

20th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

COVID-19: Urgent Guidance for Parents for Monday 23rd March 2020

Further to the advice issued by the government last night relating to the provision of childcare for key workers and vulnerable children, please see attached letter from Cumbria County Council detailing next steps across the county.

In addition to this letter, I would like to add some further details regarding the provision at Castle Park School for the next few days.

- Castle Park School will be **open** on Monday 23rd March from 9.30a.m. - 3.15p.m. for the children of affected families **if they cannot be cared for safely at home.**
- School will be open for the rest of the week for the children of affected families from 8.50 - 3.15p.m. until we receive further guidance.
- Before School Club will resume on Tuesday from 7.45p.m. if you have booked this provision, chargeable at the normal rate.
- After School Club will resume on Tuesday until 5.30p.m. if you have booked this provision, chargeable at the normal rate.
- All children will need to bring a packed lunch each day and a drink in the usual container. If your child is in receipt of free school meals, a packed lunch will be provided for your child.
- Children should be brought to the school playground where they will be collected by a member of staff at 9.30a.m. as has been the arrangement in recent days.
- Children should wear their normal school uniform and bring their PE kit to school.
- If your requirement for childcare is likely to fluctuate during the week, according to your shift pattern etc, please keep the school informed so that appropriate staffing ratios can be provided.
- If your child is not attending school, they should stay at home to keep themselves safe and limit transmission of the virus.
- School has provided every child with a pack of work for the coming weeks and more work will be provided soon via the school website. I will inform you when this is ready to be accessed. Please try and maintain daily reading, writing and maths practice for your child every day so as to keep those basic skills fresh in their minds. This is really important, as is exercise and activities as a family to provide reassurance during what will be a challenging time for many families.



I reiterate the message in the letter from Cumbria County Council. **If it is possible for your child to be cared for at home, then they should be.** It is crucial that we all do everything we can to limit the spread of COVID-19 to enable key workers to care for those who are sick and for other key services to continue. We all have our part to play and I am sure that you will act responsibly and not ask us to care for your children when this could be done at home.

Thank you all for your support over the last few days and be assured that we will all continue to work together to achieve the best for you and your children.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs H F Richardson

Headteacher

