



1st October 2020

Dear parents/carers

Our schools have made an excellent start to the new school year however, there is still a great deal of uncertainty as to whether the academic year will be interrupted by further COVID-19 outbreaks.

Principals and other senior leaders are therefore having to plan for a range of eventualities that will likely involve the need, should we enter a period of prolonged lockdown, for high-quality remote learning provision.

I am therefore contacting you to let you know how we are preparing for such an eventuality.

COVID 19 and online learning

From now on our remote learning provision will focus on three core areas:



Should any of our schools enter a prolonged period of COVID-19 lockdown we will ensure that:

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PRIMARY SCHOOL
Common Road
Stanmore
Middlesex
HA7 3JB
020 8249 6831 Option 1

AHS.primary@avanti.org.uk
www.avanti.org.uk/avantihouse

Content

- Lesson contents will be uploaded to each school's website and linked or signposted towards the existing SOW and POS for each class or subject.
- Uploaded content will make use of existing technology to support retrieval practice and self-quizzing that might help pupils retain key ideas and knowledge
- Content uploaded will include some 'interactive' sessions using online resources and programmes such as Kahoot, and BBC Bitesize

Teaching

- All students will have access to several hours of 'live learning' each week
- All students will have access to high quality recorded lessons (e.g. Avanti Summer School, Oak National Academy)

Assessment

- Students will receive regular feedback from class and subject teachers via Microsoft Teams/Google Classrooms.
- Students will be provided with at least two 'instant feedback' opportunities via online programmes.

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Parental feedback

We would welcome any feedback on what we are proposing together with any comments or suggestions as to how we might improve our online learning provision. To take part in this feedback simply click on the link below.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=7vqHHEfMJUKRxYa41u3SDeZF-RSvoFdAo5X6S5ZH86IUQUdRSIRERDczUDIMWkpRUEsyODNVSEs4SC4u>

These remain challenging times for us all and in particular for our students who, however, continue to exhibit admirable resolve and resilience. Our staff greatly appreciate the support they regularly receive from parents and it is our desire to continue to work with you to ensure that we can offer the highest level of quality education that our young people deserve – be they in the classroom or, as may happen more frequently than we would like, working from home.

Mike

Mike Ion FCCT
Education Director
Avanti Schools Trust
www.avanti.org.uk

Currently reading: Teaching in The New Normal: Surviving and Thriving in the Online Classroom



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