

19 March 2020

Castle School

Academy Road

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Principal: Mrs S Wild

Dear Parent/Carer

Corona Virus Statement 19.3.2020

I am writing to let you know that due to being unable to continue to operate without putting pupils and staff at further risk, we are highly likely to have to close Castle School to pupils on Friday afternoon, 20.3.2020.

We have already experienced a significant drop in both staff and pupils due to self-isolation and we cannot effectively prevent the potential spread of the virus by continuing to bring remaining staff and pupils into close proximity within the school environment.

These are extraordinary times and we have not taken this decision lightly. We have a large number of pupils with underlying medical conditions and it is very important those who are vulnerable, practice effective social distancing.

Like many other special schools, we anticipate that our staffing levels will fall massively next week as more school staff are forced to self-isolate. We realise that this is a very challenging time for everyone, however, ensuring that pupils (and staff) are as safe as possible is always our first priority.

Any closure will be confirmed tomorrow, 20.3.2020. We will keep parents updated via our website and will endeavour to open when it is safe to do so. We will continue to review the situation regularly.

We will be sending out further information about how we will continue to support you, e.g. regular contact by phone/email, and are also putting together advice and support and ideas on the website for games, activities and educational activities etc. to help keep your children busy.

We are also working to see if limited provision could be made available for children who are not at high risk of getting seriously ill with coronavirus, including those of key workers.

If you are in this group, please let us know so we can make plans where possible.

Yours sincerely

SK Wild

Sara Wild Principal



