
CLASS STRUCTURE 2025-26

JANUARY 2025 – PARENT/CARER PRESENTATION



WHY CHANGE CLASS STRUCTURE?

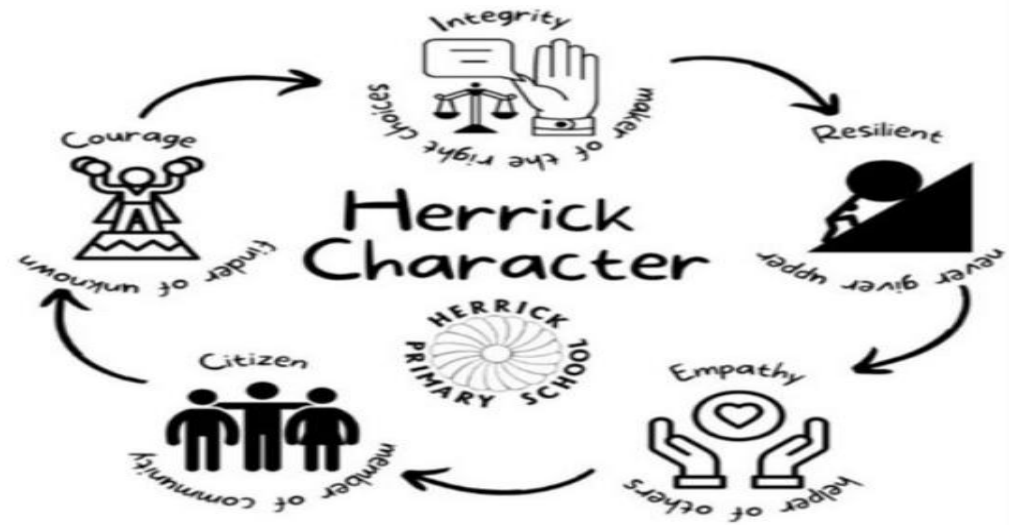
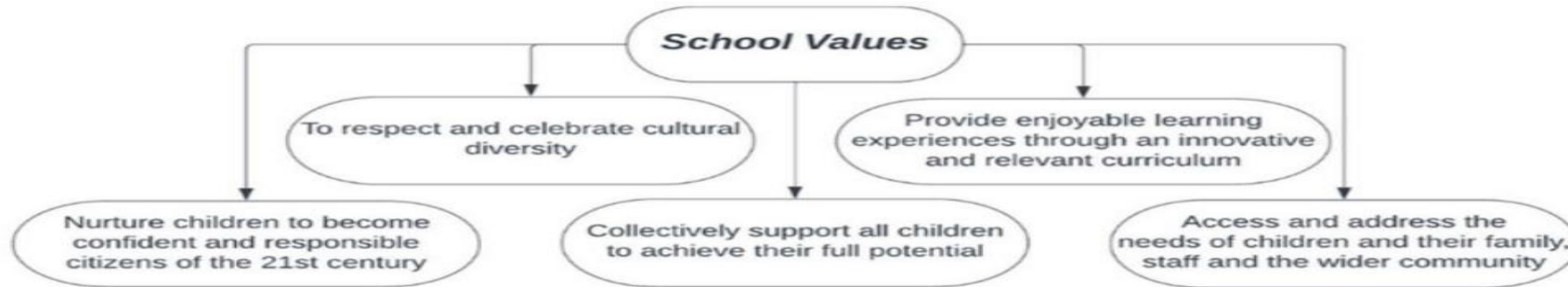
DECLINING PUPIL NUMBERS IS IMPACTING HEAVILY ON THE SCHOOL BUDGET

Financial implications on declining pupil numbers

Year	Pupils on roll
19 - 20	426
20 - 21	417
21 - 22	386
22 - 23	378
23 - 24	376
24 - 25	345
25 - 26	329
26 - 27	258

NEXT STEPS:

WE WILL ALWAYS ENSURE CONSISTENCY AND EQUALITY IN CLASSROOM ARRANGEMENTS AND PUPIL ALLOCATIONS



WORKING WITH LOCAL AUTHORITY, STAFF AND GOVERNORS ON CLASS STRUCTURE

- Each year the School Leadership Team will discuss year groups and pupil numbers with the Local Authority before deciding how to structure our classes for the following academic year.

