



Kingsleigh Primary School

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Where everyone can be great, not just good!

Dear Families,

Transition to new classes

I just want to thank parents/carers for the positive responses that we have received regarding transition, new classes and new teachers. We know that changing year groups each year is a big deal for children, and we know that it can be full of emotion and excitement. At KPS, we have created classes based on all children being able to make the best academic progress they can as this is the fundamental purpose of a school. Our plan for September involves all children within a year group playing together in designated year group spaces so the children will be able to mix freely and socialise with friends from across the year group during playtime/lunchtime. ***Obviously, this is all dependent on the government confirming that the bubble systems are no longer required.***

In lessons, we want children to focus on their learning and again this is the priority when creating the classes. A key responsibility of a primary school is also preparing children for their long-term education, and this involves helping the children to be resilient to and able to cope with change. We would be setting the children up to fail if we created a 'pathway' through school that shielded them from the need to interact and socialise with different peers and be comfortable with the concept that lessons are for learning and breaktimes/lunchtimes are for socialising.

In school, we have very robust and well thought out pastoral systems and a staff team who are highly trained at educating, supporting and caring for children. It is our responsibility to ensure that all children are happy and safe in school and that they know who to speak to if they have concerns. It is not the responsibility of classmates to be the emotional support mechanism for their friends and we need and want all children to be able to focus on their learning and progress. If concerns for a pupil developed, then staff would support, address and communicate appropriately to ensure a swift resolution of the situation.

There have been some concerns raised by families about children being in a class with people that they have previously had issues with. Again, this is not something that we would shy away from. Teaching the children how to constructively manage relationships with people that they do not get on with is also another essential life-skill and we would be failing our children if we allowed them to go through school thinking that every time there is an issue between themselves and others the answer is to say they need to be removed from the problem. Instead, our systems will teach and encourage children to learn that they must respect everyone even though they may not like them, thus allowing them to learn mature and sensible ways to deal with conflicts when they do arise.



As trained teachers, we are very experienced in creating classes that will allow all of these positive things to happen and for your children to flourish. We know how quickly children can adapt and what an essential life skill this is, and we are proud of the way the children of KPS simply 'crack on' with new challenges.

Another key message in the transition process, is that all children get fresh starts in September. It is a chance for children to start afresh with some relationships and others that will develop and blossom over the year. Once again, another big reason to be excited and to see September as something to look forward to.

Over the remaining three weeks the current class teachers will be regularly referencing the movement to their new groups and providing any opportunities they can to discuss any thoughts and feelings that the children have. It is frustrating, but unavoidable, that the children could not have their usual transition day and experiences but you can all be extremely confident that the children will have amazing starts in September with their new classmates and adults.

Please note: We have received a small number of correspondences regarding the classes for next year and parents/carers wishing for us to make changes, we hope this letter will answer all concerns raised in those emails and clarify why we will not be moving any children. Should you have any outstanding questions following the above clarification, please email the office with these queries.

Best wishes and thank you as always for your continued support.

Mr J Lumber

Headteacher

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