



**AVANTI MEADOWS**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL



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# Avanti Meadows Primary School, Bishop's Stortford



Sally Allan (left) and Jennifer Penney (right)

## Welcome to Avanti Meadows Primary School from our Executive Principal, and Head of School

Welcome to our prospectus for Avanti Meadows Primary School.



Our school provides parents and pupils with the highest standards of education and pastoral care. We want our children to take pride in their school and for every member of the school community to work hard to provide high quality education, care and support for every child and every family. We set the highest expectations from the outset to ensure that we provide creative learning experiences, which inspire and challenge our pupils to achieve the very best in all aspects of their learning.

Our recent Ofsted Inspection in March 2024 judged the school to be Good with Outstanding features. **"From the very start, pupils develop the deep consideration for others, self-reflection and kind relationships that are at the heart of this school"** (Ofsted, 2024)

We are proud of what this school has achieved in its initial few years, and we have a lot to celebrate. We are positive about the future growth of the school, as we continue to welcome new families to Avanti Meadows.

Our curriculum is based upon the National Curriculum, and we adopt a personalised approach in order to provide tailor- made learning paths for all pupils.

The site for Avanti Meadows is a brand-new building and the facilities are bespoke, contemporary and first-class, which make for a unique learning experience.

**Pupils are proud to be challenged in their lessons. They are determined to try hard and do well... teachers have the expertise to teach well... pupils achieve high standards in their work. They are eager and ready for their next steps. (Ofsted, 2024)**

I hope that you will take this opportunity to discover more about the Avanti ethos and look forward to working with you to provide the best possible education for your child.

**Mrs Sally Allan**  
Executive Principal

**Mrs Jennifer Penney**  
Head of School

# Our purpose and virtues

Our purpose is simple, yet profound:

To inspire spiritually compassionate changemakers

We realise our purpose by developing six virtues

## Self-discipline

This virtue is a foundation of our capacity to express free will by the ability to regulate our actions and emotions.

## Respect

This virtue is an essential ingredient for positive educational interactions.

## Empathy

This virtue builds our capacity to deal with complexity by broadening our perspective and not rushing to assumptions.



## Integrity

This virtue enables us to build trusting relationships and a healthy sense of self-worth.

## Courage

This virtue frees us from artificial boundaries that limit our growth.

## Gratitude

This virtue helps us develop a deeper connection with others and the world by recognising their contribution to our success.

# The three pillars

Our school prepares pupils for their respective life-journeys by promoting educational excellence, character formation and spiritual insight.



## Spiritual Insight

A healthy tree has deep and strong roots to withstand storms. The roots of our spiritual life similarly keep us grounded. Watering our roots is essential to their care, reminding us of the importance of our internal journey of self-discovery.



## Character Formation

A strong trunk stands firm to bear a vibrant crown. Our strength of character similarly enables us to engage positively with all that life has to offer. That character grows from spiritual roots and is strengthened through the quest to make the world a better place, starting with ourselves.



## Educational Excellence

A healthy tree has a flourishing crown, with fruits that enrich the lives of others. Similarly, our unique gifts are nurtured through educational excellence and enable us to contribute to the world.

# Our beliefs



## 1

### Realising potential

We believe we each have incredible potential which can be nurtured intellectually, emotionally, physically and spiritually.

## 2

### Empowering choice

We believe that while we cannot always control our circumstances in life, we have the capacity to choose our responses; to respond with goodness and to nurture goodness within.

## 3

### Strengthening interconnection

We believe all life is interconnected and therefore strive to care for and respect all life – human, animal and plant – living in a way that causes the least possible harm.

## 4

### Enriching diversities

We believe we each observe the same one reality, but from our own unique perspective; it is through open-hearted dialogue that we deeply enrich our vision.

## 5

### Expanding purpose

We believe by serving a greater purpose, we can live a meaningful and satisfying life of contribution.

## 6

### Nourishing loving relationships

We believe relationships which nourish our need to love and be loved encourage us to be the best that we can be.



# Your Child's Journey

Avanti Grange, Avanti Brook (EYFS KS1 & 2, KS3 & 4) and Avanti Meadows (EYFS KS1 & 2, KS3 & 4) are part of the Avanti family of schools.\*

We welcome you and your family to come and visit any of the schools at our open events or school tours.

Talk to us about how to apply for each school.

\*Enrolling at either Meadows or Brook does not guarantee a place at Grange. Parents must apply as per the county's secondary school application process.



