

Wednesday 5th May 2021

Dear Y2 Parents/Carers,

We are writing to inform you that the current Y2 classes will be mixed into new balanced and equal classes for September 2021. This is usual practice and we feel that in the long-term it is very beneficial to our children. We totally understand you may have some concerns especially at this difficult time linked to Covid-19 and some parents have requested that we wait until September 2022 but equally we have parents who really welcome the change.

The Senior Leadership team are working closely with the Y2 class teachers to organise this. Decisions will be based on consultation from the class teachers, and teaching assistants, taking into account individual personalities. We are ensuring we have an equal mix of boys/ girls / children with special educational needs and other individual needs across all three classes. This takes a lot of time but it is very important we get this right. As with every year, once we have made our decisions, we are not able to make any changes to the new classes. I'm sure you will appreciate this.

We firmly believe that mixing the classes at the end of Y2 gives the children wider opportunities to make even more new friends. This has proved to be successful in the past, including for the current Y3 pupils who experienced significant disruption at the end of their Y2 year due to COVID. Since returning as a whole year group after lockdown in March, our children have shown just how resilient they can be. Change can sometimes feel daunting but helping the children to successfully face and overcome challenges is a positive experience, which helps prepare them for future situations. In September, the children will still be able to see all their current friends and teachers at break times and lunchtimes. We are confident that Y2 children will have a smooth transition from Y2 to Y3 because at Ecclesall, all our teachers and teaching assistants have the best interests of all our children at heart. We will be there to care for and encourage each and every one of them and will start the process in Y3 slowly so they can really get to know their new class teacher(s) and form new friendships from the start of September.

If you have concerns/ would like to suggest some friendships and you have not contacted your child's class teacher already regarding this, then please do so by Friday 28th May at the very latest. We will inform you individually via email of the name of your child's new Y3 class and their teacher(s) at some point during week commencing Monday 21st June. During this week, we will also be able to provide further information for you to help support your child with the transition.

Kind regards

Emma Hardy
Head Teacher

Nicole Ramsey
Deputy Head Teacher

Guy Willatt
Deputy Head Teacher