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Head Teacher: Mr T Abbs

3rd June 2024

Class Structure: Year R to 2: September 2024

Dear Parents,

Background Information

As you are fully aware, mixed-aged classes is a longstanding feature of our school, including the necessity (due to cohort numbers) in 'splitting' year group/s. With every scenario, we spend a considerable amount of time reflecting and planning what we would consider to be the best structure in order to meet the needs of all our young people.

In EYFS/KS1 in Academic Year 2024/2025, we will need to – once again – operate two classes:

- A Year R / Year 1 Class
- A Year 1 / Year 2 Class

This means that **pupils currently in Year R will need to be split between two classes. The ratio of the split is yet to be confirmed.**

Curriculum Structure & Provision

Staffing e.g. teachers and support staff will be announced later in the year when it is finalised. However, our **resources (including human resources) for next year will be utilized across both classes** in order to avoid duplication of tuition and best support the EYFS & Key Stage One curriculum.

Within this structure, there will be **multiple opportunities throughout the curriculum and school day, for children to work within their own classes, respective year groups as well as mixed.** Examples:

- Phonics/reading being taught to entire year groups, as well as mixed.
- Year 1 & 2 combining to receive teacher inputs in multiple KS1 Foundation Subjects: Science, History, Geography, Art & DT before breaking away to work individually, in small groups or across learning spaces
- Access to the EYFS Outdoor for both classes, where appropriate.

Aside from this integration, as always, *all pupils* come together for assemblies, break times, lunchtimes, school events and many other, daily aspects of life in a small school.

Whichever class your child is in, please be assured that they will be following their year group's curriculum. Our teachers have high expectations for all pupils and are skilled at planning for, and teaching mixed-age classes.

Next Steps

We hope this rationale for our class structure helps allay any concerns you may have.

Please refer to our comprehensive Pupil Privacy Notice on our website or hard copy held by the school office which records how we use information about you and what we do with it.

That said, we appreciate you may have your own **views as to whether your current Year R child should be in either the Year R/Year 1 or the Year 1/Year 2 class next year.**

Ultimately, we will decide what will work best to support the wider picture we have, but we would welcome current Year R parents' views as to which class, or in which situation you personally feel your child would thrive. This may include being based with a certain age group, specific friends, for example. **All parents in R to 2** next year are welcome to share any views with me on the information I have provided. Please do so on the following link by **6pm on Friday 7th June**: [LINK HERE](#)

In the meantime, thank you, in advance for your continued support. We will be in touch when we have reflected on your views and finalised our plans.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Abbs
Head Teacher