

CLASS MIXING

2024/25 to 2025/26

Next review date: May 2026

This policy applies to the 2024-25 Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 cohorts
ready for the 2025-26 academic year.

2025-26: Years 4,5 and 6 will continue as one class each so this policy does not apply.

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 met regularly throughout the 2020-21 academic year and considered a ‘*class mixing*’ strategy whereby all 2 form entry year groups from Reception to Year 5 mix at the end of each academic year. This approach was considered at all levels and was approved. This approach will now continue into 2025-26. We feel that this approach is in the best interests of all children.

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 final 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 established a system whereby every two class year group will be mixed at the end of each academic year and form two new classes.**

**This policy applies to the 2024-25 Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 cohorts
ready for the 2025-26 academic year.**

2025-26: Years 4,5 and 6 will continue as one class each so this policy does not apply.

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. Parents can choose 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 on roll with the school at the time that the class lists are confirmed. 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 Leadership Team meet with class teachers to discuss and finalise the classes.
5. In July, parents will be informed of their child's class for the next academic year. This will complete the process.

Please note that changes to the class list can only be made in exceptional circumstances e.g. a clear and obvious mistake has been made. Any changes made after the lists have been finalised are made at the discretion of the headteacher.

Please also note that we assign the classes based on the pupils on roll and attending Floreat Wandsworth during the summer term.

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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 and nursery closures over the past few years. We have seen how much the pupils have benefitted from being together as a part of a year group 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