



**THE CASTLE ROCK  
SCHOOL**

Lionheart Educational Trust

**THE CASTLE ROCK SCHOOL**

**FIND YOUR  
FUTURE**

**PROSPECTUS**



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# Welcome To The Castle Rock School

## From our Executive Principal

We are delighted to introduce you to The Castle Rock School, a vibrant and inclusive secondary school and sixth form based in the local community of Coalville.

At The Castle Rock School, every student is encouraged to strive for their personal best and to enjoy their learning across our broad and balanced curriculum, complemented with a variety of enrichment activities.

Whilst academic achievement and intellectual development are central to our work, social and emotional learning is at the heart of what we do. We set high standards for our students and have high expectations for them. We believe this is key to developing successful, happy and confident young people, ready for life in our ever-changing world.

The Castle Rock School is part of the Lionheart Educational Trust, founded by Beauchamp College. The Trust's core values of striving for academic excellence, whilst relentlessly focusing on the holistic development of each student, are at the heart of our vision for Castle Rock. The Lionheart Educational Trust also provides extensive support for us as we continue our quest towards excellence: we aim for every student to feel intellectually inspired, well-cared for and challenged.

We hope, as you read our prospectus, you will get a real sense of what The Castle Rock School can offer students throughout their time with us and how we enable them to 'Find their future'.



**Mrs J Patrick**  
Executive Principal

## From the Associate Principal

I am excited to welcome you to The Castle Rock School. Our school is a key part of the local community, that we are honoured to serve.

The wonderful part of being Associate Principal of The Castle Rock School is getting to see our young people become incredible adults from the ages of 11 to 18. We take this responsibility very seriously, which is why we not only invest in students' academic abilities but also develop them holistically through a thorough PDC programme and extra-curricular opportunities.

Our core aim is to ensure we provide the stepping stones for success once students leave The Castle Rock School. This means that we deliver an ambitious curriculum to ensure students have the qualifications they need to go on to university, higher education, employment or apprenticeships and that they are well rounded individuals that work hard, don't let failure or challenges stop them from aspiring for more and are kind so they can go on to develop healthy relationships. In order to achieve this, we have to work within a behaviour framework that consists of rewards as well as sanctions.

Our staff are dedicated to student success and constantly working to improve. As part of our community we look forward to working with you in taking The Castle Rock School from strength to strength.



**Roma Dhameja**  
Associate Principal

# Our Aims

**We are excited about the prospect of seeing young people develop during their time at Castle Rock.  
We will work in partnership with parents/carers.**

Making a decision about where to send your child to school can be a tricky one, but we believe that The Castle Rock School offers the very best opportunities from Year 7 – 13 and onwards for further training or employment. An inclusive school where students can be the best they can be: where they can develop as successful students, confident individuals, and responsible citizens.

## **Our aims mean that we will strive to;**

- Provide an environment where students feel safe, happy and valued so that they can thrive during this important stage of their academic and personal development.
- Develop our students' intellectual, practical, creative, social and emotional capabilities.
- Offer high quality teaching and rich opportunities for learning, by investing in our staff and through an effective partnership with our community.
- Equip our students for their futures in a rapidly changing world by recognising the importance of technology, language and communication.
- Ensure our students know the necessary steps to be successful by providing comprehensive guidance on appropriate courses and apprenticeships for their future.
- Constantly look for ways to improve further in order to be the best that we can be.

# Our Vision

**We believe every student has the right to an outstanding education and can be successful regardless of their background.**

All of our young people will leave The Castle Rock school as confident young adults who are able to self reflect, be resilient, be good team players and show resourcefulness. This will lead to strong choices for their next steps and excellent examination outcomes.

In order to bring about our vision we repeatedly focus on five key values:

**BEING KIND AND RESPECTFUL**

**WORKING HARD**

**TAKING PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY**

**PERSEVERANCE**

**AMBITIOUS**

Through embodying these core values, we believe we can help equip our young people to not only succeed academically, but also holistically. We are a school that inspires our students to 'Be the best they can be'.



# Academic Excellence

**Our curriculum is designed to ensure that students have a rewarding and enjoyable experience of school that prepares them for further study at GCSE, post-16 and beyond.**

At The Castle Rock School, our aim is to provide an ambitious curriculum that enables all students to **find their future**, and helps them to develop as successful students, confident individuals and responsible citizens.