## BISHOP'S STORTFORD





# Our commitment to parents, carers and students

We want to involve you as parents and carers fully in your child's education. By working closely with you we can ensure that each stage of your child's journey is stimulating, positive and enriching.

We will provide:

- A safe and secure learning environment in which your child can flourish and be happy
- High quality teaching and learning for every child
- A rigorous curriculum that challenges and stretches every pupil to be the best that they can be;
- A regular and robust assessment and reporting system that clearly informs you about your child's progress;
- An enrichment programme that includes academic, creative, sport and music related activities;
- A wide range of local, and national educational visits;
- Clear and precise feedback that enables every pupil to master key skills and build their understanding;
- Opportunities to contribute to the life of the school and develop their leadership skills









# Modern learning environment



Avanti Meadows Primary School is part of the larger Avanti Learning Village, a new all-through (3 to 18) provision in the north of Bishop's Stortford. The Avanti Learning Village will offer parents the opportunity for their children to benefit from a comprehensive and coherent learning journey from pre-school right through to aged 18 and A Levels.

Year 6 pupils at Avanti Meadows Primary School are invited to apply for a place in Year 7 at the adjacent Avanti Grange Secondary School although parents and carers will be free to submit applications at other schools if they wish. Currently, there is not an automatic transition, although this is something the Trust are hoping to achieve in the coming years.

At Avanti Meadows, we offer up to date facilities for your child to enjoy – these include a large outdoor field, a science laboratory, a MUGA, a large and small school hall, a yoga studio and a nurture provision.









**PLACES  
AVAILABLE  
ACROSS  
ALL YEARS,  
RECEPTION  
TO YEAR 6**





# Why Avanti Meadows?

- ▶ Modern School with State-of-the-art facilities
- ▶ Holistic Curriculum which includes yoga, mindfulness, meditation and nurture
- ▶ Academic excellence for all in a calm, caring and nurturing environment
- ▶ An opportunity for an all-through Avanti approach to learning from the Primary to Secondary phase.



**AVANTI MEADOWS**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

# The Avanti approach to Learning and Teaching

Learning and teaching in all Avanti Schools is underpinned by the Avanti Teacher Toolkit. Our teachers and teaching assistants are guided by the 12 Avanti Habits, rooted in cognitive science and evidence-informed practice. All our teachers are continuously developing their practice through exceptional professional development from the Avanti Institute, ensuring that our pupils benefit from the highest quality teaching in every lesson.

## 12 elements of great learning and teaching in Avanti Trust Schools

Through a planned programme of training and development supported by The Avanti Institute, we ensure that all Avanti Trust Schools have a highly developed sense of what constitutes great teaching. We continuously train and coach our staff on every feature of high-quality pedagogy, in order that every pupil gets an education that is second-to-none.



We ensure that all our teachers:

1. Build positive relationships with pupils and each other
2. Begin and end lessons calmly with familiar routines
3. Use intentional seating and classroom set up
4. Create a flourishing learning environment by managing behaviour effectively
5. Have clear and ambitious learning intentions for all pupils
6. Are always context considerate and adapt practice appropriately
7. Activate daily review of prior learning
8. Present new material in small steps
9. Provide modelling and scaffolding
10. Give opportunities for guided and independent practice
11. Ask effective questions and check for pupil understanding
12. Review learning regularly before moving on to new content





“Plan activities that will enable students to demonstrate understanding and master skills.”



# Curriculum

## Early Years Foundation Stage – Pre-School and Reception

At Avanti Meadows Primary School, we want our pupils' first experiences of education to be enjoyable and engaging. We encourage all members of the school community to work collaboratively, with high aspirations and expectations of everyone, consistent with our ethos.

By the end of the Foundation Stage (Reception Class), we aim for all our children to have developed positive attitudes to school supported by positive relationships with adults, strong friendships, meaningful learning activities set in an engaging, calm environment and strong links between school and parents/carers. We also expect them to have a foundational understanding of phonics and will offer additional directed support to children when and where needed..

Children will be offered a broad, balanced Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum, which follows the Early Years Framework. This allows plenty of opportunities to learn through play in a wide variety of contexts and focuses on: personal, social and emotional development; communication, language and literacy; problem-solving, reasoning and numeracy; knowledge and understanding of the world; and physical and creative development. Teaching will encourage all children to ask questions and talk about their play and learning.



