

# Hobbayne Primary School

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11<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Class Changes Year 2 and Year 4

I am writing to confirm to you my decision to re-organise some year groups in preparation for September. In previous years we have mixed the classes at the end of the Reception year but this year we have also chosen to mix Year 2 and Year 4. This decision has been made for a number of reasons, the foremost being that the classes are no longer equally balanced in terms of gender and ability, including pupils with special educational needs. We believe that by re-addressing these imbalances we can increase pupils' opportunities for social interaction, as well as taking the opportunity to alter class dynamics in order to secure the optimum learning environment for every pupil. We are keen to ensure that provision for all abilities is more effectively managed and this, in turn, will impact enormously on behaviour outcomes across the school.

The benefits for the children are many. The changes will enable better resilience in developing friendships, particularly important in Year 4 as they begin the transition to upper key stage two and secondary school. However, across the year groups the process will offer children the opportunity to establish new friendships as well as enhance old ones in a safe and familiar environment. They will enjoy wider friendship and working groups which will promote flexibility and increase confidence.

Below are answers to some questions you might have:

### **Will my child still be in a class with their friends?**

Where we have made a decision to mix a year group the mixing will be fair and equitable, taking into account the views and preferences of the children themselves. Teachers have received training to enable them to create classes that will nurture the best learning opportunities for your children. It will be carried out by class teachers in full discussion with members of the leadership team. I trust our staff to make the right choices regarding which children learn best together. Friendships and playing together will continue to take place as always at playtimes, lunchtimes, trips, etc.

### **Why have the classes in some year groups become imbalanced?**

When 90 children start school in Reception the in-take is an unknown in lots of ways and we mix them up to establish uniformity across the classes in terms of gender, special needs, EAL, age and friendships. As the children progress through the school the class dynamics are subject to change again due to a variety of reasons. These can include mobility, when children are joining and leaving the school and changes in children's circumstances, where their developmental or emotional needs become more prominent or change in some way.

Please do be sure to discuss these changes with your child and if you or they have any questions or concerns their class teacher will be more than happy to help. I hope that this has alleviated any worries and you recognise that the benefits of these changes will be favourable for your child and the school as a whole.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs S Yoosuf  
Headteacher

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