Our curriculum is rooted in a knowledge-engaged approach, that places an equal emphasis on knowledge and skill, and recognises that knowledge underpins and enables the application of skill.

We've worked closely with our local primary partners and Trust schools on designing a curriculum that builds on prior knowledge while stretching students with new challenges. Education researchers have highlighted that 11-18 schools are far better placed to teach KS3 and GCSE, which gives our students the advantage.

Beyond the core subjects we also have a well-developed global issues curriculum to ensure our students are prepared and equipped to face the opportunities of tomorrow.



## **JOURNEY FROM KS3 TO KS4**

All subjects are taught in Year 7, 8 and 9 giving students a wide range of learning experiences and a secure foundation of knowledge before making their subject choices for Year 10 and 11.

Through our knowledge-engaged approach, we have mapped out the core concepts and key knowledge needed for each unit or topic, and the curriculum has been designed so that they are revisited where applicable. Our knowledge organisers are used to summarise the key learning for each unit/topic and help students to revise, revisit and practice.

## **ASSESSMENT**

In order to ensure that students are making the right progress we feel it is important to regularly assess and monitor performance. This is done through a number of subject assessments carried out throughout the year. The results of these are used to track individual performance and put in any necessary intervention as soon as it's needed. Parents/carers are updated regularly throughout the year through data snapshots, tutor evenings and parents' evenings.

## **HOMEWORK**

Research shows that the more students revisit material the more likely they are to remember it long term. Therefore, all homework set is an opportunity for students to retrieve information learnt in lessons and apply it. This ensures that they are confident with the material taught but also gives insight to their teachers where students might need to revisit topics in lesson.





# Curriculum

## CORE SUBJECTS

The core subjects are designed to build on the skills and interests developed and taught at Key Stage 2, to develop a deeper level of learning that creates the perfect foundation for GCSE and beyond. The diversity of courses also provides students with the opportunity to explore a variety of ideas, topics, and skills in order to nurture engagement and enthusiasm for their learning. The courses at Key Stage 3 have been developed in collaboration with our primary partners and are taught by dedicated subject specialists.

## ENGLISH

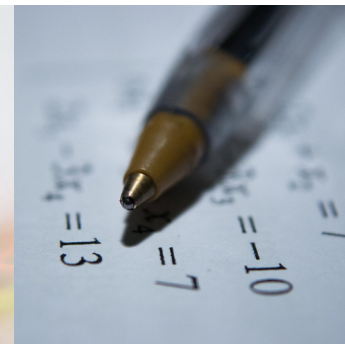
Students are encouraged to develop a love of both reading and writing, focusing on developing creativity, comprehension and accuracy. They will be familiarised with a wide range of text types, distinguishing between forms and developing a sense of the significance of context. For example, students will study whole novels, short stories, poems and plays. Through this, they will be able to develop key analytical skills, through reading, writing, speaking and listening.

English Language skills will include: writing creative and transactional pieces, interpretation of writing, explanation of language, and comparison of perspectives. In literature, students will develop a personal response and style, analyse language using appropriate terminology and link texts to their contexts. Most importantly, students will become motivated, critical and competent communicators.

## MATHS

Mathematics is a creative and highly interconnected subject that is essential to everyday life; critical to science, technology and engineering, and necessary for employment. Our aim is to teach for mastery, which means developing a deep, secure and adaptable understanding that ensures all students have fluency, a growing confidence to reason mathematically, and the ability to apply mathematics to solve problems.

Becoming fluent in the fundamentals of mathematics includes varied and frequent practice with increasingly complex problems over time, so that students develop conceptual understanding and the ability to recall and apply knowledge rapidly and accurately. Students will solve problems by applying mathematics to a variety of problems with increasing sophistication. Developing mastery of mathematics, which builds gradually as a student goes through school, is a tool for life.



## SCIENCE

Students explore key ideas such as the effect of forces on an object's motion or shape, the constantly changing atmosphere and the structure of the Earth. They discover the structures contained within cells, including genes, which determine the development and processes of entire organisms. Through inquiry-based learning, students have the opportunity to use practical skills to investigate scientific phenomena of the natural world in well-equipped laboratories, supported by experienced and enthusiastic staff. In addition, students analyse and develop theories to understand the social, ethical and economic implications of science.



