

Castle Hill School: Criteria, 3-19.

We cater for the needs of children and young people aged 3 – 19 years with severe or profound learning difficulties. Our pupils are not able to access a supported place in mainstream education or other special school.

All pupils have an EHCP/Statement of SEND. In addition to severe and profound needs, many of our pupils also have complex needs linked to physical or health difficulties. Many of our pupils have sensory impairments and some are multi-sensory impaired. The majority of our pupils are working at an early developmental level. Some of our pupils are also identified as being on the autistic spectrum, although this is rarely their primary diagnosis.

All pupils have targets which relate to cognition and learning, communication and interaction, physical development, and social development. Bespoke and adapted learning environments and a child centred teaching approach is applied to meet pupil need and attainment.

The school benefits from a multi-agency input from physiotherapists, speech and language therapists, nursing teams, occupational therapists and educational psychologists where appropriate.

The school has a total communication policy, designed to give all pupils the opportunity to communicate in the methods that are meaningful to them including the use of spoken language, Makaton sign, on-body signing, objects of reference, and intensive interaction.

Pupils are given opportunities to use and generalise social skills in a variety of in-school and out of school settings.

Pupils will most likely have:

- 1 Severe learning delay
- 2 Communication and interaction needs
- 3 Complex physical and medical needs
- 4 Sensory impairment

Pupils will general but not exclusively work within pre-entry levels of achievement.