

## **Chewton Mendip VA Primary School Class Structure Policy**

Chewton Mendip is a five class village primary school with two Key Stage One classes and three Key Stage Two classes. At some point in both Key Stages One and Two children will spend two years in one class.

The class structure policy has been drawn up to ensure consistency in approach to class structure across the school and explain how we group the children. This will ensure that pupils, parents and teachers have clear expectations ahead of the new academic year. The number on roll on 31<sup>st</sup> May (with any known September admissions) will be the figure used to determine the class organisation.

As a church school we uphold and promote a Christian ethos, and, by example and direct teaching we follow and promote the teachings of Jesus, whilst recognising that not all of our members are practising Christians.

We recognise that:-

- Every child is a unique gift to be nurtured, protected and enabled to flourish.
- All children and adults have gifts to share and a potential which we will develop to the best of our ability.
- Education is not only about personal fulfilment but it is also about learning to work in harmony with others for the common good and for the sustainable development of the world.
- The personal development of pupils, spiritually, morally, socially and culturally, plays a significant part in their ability to learn and achieve.

### **Key Stage One**

In Year 1 children will be split between Rabbit and Hedgehog Class. This split is dependent on the numbers in both Reception and Year 2. The children who move to Hedgehog Class are usually (but not exclusively) the children who have met the majority of early learning goals on the Foundation Stage Profile as they will be more ready for a Key Stage One environment. Other factors which will also be taken into account are:

- Age;
- Siblings;
- Gender balance;
- Maturity and social confidence;
- SEN.

Decisions surrounding Key Stage One class groups are taken by the teachers and teaching assistants using their professional judgement.

## **Key Stage Two**

There are four year groups within Key Stage Two which will be split between three classes. Our aim is to make the three classes as even as possible in number to ensure all children have equal access to the class teacher and teaching assistant. Decisions surrounding Key Stage Two class groups are taken by the teachers and teaching assistants using their professional judgement. Factors which are included in the discussions are:

- Age;
- Siblings;
- Gender balance;
- Attainment;
- SEN;
- Maturity and social confidence;
- A group of 4 pupils from a year group, will be the smallest number which is deemed to be a viable group within a different age class, with the factors above being taken into account.

## **Decision Timescales**

Discussions between staff will begin prior to the summer half term break and communication regarding class arrangements will be made to parents by the end of June. This will allow children to spend time with their new class groupings in a moving on session. The school will communicate any changes to these timescales to affected families, as early as possible, should this become necessary. The number on roll on 31<sup>st</sup> May (with any known September admissions) will be the figure used to determine the class organisation.

Where the classes are mixed year groups, opportunities will be organised for children to mix with their peers e.g. assemblies, French, school events and special one off activities. Children also have the opportunity to meet and play together at playtime and lunchtime.

Putting together the class lists will be given due care and consideration by all of the teaching staff to ensure the best possible outcomes for all of the children and the school dynamics as a whole. Once a decision has been made no alterations will be made to the class organisation.

May 2012  
Reviewed three yearly  
January 2017