## COMPUTER SCIENCE

In computing, students use thinking and creativity to understand how a computer works as well as how to program. The core of computing is computer science, in which students are taught the principles of information and computation, how digital systems work, and how to put this knowledge to use through programming. Building on this knowledge and understanding, students are able to use information technology to create programs, systems and a range of content.

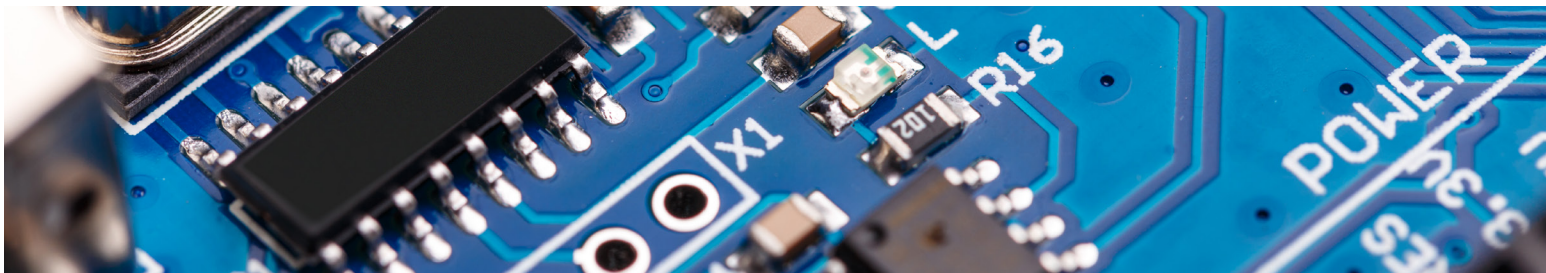
Computing also ensures that students become digitally literate and safe users of online technologies. We have expertise within Lionheart as the East Midlands Computing Hub Lead. Our shared curriculum has been developed using this experience to provide opportunities for students to be expressive and confident users of information and communication technology.

## FRENCH

Students study French at The Castle Rock school. The curriculum offers a broad selection of themes to allow students to expand on their knowledge of the language whilst giving them the chance to develop a mastery of linguistic competence as well as an appreciation of France's culture and traditions. Learning another language is a challenging discipline that requires developing memory techniques, which are transferrable across the curriculum. More than this, learning the syntax and structure of another language supports effective writing and spelling in English and helps students to understand the rules and science of languages. Learning another language is incredibly valuable, opening doors for students to compete in a global world and supports them to grow as confident communicators.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PE allows students to engage in a challenging and enjoyable environment that focuses on the physical and holistic development of students. Throughout the learning journey, PE students experience activities focusing on fundamental motor skills alongside tailoring skills to sports and activities including football, netball, frisbee and aerobics. Students will encounter a number of themes both in lessons and in our extra-curricular opportunities; including high levels of physical activity, competition, challenge, opportunities for the development of physical skills, as well as personal qualities. Our aim in the KS3 PE curriculum is to provide an enjoyable and challenging experience that prepares students physically and personally. Students will study the Healthy Active Lifestyle Curriculum as part of their core PE lessons. This develops understanding of how the body works, and the social, emotional and physical benefits of physical activity.



## HUMANITIES

Students explore three subjects: geography, history and religious studies and are taught by specialists who know and love their subject.

## RELIGIOUS STUDIES

In Religious Studies we define success as 'being ready to take on the world'. Because it is a rigorous and demanding academic subject, it engineers critical thinking and rigour in our students. Our curriculum creates opportunities for our young people to develop their skills of dialogue, interpretation and analysis in a coherent context. All these are vital skills in a modern workforce where communication, cooperation and collaboration are core skills. In Religious Studies, students learn to respect themselves and understand their own identity, to respect others and learn the rights of others as well as the rights and responsibilities of people within our society. At a time when communities are becoming even more diverse there is a need for Religious literacy to move towards a more tolerant society. An education in Religious Studies opens doors to students. It may offer the opportunity to specialise in a specific field of religious studies such as political science, philosophy and the law which lead to a wide range of industries such as business, government, medicine, non-profit, counselling, careers within the law and lecturing.

