

Education and Skills • People • Cumbria House • 110 - 117 Botchergate
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20 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Special School Provision in Cumbria

I write in relation to the ongoing situation regarding Covid-19, and Special School Provision for your child. As you know, these are unprecedented times, leading us to draw on our reserves, and to make difficult decisions every day.

Earlier this week, you will know that our Special Schools closed. There were a number of reasons for this collective decision to close, namely:

- Concerns about students with underlying health conditions
- Unsafe staffing ratios due to illness or self-isolation
- Ability to cope with escalating levels of illness

Schools will remain closed next week, although in some areas, Head Teachers may work with identified parents to discuss how to meet the needs of children with particularly complex needs.

Head Teachers will be working together to create a model of provision which will be sustainable over the coming months, and will be in touch with you directly to confirm arrangements with you for opening after Easter.

With thanks in advance to you for your understanding in these uncertain times.

Yours sincerely



Dan Barton

Assistant Director – Education and Skills