



# Holywell Primary School

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*we are a learning community with the spirit to succeed*

26<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

## Parent Consultation re combined year groups

I am writing to get your views on the proposed combining of the current Year 2 and Year 3 for the next academic year, 2020/2021. We have been sharing our financial position with parents each year, and it is clear from that the school will have to continue to adapt to be financially sustainable. Our previous carry forward for the financial year 2018/2019 was £278,730.00 but has now reduced for 2019/2020 to £134,809.00.

The school has made huge financial savings over the past years through spending reviews and good procurement. We have undertaken a staff restructure during 2019/2020, and will undertake a second staff restructure during the autumn term of 2020/2021. Even with these savings the budget forecast predicts that the school will be in a deficit of **-£76,234.00** by April 2022.

We have taken the decision to reduce the number of classes in the school where pupil numbers are low. To make a decision on which year groups to combine the following items have been considered.

- 1 Year group sizes
- 2 Academic test and/or screenings
- 3 Progress through the curriculum
- 4 Behaviour of pupils
- 5 Achievement level of pupils

We have devised a Year A and Year B curriculum, which children in combined classes will study. This curriculum ensures that pupils get the statutory level of education that they are entitled to get. Pupils in Year 3 have already studied many aspects of the Year B curriculum so will study Year A curriculum next year, before moving on to Year 5 and Year 6. We anticipate that they will become a single year group again in Year 5 to help them get ready for their Year 6 SATS and secondary school.

Pupils currently in Year 2 will study Curriculum A next year and will then study curriculum B the subsequent year. We anticipate that they will be merged with pupils from the current Year 1 cohort in 2021/2022 and will then study curriculum B.

The pupils from the two-year groups will therefore become three combined classes. I set out here a model of how we plan to combine future year groups should pupil numbers remain low.







Summary of Attainment		Writing											
No vulnerable group filters applied													
Guide to attainment across Key Stages 1 and 2 using HFL Steps Approach													
EYFS		Key Stage 1 (Phase A)									Lower Key St		
40-60S or below	ELG met	A0	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A+	B1	B2	B3	
Exit YR													
Year 1	Autumn	7		22	6								
	Spring	4		7	19	5							
	Summer												
Year 2	Summer Y1	3		7	6	20	6						
	Autumn	1											
	Spring	1		5	3	1	3	8	2				
	Summer												
	P8 or below												
Year 3	Summer Y2	1		1	2	3	5	7	15	5			
	Autumn	1		1	1	2	6	8	9	4		8	
	Spring			2		3	5	5	9	5		5	6
	Summer												

Summary of Attainment		Maths											
No vulnerable group filters applied													
Guide to attainment across Key Stages 1 and 2 using HFL Steps Approach													
EYFS		Key Stage 1 (Phase A)									Lower Key St		
40-60S or below	ELG met	A0	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A+	B1	B2	B3	
Exit YR													
Year 1	Autumn	6		29									
	Spring	4		7	25								
	Summer												
Year 2	Summer Y1	2		4	10	20	6						
	Autumn	1											
	Spring	1		1	2	3	8	21	2				
	Summer												
	P8 or below												
Year 3	Summer Y2			2		5	2	5	10	5			
	Autumn			2		4	2	6	2	14			
	Spring			2		2	4	2	0	6		14	
	Summer												

The illustrations above shows teachers are already having to consider a wide range of abilities in each year group or class. It is our aim that pupils will continue to make good progress in their combined classes. Our aim always continues to prepare pupils for life after Holywell Primary School. From teaching them a well-rounded curriculum to giving them opportunities to achieve the best they can. In combined classes, teachers will focus on giving pupils the broad balanced curriculum that they will need in these years and in Year 5 and Year 6 make sure that they hone in, as we do now, on the gaps of pupils knowledge, and skill in preparation for their Year 6 SATS and in preparation for secondary school.

Yours faithfully



Mr C van Straaten  
Headteacher