



WHALEY BRIDGE E.R. PRIMARY SCHOOL

★ For every child, a chance to shine ★

Buxton Road, Whaley Bridge, High Peak, SK23 7HX

Tel: 01663 732354 Fax: 01663 735014

Email: info@whaleybridge.derbyshire.sch.uk

Website: www.whaleybridge.derbyshire.sch.uk



Headteacher

Mrs F Walton B.Ed. (Hons)

June 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

New Class Organisation

Each year, year groups are reorganised to form new classes and this is done for a number of reasons, including budget, numbers on roll and available spaces, and we embrace the opportunities this brings for the children to develop social skills as they build new friendship circles amongst their classmates.

From September 2018, there will be two mixed Year 1 and Year 2 classes, Year1/2 Baxby and Year1/2 Emsley.

New classes are always created with the input of the children's current class teacher. Class teachers have a great deal of understanding about the academic, social and emotional characteristics of the children they have taught. A number of criteria is applied to ensure consistency and balance:

- each class to be mixed ability and where achievable, have an equal number of boys/girls in each of the classes;
- where possible, each child is placed with another child from their current class in their new class. Please note – this isn't necessarily their best friend.

It is on very rare occasions that a parent makes a specific request about where their child is placed or friendship groups to avoid. These situations occur very infrequently and each request is considered on a case-by-case basis. The Head Teacher will always wish to meet face-to-face with the parent to consider whether the request is valid. Only in exceptional circumstances will a valid request be acted upon.

We ask that parents support the school in helping your child manage the transition to their new class. The school supports the children by running a transition day, this year on Tuesday 3 July 2018. The day allows children time to be with their new teacher and peers and to undertake some emotional and social learning.

Children are notified about their new class the day prior to transition – Monday 2 July – and children are very positive about their new classes and are excited about the prospect of the start to the new school year.

Should a child find themselves unhappy, for whatever reason, we urge you to remain positive and encouraging. We need our children to become resilient citizens and over time, the concerns they raise will almost certainly improve and/or disappear. Our teachers are incredibly understanding and appreciative of the enormous anxiety that occurs during this time and they will help support you and your child. Changes to class organisation at this stage does not happen unless, over the course of the transition period, it is clear the situation hasn't improved.

If you do have a concern about any aspect of the new class allocation or transition, we ask that you come and speak with a member of teaching staff, Deputy Head Teacher or Head Teacher in the first instance. We hope to avoid involving children with a concern which may be easily and quickly overcome and resolved.

Mrs F Walton
Head Teacher