



AVANTI SCHOOLS TRUST

# SW HUB AVANTI NEWS

December 2019

## Message from the Hub Board Chair (Dr Molly Warrington)



Dr. Molly Warrington

Welcome to the first of what we propose will be regular newsletters. The Hub Board has now held two formal meetings (one at Avanti Gardens and one at Avanti Hall) and you should soon be able to find the minutes of these meetings on each school's website. I have been very impressed not only with the work being done in all three schools to raise the standards, but also the commitment of the staff, students and parents to ensure we move forward with optimism. The Hub Board members are committed to ensuring to raising standards in Avanti Gardens, Avanti Hall and Avanti Park, by offering a coherent, invigorating and challenging education which transforms and improves these schools, and which excites and motivates all who learn and teach in them.

The aim of this newsletter is to provide a brief update on some of the various actions and discussions that have been taking place across the three Avanti schools in the South West Hub since the schools joined on November 1 2019.

### Curriculum Review



The dates for the visits by the curriculum review team were published a few weeks ago – see below for more detail. The visits will provide an opportunity for the review team to hear from people within each school community (children, parents/carers, teachers). The review team is keen to understand why each school is special, what people think is important to maintain and what needs to change.

#### Review Team:

- **Dr James Biddulph**, Headteacher of the University of Cambridge Primary School (Lead Reviewer)
- **Ms Michelle Loughrey**, Education consultant (recently Headteacher of Weeke Primary School)
- **Mrs Aimee Durning**, Senior Learning Coach (Teaching Assistant), University of Cambridge Primary School, Best Classroom Support Award Winner 2019.
- **Mr Luke Rolls**, Assistant Headteacher, member of ACME, Curriculum expertise
- **Dr Richard Pountney** (Sheffield Hallam University)
- **Adrian Dow**, Headteacher of Steiner School, Greenwich
- **Dr Martyn Rawson**, Tutor International Masters in Waldorf Pedagogy

#### Dates when some of review team members will be in each school:

Date	Venue
January 20, 2020	Avanti Hall (Exeter)
January 21, 2020	Avanti Park (Frome)
January 22, 2020	Avanti Gardens (Bristol)
February 3, 2020	Avanti Hall (Exeter)
February 4, 2020	Avanti Park (Frome)
February 5, 2020	Avanti Gardens (Bristol)

#### Contact the SW Hub Board

If you have an issue you would like to raise with the SW Hub Board you can contact the Clerk via the following email address:  
SWHub.Clerk@avanti.org.uk



## Staffing



SW Hub Director

Carolyn Dickinson



SW Hub Lead for SEND/Safeguarding

Pearl Barnes

**O**ur new Hub Director, Carolyn Dickinson, will officially take up post on January 1 2020. Carolyn will act as the executive lead across all three Avanti schools in the South West and will line manage each of the three principals. Carolyn will be visiting each school at the start of the new term and is keen to meet and talk with as many school stakeholders as possible.

Also starting in January 2020 is Pearl Barnes, our new Hub lead for SEND/Safeguarding. Pearl has already met some parents and staff and will be working closely with Carolyn to further strengthen and develop systems, policies and procedures in all three schools.

## School Improvement

Each principal has been asked to provide a revised development plan for the next two terms, plans that will focus on three main priorities:

- Improving the quality of leadership at all levels;
- Improving the quality of teaching, learning and assessment;
- Improving systems to help each school run more efficiently and effectively.

Once agreed, these revised plans will be published on each school's website.



## Appointment of permanent principals for Avanti Park School and Avanti Hall School

The SW Hub Board has agreed to advertise for the above two posts early in the spring term 2020. It is hoped that the interviews of shortlisted candidate will take place in February 2020 with the successful candidates in place by the start of the summer term 2020.

## Significant changes to each of the South West Avanti Schools

The Hub Board and the MAT Board have now formally considered the significant change proposals for each school following the period on consultation in October and November 2019. Whilst taking into account the representations made by parents their unanimous decision, based on the viability of each school and on projected need for secondary school places into the future, was to continue as planned and submit a formal business case to the Department for Education at the next possible opportunity. This is likely to be in January 2020, and if approved the changes – see below – will come into effect from September 2020 at the earliest.



### AVANTI GARDENS SCHOOL

**Avanti Gardens School significant change proposal:** to change the age range at Avanti Gardens School (former Steiner Academy Bristol) from 4 to 16 to 4 to 11 with effect from September 2020. The capacity of the academy will change to 420 pupils (from the current 720). The Published Admission Number (PAN) will increase from 52 to 60.



### AVANTI PARK SCHOOL

**Avanti Park School significant change proposal:** to change the age range at Avanti Park School (former Steiner Academy Frome) from 3 to 16 to 3 to 13\*. The school will then be re-designated as a middle (deemed primary) school from September 2020. The capacity of the academy will reduce to 540 pupils (from the current 720). The Published Admission Number (PAN) will increase from 52 to 60

\*The current Year 10 (class 9) will continue to be educated at Avanti park until they complete their GCSE courses at the end of the summer term 2021.



### AVANTI HALL SCHOOL

**Avanti Hall School significant change proposal:** to extend the forms of entry into the secondary phase from the current two forms to three forms from September 2021 and to four forms of entry from 2023. The capacity of the academy will increase to 1020 pupils (from the current 720). The Published Admission Number (PAN) for the primary phase will increase from 52 to 60 in 2020 and in the secondary phase will increase to 90 from 2021 and then to 120 in 2023.