

Communication Strategy

Rationale

Our vision is for Avanti Court to become one of the most respected and admired co-educational state schools in the UK. Not only for academic achievement but because of the pioneering and transforming education it gives children that come here. We want each child to love learning inside and outside of school as part of our ethos, drawn from the teachings of Sri Chaitanya, based on our three pillars: Educational Excellence, Character Formation and Spiritual Insight.

In order for our vision to be realised, we need to ensure that communication is central to school life and learning. Through good communication we build relationships and knowledge that are cornerstones of our school community made up primarily of children, parents and educators. We will succeed by working closely together.

Based on our three pillars, these aims are:

- Educational Excellence: to raise standards for the benefit of all children by putting highly effective school systems in place
- Character Formation: to understand the uniqueness of every child and challenging and supporting each to be the best they can be
- Spiritual Insight: to help children along their journey of self-discovery to meet their spiritual, academic and social potential

Principles of communication

A strong communication strategy ensures that every member of our community feels valued and in turn values the aims and vision of the school. Therefore our guiding principles for all school communication must be:

- Clear, accurate and precise
- Inclusive to the whole school community
- Improving our school by listening to each other
- Creating effective systems for feedback.

The existentialist psychologist, Rollo May, once said, "Communication leads to community, that is, to understanding, intimacy and mutual valuing".



Underpinned by our distinctive philosophy, we strive to communicate truthfully, for the ultimate benefit of all in our community and in a pleasing and respectful way.

Monitoring quality

To achieve the best communication:

- We will ensure messaging is <u>consistent</u> through all forms of school communication (emails, internal memos, briefings, conversations, meetings, newsletters, Facebook, etc).
- We will monitor the <u>quality</u> of information going from the school with the senior leadership team approving all letters and other messages to parents (including via Facebook, FOAC Facebook, website)

Below are the school's communication channels and processes to 1) raise concerns and complaints, 2) wanting to meet staff, 3) wanting to meet the parent governor, and 4) sharing ideas.

Collective responsibility

Parents are responsible for accessing this information and gathering opportunities (newsletters, coffee morning etc) provided and if they require further information or detail are expected to communicate with teachers, office team or the school leadership team. Any misinformation heard in the playground or among other parents must be <u>questioned and / or verified</u> before it is repeated so that the correct details can be given. Repeating misinformation can be damaging.

Communication channels

Who do we communicate to?	What do we communicate?	How do we communicate?
Parents (individually, collectively, via FOAC, direct from school)	Information about the school Teacher information Logistics: Dates/Times/Terms Events/Visits Incidences Safety information Progress updates Strategic Plans: long term plans of the school	Newsletter Letters from HT Website, Email Facebook Twitter Parent mail Face to face (daily with SLT; regular coffee morning; termly with formal parent consultations) Notes home Reading records
Children	Information about learning Learning Progress Marking and feedback Behaviour monitoring reports Celebration events Home learning projects, reading progress	Face to face (teacher to child) Parent consultations Letters to children Notes home Celebration awards
Governors and Trustees	All statutory aspects of the school are reported to Governors: Information about progress, learning and teaching, standards, behaviour, leadership, parentview, finance, buildings, safeguarding, recruitment, HR and admissions and attendance. *	Governors meetings Head Teacher report Finance reports Termly face to face meetings Weekly HT and Chair discussion Email
Prospective Parents	Information about the school Teacher information Logistics: Dates/Times/Terms	Website Advertisements Facebook Letters Phone calls and face to face
Teachers	Teaching, progress, standards, strategy, professional dialogue, safeguarding *	Face to face Briefings Memos Emails Texts Official documents (appraisal for example) Meetings
Local Community	Information about the school	Website
Local Authority, Council and Government	Finance, Standards, Safeguarding, Statutory aspects, Admissions, Attendance. *	Finance reports and returns Submission of data Phone call and face to face; Ofsted

(* This is not an exhaustive list but most often communicated)

Processes- Concerns and complaints

1st point of call	Talk to your child's class teacher after school (teachers cannot discuss issues before the school day as they need to be prepared for the children) Identify issue, discuss possible solutions, agree how to monitor or what the outcome will be.
2nd point of call	To discuss further make an appointment with the Year Group Leader Discuss concerns, consider ways forward
3rd point of call	If not resolved, make an appointment with the Senior Leaders Discuss with HeadTeacher, monitor and refer to other services as necessary
4th point of call	If the HT has not resolved the concern, complaint or issue satisfactorily contact the Chair of Governors Write a letter address to the Chair of Governors and hand into the office in a sealed envelope

Wanting to meet staff

Meeting the class teacher		Arrange to meet the teacher one day after school
Meeting the Head or Deputy	Arrange an appointment to meet the member of the Senior Leaderhip team	The HT and DHT's diary quickly fill up. Appointments may be made the following week or as soon as possible.

Wanting to meet the parent governor

Parent governor	Arrange to meet the parent governors by leaving your details with the office	The parent governor will contact you via email of phone to arrange an appointment

Sharing ideas

FOAC Events	To discuss or share ideas about possible events, contact FOAC	Attend coffee morning, email FOAC (See website for details) join FOAC Facebook
Ideas	If you do not want to share ideas face to face, write your ideas on a communication note and drop intothe communication box in the office area. Attend coffee mornings. Email the school avanticourt@avanti.org.uk	