



September 2021

**To all parents at Avanti schools in South-West England.**

Welcome to the new school year, which we hope you and your child(ren) will find enjoyable, academically stimulating and rewarding. The Trustees have been much encouraged by the progress made in each school over the last year, and by the endeavours of all within the communities to make the schools safe and encouraging environments for learning. We are particularly grateful to those in leadership roles within the schools, and to all the families and children who have identified with our aspirations to make the schools truly outstanding places of excellence, where the potential of each child can be maximised and released.

Our schools are diverse communities, and inevitably parents and carers have different perspectives on education and varied ambitions for their children. The Trustees recognise and acknowledge this diversity of view, and the richness which variety can bring. But we also believe in security, harmony and community, and we have been much encouraged by the number of parents and carers who have identified with us by enabling their children to come to school in school uniform this term.

We hope that all parents will come to see the value of our uniform policy and will accept that – whatever their own beliefs – the wearing of the Avanti uniform shows that children are ready to transition from home to school, ready to learn and embrace the stimulation and challenges of the school day. Our uniform policy is clear, principled and asks for a commitment from parents to sign up to the values and culture of our schools. Our policy makes it clear that our school Principals are willing to have open and honest conversations with parents and carers where a child is not wearing uniform, but we must be clear that **we expect all children to wear the appropriate Avanti uniform and we do not condone or accept the non-wearing of uniform. Therefore, from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September, Principals, their leadership teams and staff will be applying the attached uniform policy to ensure all pupils comply with our uniform requirements.** We trust that we can rely on your support and commitment in this respect, so that together we can continue the transformational journey upon which we are all embarked in these schools.

With our very best wishes for the 2021-22 school year.

Molly Warrington, Chair, SW Hub Board

Mike Younger, Chair, Avanti Schools Trust