## HISTORY

Students follow a Trust curriculum chronological narrative that explores how, why and to what extent the world has changed, in History lessons. We believe good historians need to be experts in six core skills:

- Causation
- Using historical evidence
- Understanding historical world views
- Change and continuity
- Historical interpretation
- Communication

In Year 7, students will study a range of topics including the Bayeux Tapestry, the Ottoman Empire and the Wars of the Roses, in order to develop the core skills.

## GEOGRAPHY

In geography, students develop and consolidate their previous knowledge of the world's major countries and their physical and human features. We believe outstanding geographers need to demonstrate skills which are specialist, yet transferable across many subjects.

They are:

- Use of computer systems e.g. GIS
- Be able to read and confidently use Ordnance Survey maps both in the classroom and out in the field
- Demonstrate map, globe and atlas reading skills
- Collect, analyse and draw conclusions from a variety of fieldwork experiences.

Students will focus on four specific areas: physical geography, human geography, location and place knowledge. These are vital areas of understanding for students wishing to progress onto the GCSE course.

## PERFORMING ARTS

Students study a range of different elements in music, dance and drama. Our aim is to foster a love of learning and creativity through challenging students to stretch themselves and take risks, for example in performing and composing. Whilst taught as separate elements, the curriculum overlaps allowing for small, informal performances designed to instil confidence and enjoyment. Through developing these skills students are able to enjoy a greater sense of self, value teamwork and begin to look at the world through other people's eyes.

## ART & DESIGN

Students experience three key subjects in art and design: art, food and nutrition and product design. Throughout their first few years, students will study these subject specialities on rotation, where they are taught by highly skilled and passionate teachers.

## ART

Students have the opportunity to access a wide variety of materials to create an exciting selection of artworks. They develop drawing and painting skills, investigating the use of tone and colour. Projects are vibrant and varied and are designed to have an element of flexibility for students to explore and create their own, imaginative responses. Students will gain an understanding of a variety of artists work and will be encouraged to show their artist knowledge and inspiration within the work they create.

Projects are skills based so that students can learn and build on their knowledge. The emphasis is on trying and testing materials and techniques and becoming more confident with drawing.

## FOOD AND NUTRITION

Students learn the essential skills to be safe and creative in the kitchen. Practical activities are a key part of the course and skills will be developed through the preparation and cooking of ingredients to create a range of healthy, nutritious and tasty products.

Sensory analysis will extend evaluation skills and students will be encouraged to share their thoughts and opinions both verbally and in writing. Students learn about basic nutrition, analyse the nutritional values of the food they eat and suggest ways food products can be adapted to meet the needs of different groups of people. Topics also include food safety, food provenance and seasonality.

## PRODUCT DESIGN

Students take part in activities that encourage creative thinking, reciprocity and resourcefulness in product design. An active approach is taken to help individuals build their confidence with a range of materials and making methods. Students have the chance to work with a variety of tools and equipment, develop good technique and importantly learn about health and safety in the design studio and workshop environment. Theoretical aspects are tackled, again, through hands on activity via product analysis.





# School Facilities

Our school boasts clear open spaces and lots of natural sunlight, as well as open areas for our students to enjoy.





We are proud of our school, situated on a large campus, boasting clear open spaces and lots of natural light. As well as outdoor spaces for our students to enjoy, we have state-of-the-art facilities in which our students thrive.

## SPORTS FACILITIES

The Castle Rock School has excellent sports facilities, benefitting from large playing fields, astro pitches and indoor sporting facilities. These include spaces for basketball, badminton, volleyball and netball.

We are also fortunate to have a swimming pool, gymnasium, netball courts and football facilities and cricket nets, with viewing windows accessible from our dining hall.

## TEACHING SPACES

Our teaching areas include;

- Bespoke english and maths teaching facilities for a real focus in these key areas
- Computer suites
- Fully equipped science labs allowing for a broad range of practical lessons.
- Theatre, drama studios and music technology equipment.

## LIBRARY

We are very pleased to offer students extensive access to our wonderful, bright and spacious library situated at the heart of the school. We are passionate about reading and all the wonderful ways in which literature brings life, emotional stimulation and valuable knowledge. The library is open before, during and after the school day for students to access





## THE ASSEMBLY HALL

Students gather in year groups every week for a formal assembly; these occasions are the perfect opportunity to remind ourselves of the values and standards we make a strong commitment towards. Furthermore, assemblies represent an opportunity for developing new knowledge about becoming successful scholars and the wider world around us. Year 7 students meet for assemblies in the Alexandra Building.

