address is determined as defined in Harrow’s Admission’s arrangements.⁸

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 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.

⁸ Please see Harrow Council’s guide to admissions for Primary Schools here: http://www.harrow.gov.uk/info/200129/school_admissions/377/primary_school_admissions

Twins and Children of a Higher Multiple Birth

While every effort will be made to ensure that both twins or all children of a higher multiple birth achieve a place, this cannot be guaranteed due to the need to allocate all places strictly in accordance with the order of priority outlined above and strict rules regarding the ratio of children to adults in nursery classes.

Applications for Admission

Applications for admission must be made to the School using the Nursery Application Form available online, which is accessible on the website www.avanti.org.uk/kapsharrow - See Admissions tab

The closing date for applications and the date on which offers will be made to parents will be published on the School's website.

Once a nursery place has been offered and accepted, parents will be asked to provide documentary evidence of the child's identity and home address. This may include the child's birth certificate, NHS registration card, council tax bill and/or recent utility bills.

Late Applications

Applications received by the School after the closing date as stated on the website will be considered as a late application, and will not be considered until all applications received on or before the closing date for applications have been considered and places allocated. The chance of achieving a place will therefore be reduced. The names of those children who do not achieve a place will be placed on the waiting list (see below).

In-Year Applications

In-year applications can be made to the School, by completing the online School form. If there is no place available, the child's name will be placed on the waiting list.

Waiting Lists

The School operates a waiting list for the Nursery for the duration of the academic year. The child's position on the waiting list will be determined solely by reference to the oversubscription criteria set out above, and not by reference to the date the application was received. This means that the child's place on the waiting list may go down as well as up, as further applications are received from children with higher priority.

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. The school

may check any address and other information provided so that admissions authority can apply the oversubscription criteria accurately and fairly.

The school may withdraw an offer if it has been offered in error, a parent has not responded within a reasonable period of time, or it is established that the offer was obtained through a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application.