



Avanti Insight

Official Newsletter for Avanti Grange Secondary School

FEBRUARY 2022 vol2

A Message from the Principal

The excitement continues to build as we approach September with over 170 students applying for a place at Avanti Grange. My advice is to get your returns in as soon as possible after the 1st March to secure your place.

It was a pleasure to see so many parents and students at our Coffee Morning on Saturday. It is already clear to see what a vibrant and welcoming community we are going to become. We will be holding several similar events in the lead up to September.

I am pleased to announce Ben Martin as our Assistant Principal. Mr Martin joins us from Robert Barclay Academy where he oversaw Behaviour and Safeguarding. Mr Martin has already made an impact within the Trust and we are exceptionally fortunate to have recruited such a talented and experienced leader to the Avanti Grange family.



Location, Location, Location...

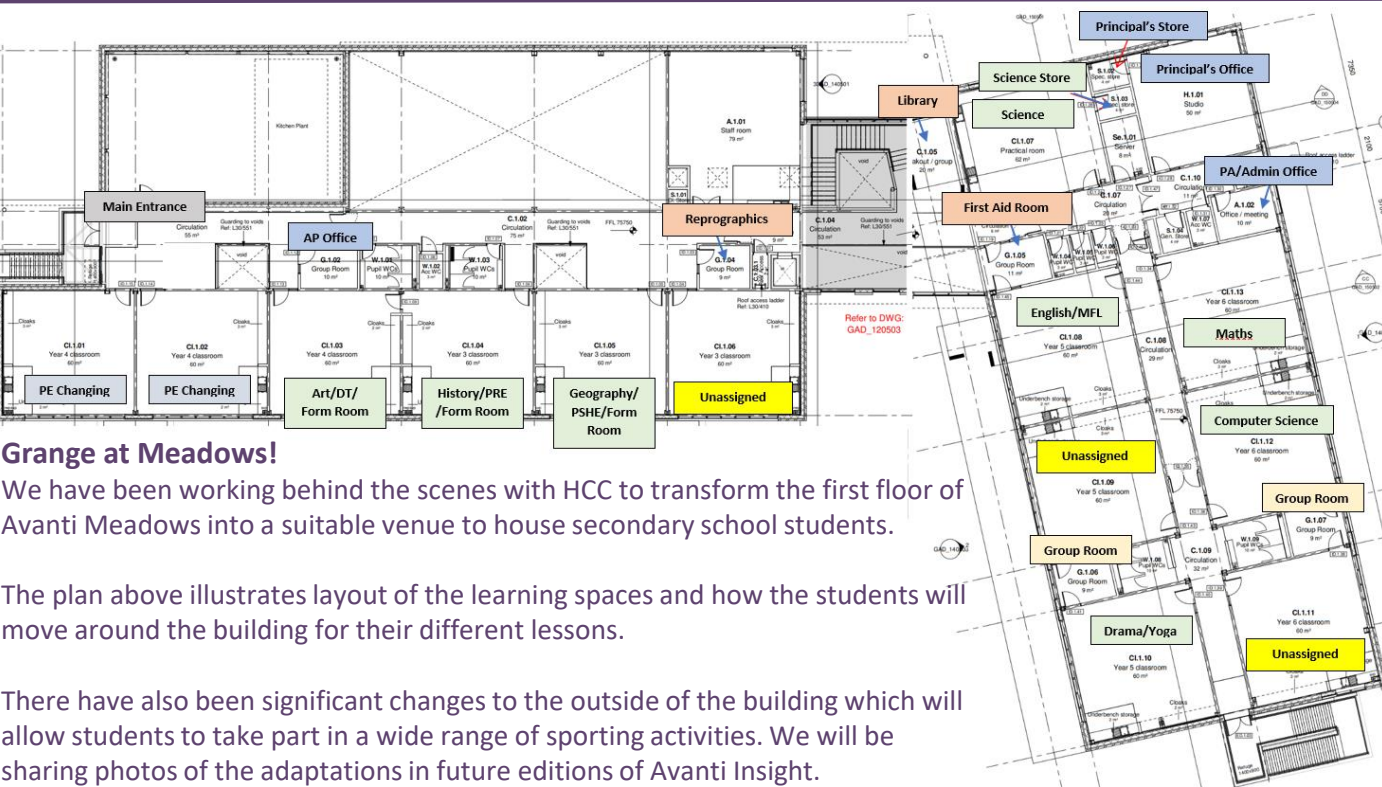
Once the Avanti 'Learning Village' is complete, Avanti Grange will sit proudly between our two primaries. The road linking the three schools is built (not yet open) This will provide easy access from Stortford Fields, St. Michael's Hurst, as well as the whole of Bishops Stortford and the surrounding villages.