## DINING & RECREATION SPACES

We are very fortunate to have two dining halls serving our students amazing food at both break and lunchtime. Year 7 and Year 8 dine together, although separately from the older students, thus allowing serving times to be managed and all ages to eat in comfort and with confidence.

The site has many great spaces for individuals and small groups to socialise during recreational time; the astro turf pitch is open every lunchtime, whilst the picnic benches across the school offer an excellent place for social dining and relaxation. The younger students have their own designated social space.

# Holistic

**We have a clear set of beliefs that drive our school; everyone works together to make the school a learning community where everybody is valued. We work hard and are kind.**

At The Castle Rock School, we aim to develop the whole child, both holistically and academically.

Extending beyond academic, technical and vocational content, our curriculum also develops students' character, interests and talents. We place a strong emphasis on students' personal development in order to create confident individuals and responsible citizens who are able to contribute positively to life in modern Britain.

Care, guidance and support underpins all that we do. Ensuring that all of our students and students receive timely and appropriate support is a key priority of The Castle Rock School. We strongly believe that care, guidance and support is most effective when students receive help early and at a level according to their individual needs.

## TUTOR SYSTEM

All of our students have a Form Tutor. Our team of tutors see your child every morning and have an overview of the whole child. They are supported by our fantastic team of Heads of Year and Pastoral Mentors, who are key members of staff who you will be able to contact regarding any holistic questions you may have.

These staff work alongside class teachers and non-teaching professionals who are able to identify need and implement early intervention. We have specially trained staff who can support students with issues such as anger management, bereavement and loss, low self-esteem, amongst others.

## ATTENDANCE & CONDUCT

It is vital that all students aim to have 100% attendance at school. Research shows that even a few days of absence can have a negative impact on students performance and we know that poor attendance can also impact on wider student wellbeing. Parents/

carers should report absence as soon as possible. We operate a system where if a student is absent we inform parents by phone call, text, or email. This ensures students are accounted for and kept safe.

We want The Castle Rock School to be a positive, respectful, and safe environment for everyone and as such we set high standards for behaviour. Our system of achievement points rewards students for demonstrating our values and our behaviour points system reminds students of our high expectations. For the small number of students who fall below these expectations we intervene with reports home, sanctions, and staff support in order to get students back on track.

## **SEN & VULNERABLE STUDENTS**

Moving to a new school can be especially difficult for students who have specific needs. This is why we seek to work closely with their previous school and to keep a constant dialogue with parents/carers and students. This may involve extra transition days, home visits and liaising closely with relevant external agencies. Once at The Castle Rock School, the SEND department works with teaching staff, parents and external agencies to ensure all students access learning in a way that is appropriate to them and helps to build their confidence to ensure they can be fully integrated with other students.



# Beyond The Classroom

**We believe it is vitally important for students to experience a variety of activities beyond the classroom.**

At The Castle Rock School, we are pleased to offer the opportunity for our young people to be part of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

In addition, there are a variety of **extra-curricular clubs** and opportunities to represent the school in **sporting teams**.

We also have a range of **Art and Design** clubs that take place after school including **Hair and Beauty**.

Our **Performing Arts** club runs regularly, with performances taking place throughout the year ranging from pantomimes to musicals and concerts.

**Trips** linked to the curriculum take place throughout the year.

Our school also offers **residential**s to support learning and other further experiences outside the classroom.



# Uniform

**Wearing uniform identifies students as members of The Castle Rock school community, showing pride in the institution and creating a sense of belonging.**

## **Students wear a uniform of:**

- Lanyard and Student Card (These are provided for free by the school on their first day. Replacements will be charged at a cost of £5)
- Green Castle Rock blazer
- School tie
- White shirt
- Grey trousers / Grey pleated skirt or Checked skirt (the school skirt should sit just above the knee)
- Tailored grey shorts or grey pinafore
- Optional plain grey knit V neck jumper under blazer (this cannot be worn instead of a blazer)
- Black tights/socks (Students must not wear white socks over tights)
- Black footwear (Footwear must be entirely black without coloured logos)

## **PE Kit:**

- All Green or Black & Green PE t-shirt with Logo
- Green or Black PE midlayer with Logo
- Black shorts or tracksuit bottoms
- Black socks



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# Admissions Process

The Castle Rock School welcomes applications from students across Coalville and the wider area.

