



The Manor

Preparatory School

To Parents of Children in Reception

Friday 6 March 2020

Dear Parents

AV1 Bubble Busters

I am sure you are all very aware that Ally is not in school at the moment. We have been approached by a charity called Bubble Busters which gives access to lessons through a telepresence robot called AV1. AV1 enables them to partake in the education and vital social aspects of school from home or the hospital bed. Use of AV1 is currently being used in the Bubble Busters pilot project by the charity Special Effect to improve educational and social opportunities for children who are too unwell to attend school. The AV1 is also being used in a nationwide research project by the Department for Education.

AV1 is in the classroom in place of the child, and the child can then join in lessons by listening, watching the teacher, asking questions, and participating in discussions. The child will be operating AV1 from a tablet or smartphone, wherever they might be undergoing treatment or recovering.

There are strict rules around using AV1 with multi-level security measures. Each AV1 has a unique passcode and is password protected. It is locked to a single device - one AV1, one user only.

AV1 uses a one-way video stream and two-way audio stream, so allows the child to be able to see, hear and communicate with classmates and teachers. No-one can see the child. The streams are encrypted and 'live' and no recording takes place.

These strict rules are in place in order to protect your child who will be in the same class as AV1, as well as the child who is not able to attend school. Normal safeguarding procedures operated to keep your child safe in school will be applied.

For more information please visit <https://www.specialeffect.org.uk/>.

In order to welcome AV1 into the classroom we do need to have your permission. Please complete the online reply slip [here](#) by Monday 9 March. Thank you.

If you would like any further information or have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Pippa McConnell
Head of Early Years

The Manor Preparatory School Faringdon Road Abingdon Oxfordshire OX13 6LN

Tel: 01235 858458 • email: admissions@manorprep.org • www.manorprep.org