## Key Stages 1 and 2: Years 1–6

Throughout Key Stages 1 and 2, pupils will continue to develop a love of reading, through an effective balance of synthetic phonics, drama, speaking and listening tasks, guided reading and storytelling. We know that pupils who can communicate orally and in writing, and who understand the value and pleasure of reading, are more likely to have happy, fulfilling academic and personal lives.

With these skills, pupils will access an ambitious, broad and balanced curriculum that includes:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Music
- Art
- Computing
- Physical Education (PE)
- Humanities – History and Geography
- Design and Technology
- Philosophy and Religious Education (PRE)
- Yoga and Meditation
- French (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6)
- PSHE (Personal Social Health and Economic Education)

We aim to enrich the curriculum with memorable learning experiences, including educational visits and outdoor learning opportunities.

By the end of Key Stage 2, we aim for all our pupil to have the confidence, resilience and increasing maturity to deal with changes in school and at home, whatever they may be. We expect them to have developed: a love of reading; a thirst to enquire and ask questions and find out; positive relationships; good behaviour; and key literary, creative, mathematical, scientific and artistic skills to prepare them for their next phase of education.

Our compassionate and caring pastoral approach will encourage all pupils to reflect on and, to explore their own spiritual journey and enter the secondary phase of education with a reflective, critical thinking and compassionate mind. We want them to understand the impact of their choices on themselves, on others and on their environment, both locally and globally. We expect them to be positive contributors as British and World citizens.



# Uniform

Uniform and achievement have always been a high priority for the Avanti Schools Trust. We believe the way in which our pupils wear their school uniform reflects the importance which is placed on attention to detail and pride in the school. The smart appearance of our pupils has been appreciated by parents of prospective students and visitors to our schools. For more information about the school's uniform requirements please visit our website.



# Tour of the school

## School Office ▼

Avanti Meadows is located in the heart of a new community, with a modern design. In our school office, a member of our team is always ready and willing to help and serve our community.



## Classrooms ▲

Spacious classrooms, with state-of-the-art IT equipment. Each room has abundant facilities for pupils to access independently to aid their learning. Our primary school also has a science laboratory, which is used by our KS2 children.



## Learning Support and Nurture Provision ▼

Our inclusion team provides a nurture approach to learning support for those children with learning needs. The Rose Room is a calm, quiet and comfortable home-like environment and is led by Mrs Maher, our Assistant Principal for Inclusion.



## Dining Area ▼

The lunch area allows pupils to enjoy together nutritionally balanced and delicious vegetarian meals every day.





## Avanti Meadows PTA

We have a small, yet committed group of parents who are dedicated to developing a thriving PTA for the school. To date, they have organised several events, supported in school parent meetings, run a pre-loved uniform sale and have ideas to raise money for the school. If this interests you please email them directly for more information: [avantimeadowspta@gmail.com](mailto:avantimeadowspta@gmail.com)



## Sports Facilities ▼

Outdoor space dedicated to sports. MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) and sports field equipped latest sports equipment.



# School lunches

An important part of our ethos is around the provision of hot, fresh, nutritious meals. Sharing tasty, healthy school lunches is an integral part of the educational experience at an Avanti school. It's also an opportunity to enhance social skills and table etiquette, ensuring lunchtimes are a positive experience for all. School staff often enjoy taking lunch with pupils, creating a family atmosphere.

The lunch meals cooked on-site are vegetarian (in line with the faith ethos of the Trust) and half-termly menus are also available on the School's website. If the lunch provision on offer does not meet your child's needs, or if your child has specific dietary requirements/preferences, please do speak to Govinda's (our catering provider) so that they can provide for your child accordingly.

We invite parents to visit the school to sample the school lunches in order to satisfy themselves with the quality of provision. We strongly encourage parents who are eligible to apply for Free School Meals. An application form can be obtained from the school office. Any forms received by the school will remain confidential.











# Life at Avanti



## Wellbeing wisdom

Avanti staff have access to regular wellbeing and ethos training sessions. Our previous sessions have been led by medical professionals, corporate coaches and wellbeing experts. We discuss everything from how to overcome stress, the benefits of yoga and meditation, to learning about ourselves and our own spiritual journey.



## Retreats

Staff and upper KS2 students will have an opportunity to go to annual off-site retreats. These are fantastic retreats allowing; individuals to nurture and develop more friendships, engage in fulfilling activities whilst going out of their comfort zone, improve overall wellbeing and reconnect with nature.



## Wide, rigorous and unique curriculum offer

Our schools offer a dynamic classroom approach in which pupils actively explore real-world problems and challenges and acquire a deeper knowledge. Pupils at all ages engage in projects, from studying the environment to social experiments to working on scientific innovations. Our pupils also have the opportunities to demonstrate their own leadership skills and become a part of our Junior Leadership Team.