It is not uncommon for this situation to change from year to year. The sizes of year groups can vary quite dramatically as has been the case at Herrick Primary School. Another factor that influences class sizes is that EYFS and KSI children should only be registered and taught in groups of 30 or less children. Physical classroom space is also a consideration.

OUR CURRENT NUMBERS

YEAR GROUP (age group)	F2	1	2	3	4	5	6
NUMBER ON ROLL	23	48	42	54	58	58	62
2025-26	71		96		58	58	62
	become yr 1 & 2		become yr 3 & 4		become yr5	become yr6	have left

HOW DO WE DECIDE NEW CLASSES?

WE WILL REVIEW CLASSES EACH YEAR AND MIX CLASSES DEPENDENT ON THE NEEDS OF THE SCHOOL AND THE CHILDREN.

- The arrangements for class mixing are based on the professional judgement of Class Teachers in consultation with the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and the Headteacher.
- We will always consider what is in the best interests of individual children and classes when making decisions.
- We will always consider the happiness and welfare of the children and will take into consideration existing friendship groups when we create new classes.
- The School's decision is final and only in circumstances where a safeguarding concern is present will the school consider moving a pupil to a different class.

NUMBER OF CLASSES

- 1 class (reception)
- 3 classes (mixed classes of years 1 and 2)
- 3 classes (mixed classes of years 3 and 4)
- 2 classes (year 5)
- 2 classes (year 6)

- A TOTAL OF 11 classes

BENEFITS OF MIXED CLASSES

- have opportunities to **learn and play** with a wide variety of peers.
- develop **greater social interaction** between peers as they move through the school.
- develop **social resilience** in a safe, comfortable environment – particularly helpful in preparing in the older year
- groups before moving to secondary school where being **taught in various groups is the norm**.
- be part of a year group **team** and not just a class.
- build a wide **social circle** with children across their year.
- settle more quickly and **confidently** when they are new to our school.
- feel a greater **sense of community** in a large primary school.
- learn **from their older peers** during years where they are the younger year group in that class.
- **experience mentorship** as part of their personal development when they are the older children in their class.

CLASSES

No.	Class	Name
1	Rec	Anning
2	1 / 2	Attenborough
3	1 / 2	Bell
4	1 / 2	Curie
5	3 / 4	Edison
6	3 / 4	Hawkins
7	3 / 4	Tim -BL
8	5	Newton
9	5	Darwin
10	6	Einstein
11	6	Turing

FACTORS CONSIDERED WHEN ORGANISING CLASSES

- Teachers views on friendships*
- Pupil view on own friendships
- Range of educational, social, and personal needs
- Age and level of maturity
- Balance of Gender
- Balance of Special Educational Needs
- Balance of English as additional language
- Balance of Ability
- Family relationships, such as in year siblings/staff children

PARENT/CARER QUESTIONS

Will children be in mixed ability? **YES.**

Will my child get to be with/ play with/ learn with their friends? **YES – all children asked about the closest friends**

How will maths, English and phonics be taught? **Maths will be taught through blended learning, English will be taught in discreet year groups and phonics will be taught separately to specific year groups.**

How will transition work? **We will start getting children ready in the summer term, sharing playgrounds, classes etc.**

What will classes be called? **Each class will be named after a famous scientist.**

Will the curriculum be rushed through? **No. We have planned a 2 year rolling programme, therefore no repeat of topics and there will be specific expectations for different ages.**

Will my child have support to keep up with their peers? **All work will be adapted for differently abilities in the class.**

If my child is finding the work easy how will they be challenged? **There will always be high expectations and higher level work planned for those that need further challenging.**