



# CLASS MIXING

## 2021-22

Sent to parents: Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Next review date: Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2022

### INTRODUCTION

We are determined to give our pupils the best possible offer of education. Our '[Every Child Flourishing](#)' vision is always our first focus. We want the best for all of our pupils so the team are constantly reviewing our offer and will consider long term strategies as part of this approach.

The Leadership Team have met regularly throughout the 2020-21 academic year and have considered a '*class mixing*' strategy whereby all classes from Reception to Year 5 mix at the end of each academic year. This approach has been considered at all levels and has now been approved. We feel that this approach is in the best interests of all children. We have had discussions with other two form entry primary schools who have adopted the same strategy and they report that it has worked successfully in their respective settings. Please see the [Rationale](#) section on the next page for more details.

The following page outlines the overall [Objective](#), [Rationale](#), [Principles](#) and [Process](#). Whilst this is an operational decision made by the school, we would like pupils and their families to be involved in the process. Please see the [Process](#) section on the next page for more details.

## OBJECTIVE

At Floreat Wandsworth Primary School, we are committed to establishing a safe and happy learning environment for all pupils. We aim to continuously maintain a balance across the two classes. **With this in mind, we have made the positive decision to introduce a system whereby every year group from Reception to Year 5 will be mixed at the end of each academic year and form two new classes.**

## RATIONALE

- to create opportunities for children to learn and play with a wide variety of peers
- to develop relationships with a wider group of friends
- to further develop children's collaborative skills for learning
- to enable improved social interaction and the development of social skills between different sets of pupils as they move up through the school
- to ensure that classes remain balanced in response to pupil transfer (mobility); transition between phases and year groups and changes to all individual needs within each class
- to promote a greater sense of community in a large two form entry primary school (being part of a year group, not just a class)
- to prepare children for secondary school where they will be taught in different classes throughout the year

## PRINCIPLES

- The arrangements for class mixing are based on the professional judgements of class teachers and school leaders.
- We will always consider what is in the best interests of all individual children and classes as a whole when making decisions.
- We will always consider the happiness and well-being of all children and consider their views when we create new classes.
- We will communicate the process for class mixing in an open and transparent way.

## PROCESS

1. Leaders, class teachers and teaching assistants observe the children's interactions across the whole academic year.
2. The children will be asked to list 5 other children who they may like to be in a class with during the next academic year. This part of the process will ensure that the child's views have been considered.
  - A. We will ask parents to hold conversations with their child at home so that a list of five other children can be confirmed.
  - B. Parents will be invited to submit this list of 5 children (*the details and submission date will be confirmed in a separate email*).
  - C. The list of children must contain first names only and must be submitted as a full list (5 minimum/5 maximum).
3. The class teachers will meet to plan the new classes based on the children who are registered with the school. Class teachers will consider the list of friends submitted (see point 2 above). The teachers will match pupils with at least one other pupil from the lists provided.
4. The Senior Leadership Team meet with class teachers to discuss and finalise the classes.
5. The Senior Leadership Team (including the Headteacher) meet and approve the classes.
6. In July, parents will be informed of their child's class for the next academic year. This will complete the process.

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The pupils will be supported by the staff throughout the process to ensure that all of their **well-being needs** are met.

We have also considered the **impact of Covid19** and the school closures over the past year or so. We have seen how much the pupils have benefitted from being part of year group bubbles again and we believe that pupils thrive when they can learn and play with a wide range of peers.

We want to thank parents for their continued support and invite them to **contact the team** should they need to discuss anything.

Kind regards,

The FW Leadership Team