



**ORCHARD
HEAD**

ORCHARD HEAD JUNIOR, INFANTS & NURSERY SCHOOL

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Wednesday 6th September 2023

Dear families of Year 5 & 6 pupils,

I hope this communication finds you well and optimistic about the academic year that lies ahead for your child.

I am pleased to inform you that we will be increasing teacher support for our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils. We are now in the fortunate position of having a fourth experienced teacher working in Upper Key Stage 2 on a morning, and therefore, we have taken the positive decision to split both our Y5 and Y6 cohorts into two 'flexible' groupings. This will mean that during a morning only, group sizes will be reduced from around 30 pupils to around 22 to 23 pupils, allowing your child to receive more focused support from an experienced teacher.

For those of you who have had children in Year 5 and 6 in our school in recent years, you will be familiar with this arrangement. We have the staffing capacity to do this on a morning, and pupils will return to their usual classes for the afternoon. Flexible groupings will include a mixture of abilities and will be decided by our UKS2 team. To ensure consistency for those identified with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, additional support from our dedicated Learning Support Assistants will remain the same.

Teachers allocated for these cohorts are as follows:

- Year 6 – Mr Reynolds and Miss Leyland-Brown
- Year 5 – Miss Higginson and Miss Scholes

We continue to endeavour to support the needs of our children as best as possible, and we are confident this arrangement will have a significant positive impact on the educational outcomes for all. However, if you have any questions, please get in contact via the school telephone number or email address.

Yours sincerely,

Mr K Reynolds
Associate Assistant Headteacher
Orchard Head Junior, Infants and Nursery School