## Yoga

Every student has access to Yoga and Mindfulness sessions ranging from 20 minutes to 1 hour a week. Yoga and Mindfulness help to ground pupils, relieve stress and improve their overall health and wellbeing.



## Fresh vegetarian meals

We believe a healthy gut is the basis of a healthy life, and that's why it's so important to us that we only use the freshest ingredients when preparing our tasty, nutritious vegetarian meals available for all children.



## Avanti Community

Avanti hosts regular events for parents and the wider community. This is a series of events focused around wellbeing and development for parents in their personal and family lives.







# Avanti Schools Trust

Avanti Schools are based across the country. The idea for Avanti began in 2003 and our first school was opened in 2008. Our vision was for a family of schools based upon our core principles of educational excellence, character formation, and spiritual insight. We now have over 5500 students and 700+ members of staff across our family of 12 schools.

Avanti has a proven approach to school development and improvement, with excellent pupil outcomes across our schools for example our school outcomes are amongst the top 10% in the country at Key Stage 2 and 4.



# Reviews from across the Avanti Schools Trust



"We have been with the school for four years now and are very happy. Our daughter is thriving, she has had the most wonderful teachers and built strong friendship groups, we have also developed a wide network of friends through the parent community. The grounds are simply beautiful and my daughter loves the extra curricular yoga class Avanti Schools remains my first choice of school in the area and I'm looking forward to my son joining next year."

**Parent**  
of child in Year 4

"Thank you for welcoming me to the school today. It has been inspiring to meet staff and students so engaged in learning. My congratulations to everyone involved in the conception and opening of this splendid premises."

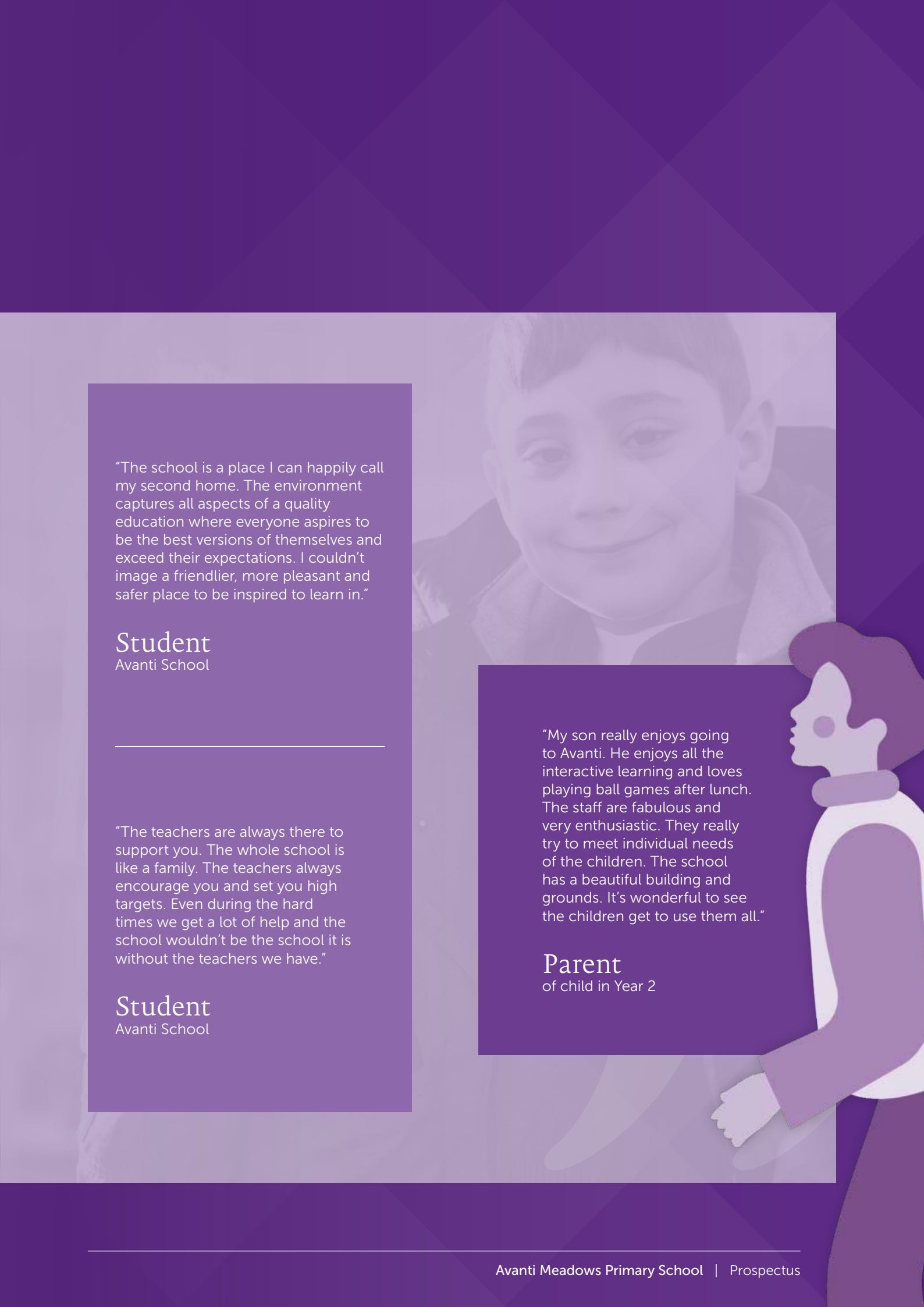
**Damian Hinds**  
Former Secretary of State  
for Education

