

**Will the reception children moving into Year 1 be studying the same curriculum as those being merged into Year 2? If so will it be a combination of the Year 1 & Year 2 work or solely Year 1 work for all?**

*Every child will study a national curriculum that is relevant to their ability and their age.*

**What will happen when it comes to moving to Juniors as it would appear that one group of 15 pupils will move an academic year earlier?**

*No child will be advanced a year. No child will be held back a year. The work will not be harder in one class, or easier in another.*

**What would be the plan when they reach Year 6, as I see it one group of 15 pupils will complete this year twice if the system of a split class continues through school.**

*Firstly, I only ever plan 3 years ahead. That's as far as the budget is reliable. However, I can guarantee that no class will repeat a year, no class will miss a year.*

**How are you going to devise the mini groups of 15.**

*We organise our mixed aged classes using the following criteria, in order of significance.*

*Age of child.*

*Appropriate proportion of boys and girls*

*Parent requests \*please note we only take this into account for exceptional circumstances i.e. circumstances that are peculiar to a particular child, rather than parents requests for friendship groups. If we did the latter, we would potentially lose the overall belief of a random group of kids... it would become selective. And that's not right.*

**Are the children going to be split into groups by age. Is so would my child then be in a group with children from possibly June, July and August as their birthday is in August. Will it then be that that younger age group will be with the older age group of Year one? Or will it now work like that?**

*Yes, the little groups of 15's will be organised by age, and your child will be, for the first year with the older year 1 children That said your child will be taught the age appropriate curriculum - all children will be. Also, although your child will be with the older year 1 children - this is for the 1st year only. Your child's 15, when they are in year 3 will be with Year 3 children.... their mini group of 15 will rotate round.... This way children will develop friendships across the whole 45 kids.*

**I just wanted to share some concerns that I have about my child being in a group that would then be with current reception children. My child (like a lot of children) thrives when they are challenged and really interested. They also need to be monitored perhaps more than some other children. I am concerned that if they are in a class with other children with more learning needs than my child such as from the year below my child, my child may then become less interested and feel less challenged and unfortunately not show themselves to the best of their character (i.e. mess about).**

*I take your point here! Let me reassure you that your child will be monitored. Mixed aged classes are nothing to worry about, but I get parent perception - that's why, between me and you, I always put strong teachers in them.... who I know will get the parents confidence as quickly as possible. I promise*

*you your child will be challenged. I promise you they will thrive. We also put more staff in the "mixed aged" classes.... to ensure that learning isn't negatively affected - it could be without the right staffing. As it is, with the right staffing ironically the kids get more adult interaction. One of the reasons we have grouped the kids by age (by and large) is so that it is a simple class of kids. There are swings and roundabouts in doing the rotation. And, if my kids were in a mixed age class, I would prefer them to be like your eldest child.... and stay as a class. However some parents, from feedback, and I get this, want the children to socialise with all the year group. Whichever way you do it though, let me stress, there is no educational deficit. The kids will thrive. That I promise.*

**For an August baby, my is doing well with their reading and maths and their writing is also improving. They view moving to the next book band as the challenge and it brings the best out of them to see others performing at the same or higher level than them**

*Out of all the variables, I guarantee your child will continue to shine, thrive and love school.*