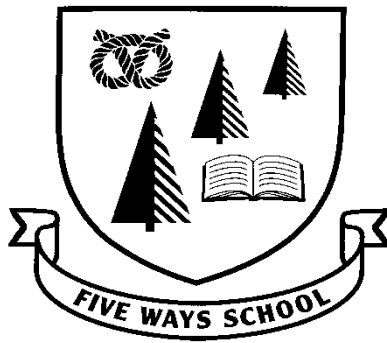


# Five Ways Primary School



Organisation of Classes.

Key Stage Two.



## School Rationale for Grouping Pupils

Children are unique individuals who develop at different rates. Throughout Early Years and Key Stage One, though the gap in attainment of children is wide, their needs can be met by effective differentiation in mixed attainment groups. During these early stages, factors including month of birth, pre-school learning experiences and Special Educational Needs have a significant impact upon attainment.

By the time children reach Key Stage Two, this gap in attainment becomes increasingly challenging for teachers and for some children keeping up with the faster pace of learning of their peers can cause anxiety. For this reason Five Ways adapts the organisation of Key Stage Two children to create streamed classes. Where appropriate, the curriculum planned for each of these classes is further differentiated for each group within the class. The organisation of classes in Key Stage Two is as follows:

Pupils in Year 3 and Year 4 are organised into the following classes:

- 1 higher attaining class containing children who are expected to be working at and beyond the National Curriculum requirements for their year group
- 2 parallel classes containing children who are expected to achieve, or are working towards achieving, the National Curriculum requirements for their year group.

Pupils in Years 5 and 6 are organised into the following classes:

- 1 higher attaining class containing children who are expected to be working at and beyond the National Curriculum requirements for their year group
- 1 middle attaining class containing children who are expected to achieve the National Curriculum requirements for their year group
- 1 lower attaining class containing children, most of whom will achieve the National Curriculum requirements for their year group with additional support.

Decisions regarding which of these classes your child is placed in will be made largely on their attainment in maths and English, though staff look closely at each child individually. Please feel reassured that at Five Ways, we provide a broad and balanced curriculum and celebrate work produced in other subject areas as well as in maths and English.

### Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: *If my child is in a parallel, lower or middle attaining class, will they be held back?***

A: No. By adopting this method of organisation we will be better able to meet the needs of all children through planning challenging work at their level.

**Q: *What systems do the school have in place for tracking the progress of my child?***

A: School uses teacher assessment alongside standardised testing to monitor the progress of children every term.

**Q: *If children are in parallel, lower or middle attaining classes, and make exceptional progress, will they have the opportunity to move up?***

A: Class groupings are reviewed every term.

**Q: *If children are moving classes, what steps do school take to make sure new friendship groups are encouraged?***

A: School plans additional transition activities for children with additional opportunities to meet their new teachers and to be reassured that they will remain with many of their friends. School also have three 'Enrichment Days' each year. These provide us with an opportunity for children in Key Stage Two to work in mixed attainment groups.

**Q: *My child has Special Educational Needs. How will this organisation impact upon him/her?***

A: Decisions are made about the most appropriate class for all children, particularly those with special needs. Those classes of lower attaining children will have fewer pupils and be provided with additional teaching assistant support.

**Q: *If my child can't keep up with the work the class are doing, what will happen?***

A: Our first step would always be to meet with parents and discuss ways we can work together to overcome problems. It may be appropriate to move children if it is in the best interests of the child.

*Please note, that one of the most important ways parents can support us in the organisation of Key Stage Two children, is by not referring to classes as 'top', 'middle' and 'bottom' as this may cause concern to children who may need to move groups in the future.*

**Please remember that the education of every child is very important to us and it is our aim to ensure that all children at Five Ways enjoy coming to school and are proud of their achievements, regardless of the attainment group they are in.**