School: Castle Manor Academy

The Arch: Specialist Unit Cognition and Learning

Key Stage 3&4

Number of places: 22

Address:

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Headteacher:

Mrs Vanessa Whitcombe

SENDCo:

Mr Paul Gardiner

Description of Unit

Welcome to The Arch – a specialist Cognition and Learning Unit in the heart of Castle Manor Academy. We aim to support the learning of 26 pupils, aged 11-16, all of whom have special educational needs and disabilities. At the Arch, we strive to provide our pupils with a calm, safe and inspiring place to learn. A place that builds student's confidence and their independence. Working closely with parents, we nurture our pupil's skills and broaden their understanding of the world around us. We want to ensure our pupils are fully prepared to transition to their next step whether that be in further education, apprenticeships or employment.

<u>Overview</u>

All students follow a personalised curriculum and are taught within the Arch. Some pupils may also attend some lessons in mainstream where this is deemed appropriate. At the end of Year 9, all Arch pupils will have the opportunity to choose option subjects to pursue in Key Stage 4 if they would like to.

The Arch curriculum is broad and balanced and becomes increasingly bespoke to students needs and interests as they approach Year 11. Where possible, the Arch curriculum mirrors the mainstream curriculum but the content is reduced and the pace of lessons is slower. Every Arch pupil also receives targeted intervention in line with their EHCP outcomes. The Arch expectations for behaviour, uniform and PROUD values follow those of the mainstream with some reasonable adjustments made on an individual basis. This way, we hope to promote an inclusive culture within the whole school community.

