

St. David Haigh & Aspull CofE Primary School



Together in God's Love aim high, stay strong, be determined.

In a caring Christian environment, each individual is motivated to develop a love of learning and a curiosity for the world we live in. The curriculum offers significant opportunity to deepen understanding, develop aspirations and enrich the lives of all learners. Together we aim high, stay strong and are determined to do our very best to develop resilience and confidence in becoming thoughtful citizens of the future.

Class Placement Policy

2020



St. David Haigh & Aspull CE Primary School



Class Placement Policy 2020/21

Rationale

St. David Haigh & Aspull CE Primary School has five classes into which children will be placed. There are seven age groups within the primary school range: Reception, Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6; so it is inevitable that some classes will have more than one year group within them.

Current Class Structure September 2019

Class 1	-	Rec/Y1
Class 2	-	Y2
Class 3	-	Y3/Y4
Class 4	-	Y4/Y5
Class 5	-	Y6

Class Structure September 2020

Based on our current numbers on roll & pupil admission numbers, the structure is as follows:

Class 1	-	Rec/Y1
Class 2	-	Y2
Class 3	-	Y3/Y4
Class 4	-	Y4/Y5
Class 5	-	Y6

Our aim is to keep class sizes to a maximum of 30 – although in KS this can be higher.

Consistency of Provision

At St. David's we pride ourselves on how well we work as a team. To ensure this provision is consistent, there will be a requirement on teachers working closely together to ensure a consistent approach to the entitlement of all children.

Principles

First and foremost, decisions are made at all times in the best educational interests of the individual child. Within this are four crucial considerations:

1. Ability of the child.

The ability of the child will be determined by objective evidence in the form of assessment data, progress, work in books and observations.

2. Maturity of the child.

Staff will evaluate the maturity of the child and make an informed decision as to which class would best suit the child's needs. For example it may well be that a brighter child might not have the maturity to cope in an older year group.

3. Social groupings.

Staff will also look at the social groupings of the child and make the best possible arrangements with regards to keeping children with members of their friendship group. For example a child might be best kept with their friends, rather than with different children. (This will include consideration of the placement, of both siblings & family members.)

4. The requirements of maintaining balanced class sizes across the school.

The planned class sizes as set out above.

There may on occasion, be the need to place individual children in classes where we can offer the best opportunity to access learning and where appropriate support can be accessed – this will usually (but not exclusively) be limited to those children who require an individualised curriculum, agreed and planned alongside external professionals.
(June 2020)

Decision Making

- Decisions regarding the placement of children are carefully worked out collectively in each Key Stage by the staff involved. Once these have been decided then the lists will be discussed at a staff meeting and agreed by the Senior Leadership Team.
- Parents and children will be informed of the class groupings before the end of year reports are sent out in July.
- Parents wishing to seek clarification of the decisions made can make an appointment to discuss the decision more fully with their child’s current class teacher.
- After speaking to the class teacher, if concerns remain parents should speak to the Headteacher. (It is extremely unlikely decisions will be changed unless exceptional circumstances have been identified.)
- If following discussion with the Headteacher and Chair of Governors, significant concerns remain. Parents have the right of appeal to a panel of governors.

Conclusion

We strongly believe that this arrangement should not be seen as ‘moving children up’ or ‘keeping children down’, but more a statement of our commitment to providing a suitable education for the individual child and helping to ensure that every child can achieve their full potential. It is our belief that by using our professional judgement we will be able to make an accurate assessment of which class is the most suitable for meeting the needs of all our children at St. David’s.

Document History

Filename: Class placement policy June 2020				
Issue	Description of Change	Author	Checked	Date
1.0	Approved by the Governors	RW	Gov.	Sept 2016
2.0	Review Date: June 2016	RW	Gov.	June 2016
3.0	Review Date: May 2017	RW	Gov.	June 2017
4.0	Review Date: May 2018	RW	Gov.	June 2018
5.0	Review Date: May 2020	RW	Gov.	TBC