



**18/03/2020**

Dear Parents / Carers,

RE: COVID-19 update

You will no doubt be aware of the statements made by the government yesterday regarding the Coronavirus COVID-19 outbreak. These are challenging and ever-changing times and we continue to make our decisions and act in the best interests of our children, staff and all members of our community.

We are guided by three main wishes at this time:

1. To operate a safe and healthy school
2. To remain open in line with government instructions
3. To provide an excellent education

Government advice states that to prevent further spreading of the virus, anyone with (or living in the same household as anyone with) a temperature of 37.8°C (100°F) or a “new, continuous cough” should not come into school for 14 days from the onset of symptoms. It is imperative that this guidance is followed for the health and welfare of the rest of the school.

With the school required to remain open but, with staff and children affected by this advice now required to self-isolate, you will appreciate that this presents significant logistical challenges for the school, as well as personal and emotional ones for the individuals concerned.

The school has already taken steps to address the developing situation including increased provision of hand sanitisers, reminders to children about the importance of personal hygiene. We have now cancelled or postpone all non-essential matters of school business. Essentially, we will be reducing our operations to the basic core business of a school and, in time, this is also likely to be compromised by increasing staff absence. This means that all non-urgent meetings with parents and visitors will be cancelled or postponed.

### **General Well-being**

Over the next few days, each year group will have a discussion to give them key messages regarding academic and pastoral procedures in the event of a school closure. You have already received communication from the school regarding home learning.

We wish to draw your attention to how you can support your child’s general wellbeing. *(Please also see attached for some well-being tips which can be used at home).*

•It is important for promoting well-being that usual routines can be kept to as much as possible. You child is encouraged to follow their usual timetable when completing home learning and to take regular breaks.



# AVANTI HOUSE

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AVANTI HOUSE  
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- With social distancing guidelines, it is advised that you can still exercise but should avoid groups of people. Therefore, activities such as walks and bike rides in gardens and local parks are encouraged as regular exercise will contribute positively to well-being.
- Meditation can be a positive way of relaxing and reducing anxiety. There are website and Apps available. One example is <http://www.mhk.today/>
- Teachers will be uploading homework onto Google Classroom which will give children the opportunity to ask any question, work related, to their class teacher who will respond within the day. Please be mindful that the response may not be instant.
- If, as a parent, you have questions not related to the homework, please use the normal channels of communication which is to contact the school via the school email address.

## **What if I or my child has a safeguarding concern when the school is closed?**

In the event of school closure, we would advise any parent who has a concern about their own child or others' safety, to contact your local authority safeguarding agency.

Harrow: Golden Number on: 0208 901 2690

Barnet: Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on: 020 8359 4066

Brent: Family Front Door on: 020 8937 4300 (option 1)

Ealing: Children & Families on: 020 8825 8000

Hertfordshire: Safeguarding on: 0300 123 4043

Hillingdon: Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on: 01895 556 633

If you live in a different borough, please contact the relevant safeguarding team.

If your safeguarding concern is school related you will be able to email the Designated Safeguarding Lead:  
Mr Koorichh [dravit.koorichh@avanti.org.uk](mailto:dravit.koorichh@avanti.org.uk).

## **E-Safety**

During a school closure you child will be increasingly using the internet and also might wish to keep in touch with their friends. Please continue to be vigilant and monitor their online activity to ensure their safety. All pupils have been reminded of how to stay safe online. If you do have any concerns, you can report these to CEOP - <https://www.ceop.police.uk/Safety-centre/>

With thanks for your ongoing support, and with thoughts and best wishes to you all and to your families in these most challenging of times.

Best regards  
Mrs Bellare  
Principal

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