

Cheapside C. of E. Primary School

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Headteacher

Mrs Kate Searle

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Dear Parents

Teaching Arrangements for Years 1/2

It has been brought to my attention that clarification needed over the organisation of teaching arrangements for our year 1 and 2 children in light of our expansion.

This expansion benefits all of our existing children in that they are now taught almost entirely in single year groups and in classes which are well below the recommended class size of 30 for infants and our future junior aged classes of 30 pupils instead of 32.

Whilst expansion is exciting and will provide the school with long term financial viability, in the short term, finances are based on our existing pupil numbers and this is challenging.

Providing the best education for the children in our school is at the heart of every decision I make and working very closely with my Governors, I have considered the best way to provide single year group teaching with effect from September, bearing in mind current financial pressures and low pupil numbers, particularly in years 1 and 2.

As you will see in the table over the page, there are 2 afternoons where both year groups come together at the moment and for the rest of the time, year 1 and 2 are taught in classes of 14 and 19 respectively, especially in the core subjects in the morning.

Once the children are in their new classrooms, Year 1 children will be dismissed from Robin Class and Year 2 children will be dismissed from Dove Class.

Days of the Week	Morning – Typically Phonics, English, Maths	Afternoon
Monday	Year 1 – Mrs Spong (ratio of 1 teacher : 14 children and 1 student teacher)	Year 1 and 2 together – Topic based curriculum – Mrs Day and Mrs Coe (ratio of 1 teacher and 1 student teacher : 33 children)
	Year 2 – Mrs Day (ratio of 1 teacher : 19 children)	
Tuesday	Year 1 – Mrs Spong (ratio of 1 teacher : 14 children and 1 student teacher)	Year 1 and 2 together – PE with Mrs Higgins and school staff (ratio of 1 PE teacher and 2 support staff : 33 children), followed by Topic based curriculum with Mrs Day and Mrs Coe (ratio of 1 teacher and 1 student teacher : 33 children)
	Year 2 – Mrs Day (ratio of 1 teacher : 19 children)	
Wednesday	Year 1 – Mrs Spong (ratio of 1 teacher : 14 children and 1 student teacher)	Year 1 – Forest School with Mrs Aplin (ratio of 1 teacher and TAs/volunteers : 14 children)
	Year 2 – Mrs Day (ratio of 1 teacher : 19 children)	Year 2 – Mrs Day (ratio of 1 teacher : 19 children)
Thursday	Year 1 – Mrs Spong (ratio of 1 teacher : 14 children and 1 student teacher)	Year 1 – Topic based curriculum and Guided Reading – Mrs Searle and Mrs Coe (ratio of 1 teacher and 1 student teacher : 14 children)
	Year 2 – Mrs Aplin (ratio of 1 teacher : 19 children)	Year 2 – Forest School (ratio of 1 teacher and TAs/volunteers : 19 children)
Friday	Year 1 – Mrs Spong (ratio of 1 teacher : 14 children)	Year 1 – Mrs Spong (ratio of 1 teacher : 14 children)
	Year 2 – Mrs Aplin (ratio of 1 teacher : 19 children)	Year 2 – Mrs Aplin (ratio of 1 teacher : 19 children)

This arrangement is under constant review.

All of our staff and children are looking forward to moving into their new classroom spaces in the coming weeks and the children's new classrooms, which have been repainted over half term, will be as follows:

Year Group	Classroom allocation
Wrens (Reception)	Existing EYFS classroom and outside area
Robins (Year 1)	Existing classroom for year 1
Doves (Year 2)	Owl class where year 6 are currently taught but with new infant furniture

All of our Key Stage 2 children will be based in the new build.

I want to assure you that despite the challenging circumstances with regard to lack of space this last half term, pupil class sizes are enviable and your child's education is of paramount importance to all staff.

If you have further concerns, please see me.

Yours sincerely

Kate Searle
Headteacher