

Headteacher: Andrew Denham

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13th November

Dear Year, 4, 5 & 6 Parents,

I am writing to let you know that from next week, the Year 6s will be taught as a single year cohort full time. The Y4s and Y5s will be taught separately 4 mornings a week. The remainder of the time they will be taught together.

The Year 6 staff will be Mr Brown, Mrs Fleet and Mrs Abraham and Mrs Peachey. In the mornings, Year 5 will be taught by Mrs Conroy, and Year 4, by Mrs Pullin and Miss Cox. Miss Fenwick will work in both Year 4 and 5 groups.

This decision has been driven by our desire to further accelerate the children's learning and progress. We also want to ensure the emotional well-being of all of the Year 5 children who, due to COVID restrictions, have had limited socialising with the whole peer group.

Every Friday I have been meeting with the Y4-6 teachers to review the progress the children are making and, while we are very pleased with the way things are going, we want to do even more. Careful planning and circumstances are enabling us to do this.

We have additional money from the government to spend on our COVID Catch-Up recovery plan and this has enabled us to increase TA hours across the school, so we have more class support available. We have delegated some of Mrs Conroy's 'deputy head responsibilities' so that she is able to be more available to teach. We are also using some of this money to hire the Youth Hut across the road for the Year 5 children to work in, during the mornings.

We hope that the increased staffing hours, smaller classes for the mornings, and cohort specific direct teaching will lead to the accelerated progress we need from all of the children.

It is our sincere wish that we will be able to sustain the new class organisation approach for the remainder of the year. However, this will depend on the continued availability of the Youth Hut and costs to this approach remaining constant and unaffected by other, unforeseen events.

Kind regards,

Andrew Denham