It is important to stress that whilst The Castle Rock School is an independent state-funded academy, we have commissioned Leicestershire County Council to manage and administer the application and appeals process.

## Admissions Process

Full details of the admissions process, including contact details for submitting your application, can be found on our website.



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ADMISSIONS  
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Apply for school place by  
**31st October** on local council  
website.



Results given in early **March** on  
council website.



Access by signing into your online  
admissions account.

If you are not happy with your child's school  
allocation, you may appeal via the council.

**OR**

Accept your child's school allocation on the  
council website.



# CONTINUE YOUR JOURNEY

WITH LIONHEART EDUCATIONAL TRUST

## THE CASTLE ROCK SIXTH FORM

The Castle Rock Sixth Form, based on The Castle Rock School site, is a vibrant and successful sixth form. We pride ourselves on our inclusive provision as well as our nurturing environment for all students to succeed.

We offer a broad and balanced curriculum covering an impressive range of academic and vocational subjects. We are very proud of our results in all areas. In recent years, students have maintained an impressive record of achievements across the curriculum, from art through to English literature, psychology, performing arts and media studies. Students of all abilities receive unrivalled support from our dedicated and highly qualified team of specialist teachers.

We are proud of the fact that our students go on to a range of universities and employment opportunities.



**THE CASTLE ROCK  
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## BEAUCHAMP CITY SIXTH FORM LEICESTER CITY CENTRE

Beauchamp City Sixth Form, based in Leicester's City Centre, aims to inspire, educate and empower students through a traditional, academic curriculum so that we may instil a life-long love of learning.

With a focus on the core traditional A-Level subjects, our goal is to create aspirational and well-rounded individuals who are ready to pursue higher education with the most prestigious universities and providers; regardless of their individual backgrounds.

We are excited by the prospect of delivering a new and unique approach to sixth form education in Leicester City and hope you will join us on our journey to excellence.

For more information, please visit:  
[www.beauchampcity.org.uk](http://www.beauchampcity.org.uk)



**BEAUCHAMP CITY  
SIXTH FORM**  
Lionheart Educational Trust



# Hire Facilities

The Castle Rock School boasts an extensive range of facilities which are available to hire to the community outside of school hours. Facilities include a series of sports pitches, courts and swimming pool, a large assembly hall, meeting spaces, ICT suites, classrooms and drama studio.

Visit [www.castlerock.org.uk](http://www.castlerock.org.uk) for more information.



**THE CASTLE ROCK  
SCHOOL**

Lionheart Educational Trust



# Our Trust

**The Lionheart Educational Trust was founded in April 2014 in order to establish a foundation for the improvement and enhancement of educational provision in the East Midlands.**

Our aim is to provide a range of educational experiences that are challenging, equitable, enjoyable and are able to break down any barriers so that all can succeed. This involves seeking to create lifelong learners and offer outstanding provision for our 4-19 year olds.

Our educational mission is simple; any young person from any background deserves an equal chance to be successful in whatever they choose to do. The Lionheart Educational Trust is committed to supporting young people to open doors to their futures and to feel confident that they can thrive in a competitive and ever-changing world.

We pledge this commitment through limitless enthusiasm and optimism to provide a platform for each young person's light to shine brightly. To fulfil our pledge, we commit to the 3 Ps: Pupil Centred, Positive and Professional. We know that promoting this positive and proactive approach that celebrates success unites school communities and breaks down barriers to learning.

As our journey continues, we believe that it is our moral imperative to continue to work closely with a range of educational providers so that as many young people can benefit from the high educational standards we set ourselves. For more information, please visit our Trust website at: [www.lionhearttrust.org.uk](http://www.lionhearttrust.org.uk)



**LIONHEART**  
EDUCATIONAL TRUST

## **THE CASTLE ROCK SCHOOL**

Meadow Lane  
Coalville, Leicestershire,  
LE67 4BR



**01530 834368**



**info@castlerock.org.uk**



**www.castlerock.org.uk**



**@castlerocksch**



**castlerocksch**



**@thecastlerockschool**



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