



Class Mixing Policy

Revised: May 2025
Review date: May 2028

Signed: P. Redford

Headteacher

Class Mixing Policy

At Joydens Wood Infant and Junior Schools we reserve the right to review and mix classes annually, depending on the needs of the school and children. This is to ensure that:

- There are opportunities for children to learn and play with a wider variety of peers.
- To enable greater social interaction between children as they move through school.
- To ensure that the classes remain balanced in response to pupil transfer and transition during phases.
- To promote a greater sense of community.

PRINCIPLES

- The arrangements for class mixing are based on the professional judgements of Class Teachers, the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and the Headteacher.
- We will always consider what is in the best interests of individual children and classes as a whole when making decisions.
- We will always consider the happiness and welfare of the children, whilst ensuring the class mix creates the positive, purposeful learning environment that we want for all children.
- From time to time, friendships do not always translate to positive learning behaviours in the classroom and this knowledge will be factored into decisions if/when the class is mixed.

THE PROCESS

- Over the course of their Primary years, children will have a range of friendship experiences. We find that with children some friendships can be very fluid, whilst others can stand the test of time. With that in mind, and to inform our decision-making as we prepare to draw up the class lists, we will use observations of the children in the classroom and at break and lunch time.
- Class Teachers meet to ensure a good balance of friendships, range of educational, social and personal needs, gender and maturity are represented in each class.
- SLT meets with Class Teachers to discuss and finalise groupings.
- Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team meet and approve classes.
- New Classes are shared with parents and children on the transition day in July.

CRITERIA FOR CLASS MIXING

Classes will be mixed to achieve a good balance according to the following criteria:

- Gender
- Ability levels
- Range of additional, social and personal needs

TIMESCALES IF CHANGES ARE TO BE MADE:

- Class Teachers and Teaching Assistants discuss their observations of friendships at the beginning of the Summer Term (After the Easter break).
- Observations are considered along with the criteria listed above after May half term.
- Class lists are drawn up by teachers and shared with SLT (June).
- Class lists approved by Headteacher (July).
- New classes communicated to parents and children in July as part of the end of year arrangements.

REVIEW

The Policy will be reviewed on a 3-year cycle (unless a review is needed sooner).

The Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team will review the process and criteria for each year's class mixing arrangements.