

7th July 2016

Re: Parents of children in Year 1 and Year 2 in the academic year 2016/17

Dear Parents/Carers

It was good to see so many of you at the meeting last night, where we shared our plans for the classes next year in Key Stage 1 (Year 1 and 2 pupils). I felt it was important to follow up the meeting with a letter as I know not everyone was able to attend. I felt it was also important to clarify the dates we discussed.

As explained in the meeting, after much thought and careful consideration we have come to the decision to have three Key Stage 1 classes in September. We need three classes as a result of the large numbers of children we will have in Key Stage 1 (34 children in Year 2 and 38 children in Year 1) and this is also in line with guidance that we should not have infant classes bigger than 30 children.

The class your child is in will depend on their **age** as we felt this was the fairest way and would be most beneficial to all the children. The classes will be:

- **Rabbits** – made up of the youngest Year 1 children (birth dates: 21st February-2011-30th August 2011).
- **Hedgehogs** – made up of the oldest Year 1 children and the youngest Year 2 children (birth dates: 8th April 2010-20th February 2011).
- **Owls** – made up of the oldest Year 2 children (birth dates: 1st September 2009-7th April 2010).

There has been much careful thought and planning for these classes and the children will benefit from:

- Small class sizes.
- Effective teachers who can deliver quality differentiated work to support and challenge and ensure personalised learning is key to all they do.
- Effective teaching assistant support.
- All working on the same topics at the same time.

- Regular monitoring of how pupils are progressing with regular assessments and pupil progress meetings to ensure all children are making the progress they should.

We are planning transition activities such as Circle Time and are looking for opportunities for the children to play and work with their new classmates over the next weeks. We know how we manage this transition is crucial to all our children feeling happy, secure and confident in school. **Children will find out about their new classes and teachers next week on Monday** – the day they will meet their new teacher.

We are very confident that this is the best way forward and we really appreciate your support.

Best wishes

Zoe Hussain
Headteacher