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"The provision for pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is exceptional."

School leaders and governors, through the Avanti Trust, are wholly committed to ambitious outcomes for all pupils."

**Ofsted**



"The school is a place I can happily call my second home. The environment captures all aspects of a quality education where everyone aspires to be the best versions of themselves and exceed their expectations. I couldn't image a friendlier, more pleasant and safer place to be inspired to learn in."

**Student**  
Avanti School

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"The teachers are always there to support you. The whole school is like a family. The teachers always encourage you and set you high targets. Even during the hard times we get a lot of help and the school wouldn't be the school it is without the teachers we have."

**Student**  
Avanti School

"My son really enjoys going to Avanti. He enjoys all the interactive learning and loves playing ball games after lunch. The staff are fabulous and very enthusiastic. They really try to meet individual needs of the children. The school has a beautiful building and grounds. It's wonderful to see the children get to use them all."

**Parent**  
of child in Year 2





“The provision for pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is exceptional.

School leaders and governors, through the Avanti Trust, are wholly committed to ambitious outcomes for all pupils.”

Ofsted



# Admissions

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS POLICY

[avanti.org.uk/avantimeadows/admissions/](http://avanti.org.uk/avantimeadows/admissions/)

APPLY VIA THE HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ADMISSIONS WEBSITE

[hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/schools-directory](http://hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/schools-directory)



# A Journey of Self-Discovery



## AVANTI SCHOOLS TRUST

The Trust website is a good starting point to learn about the Avanti vision at play in our schools. Short videos are also online.



[www.avanti.org.uk](http://www.avanti.org.uk)

## SCHOOL LIFE IN DETAIL

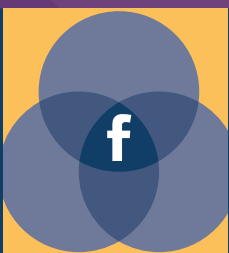
The school website offers up-to-date information on key aspects of school life, from ethos to admissions; school lunches to job opportunities.



[www.avanti.org.uk/avantimeadows](http://www.avanti.org.uk/avantimeadows)

## SOCIALISING

We use Facebook as a shared community page where many school and Trust highlights are broadcast – a great way to stay informed and in touch.



[www.facebook.com/avantischoolstrust](http://www.facebook.com/avantischoolstrust)

## INSTAGRAM

Beyond the classroom walls, Instagram is a window into the incredible community of Avanti Meadows; where education, discovery and growth thrive.



[@avantischoolstrust](https://www.instagram.com/avantischoolstrust)

## TWITTER

At Avanti Meadows Primary School we use Twitter to keep everyone updated about the amazing work our teachers and pupils are doing.



[@AvantiMeadows](https://twitter.com/AvantiMeadows)

## Avanti Meadows Primary School

Farnham Road  
Bishop's Stortford CM23 1FQ

Phone: 01279 598575

Email: [avantimeadows@avanti.org.uk](mailto:avantimeadows@avanti.org.uk)

Website: [www.avanti.org.uk/avantimeadows](http://www.avanti.org.uk/avantimeadows)



## AVANTI MEADOWS

Excellence · Virtue · Devotion

Avanti Meadows Primary School is part of the Avanti Schools Trust

Avanti Schools Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales

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