



29<sup>th</sup> June 2022

## Year 2 Class Mix

Dear Parents and Carers,

Heathland School are committed to ensuring an effective learning environment for all pupils. The balance of pupil characteristics and needs in each class across a year group can have an effect on the progress and happiness of each individual. As the children progress through the school the classes can become less balanced due to variety of reasons and sometimes this means that it is necessary to mix classes as they transition to a new year group and key stage.

Over the last term we have carefully considered the effect that Covid and time out from school has had on the current Year 2 cohort and how to best support pupils with their progress as they move into Key Stage 2 and Year 3. As a result, we have taken the decision to mix the children and classes in Year 2 to form three new classes for Year 3. There are several reasons for mixing classes within a year group:

- To create a greater balance of special educational needs, personal and social needs, maturity and gender across the three classes
- To enhance existing friendships and develop new ones
- To factor in mobility and the number of new pupils who have joined the year group over the last year

It is important that we thoroughly research the pros and cons of this potential change and as we regularly teach pupils in mixed groups for next steps, teachers have been able to observe and make informed decisions about which groups work well together. Class teachers have also considered all children's close friendship groups to make sure children will move alongside one or sometimes more of their closest friends. I'm sure you will appreciate that when taking into account all the other factors that we have to consider when mixing, it is impossible to guarantee larger groups of friends will move together. The fact that pupils in each year group regularly mix for their learning, means that the mixing of classes will not be a disruption to many of our pupils.

There will be plenty of opportunities to discuss any concerns or worries you may have with your child's class teacher. Please contact them or the school office if you would like to arrange a meeting. Miss Olney (Year 1&2 Phase leader), Mrs Katwa (Year 3&4 Phase Leader) and SLT will also be available to talk to about the change should you wish to do so.

You will receive information about the class and teacher for your child on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July. As always, the wellbeing, achievement and progress of our children is at the heart of everything we do. I would like to take this opportunity to reassure parents that we will do everything we can to support the children with this transition.

Yours sincerely

Miss F R Hopkins  
**Headteacher**