To make access even easier the 510-Bus Route will continue to stop just a 3min walk from the school gates. Bike shelters will be available, and we will have a drop off system in operation as well. We look forward to greeting you at the school gate each morning, whatever the weather!

Future Avanti Parents Community Evening Wednesday 2nd March 6.00pm

If you are offered a place at Avanti Grange on the 1st March, you may still be undecided or have a few last-minute questions before selecting Avanti Grange. If so, this is the event for you! Book a place to discuss some of the practicalities around the start of next year including bus routes and uniform, as well as applications for our SSC and PTA 'Avanti Action'. There will also be the opportunity to talk directly with the Principal to clarify any specific questions you may have. There will be limited space available, please reserve your place using the Eventbrite link below:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/269068530217>



Grange at Meadows!

We have been working behind the scenes with HCC to transform the first floor of Avanti Meadows into a suitable venue to house secondary school students.

The plan above illustrates layout of the learning spaces and how the students will move around the building for their different lessons.

There have also been significant changes to the outside of the building which will allow students to take part in a wide range of sporting activities. We will be sharing photos of the adaptations in future editions of Avanti Insight.

Courageous – Curious – Resilient



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Staff Insight

Assistant Principal: Ben Martin

Why did you get into teaching?

My passion for teaching started at the young age of 15, where I played and coached tennis at the nearby Dunmow Tennis Club. It was this experience of coaching that inspired me to go onto coach in other sports, before deciding to apply to complete a degree in Physical Education with Qualified Teacher Status. My desire to teach came from my love for sport and developing young people to take part in physical activity and enjoy learning new skills.

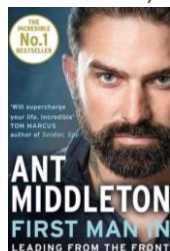


What attracted you to Avanti Grange?

It is not very often, that an opportunity arises to be part of developing a brand-new school, particularly in an area close to home, within a community that you would like to give something back to. The reputation of the Avanti Trust is such that it was impossible for me not to apply. I have been lucky to have worked in two great schools, with two excellent leadership teams. I am now looking forward to shaping our school and developing our students, so that they learn to value themselves, others and the environment, through being courageous, curious and resilient.

What was the last book you read?

Ant Middleton – First Man In



Tell us something about you that will surprise us...

As you will have seen from my hobbies, I am a ski enthusiast. However, one of my biggest fears, and one that I am constantly trying to conquer, is my fear of heights! Despite this, one day I hope to climb Mount Everest!

What are your favourite hobbies?

Football, Skiing, Golf, Tennis

Educational Visits

At Avanti Grange we understand the importance of educational visits and we are already planning our numerous school excursions. School trips are vital in providing students the opportunity to add depth to the learning, further develop their culture capital and most importantly spend time with their friends, making memories which will last a lifetime.

Avanti Quest

One of the excursions currently being finalised is 'Avanti Quest.' Avanti Quest is an immersive offering of spiritual insight through meditation and yoga. As well as a time where all students have the space to reflect, relax, connect and grow their character through a combination of outdoor activities and workshops.

The programme is borne of a desire to complement and extend Avanti's school life with an off-site programme which represents all that is unique about the 'Avanti

Way.' The focus is on nurturing their physical, emotional and spiritual potential without any of the distractions of modern life. This will take place at our new retreat 'The Vedanta' pictured above.



Monday 7th March
4pm – 5pm

Routes into Teaching
Information evening

All your questions answered!

Information on Funding
Qualifications required
Internships, Assessment only and Apprenticeship routes

Find the right route for you via The Avanti Institute

e-Qualitas

tap

Effective professional development is integral to our success of the Avanti Trust. The Avanti Institute provides the highest quality training to develop, engage and retain our incredibly talented staff.



AVANTI
INSTITUTE

We are always looking for talented and committed people to join the Avanti teaching community. If you have ever considered becoming a teacher but are unsure about the various routes to gain QTS we can help!

On **Monday 7th of March at 4.00pm** we will be running a webinar to answer all of your questions about funding, timescales and prerequisites.

Principal Rhys Jones: 'After over 15 years of teaching I still get excited about being in the classroom. Teaching really is the most rewarding career. I would recommend the teaching profession, especially with Avanti, to anyone!'

If you would like to find out more click on the following link [Join conversation \(microsoft.com\)](https://www.avanti-trust.co.uk/join-conversation)

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