



ELVINGTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Working Together We Can All Achieve Success'

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07/06/2024

Four Class Structure – September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you are no doubt aware, our current Year 6 cohort consists of 23 children. When these children transition to Secondary School, it will have a sizable impact on the number of pupils we have on roll, and subsequently the amount of funding we receive.

Following Primary School Allocation Day (Tuesday 16th April), we have received 11 first choice applications for EYFS places in September. The aforementioned is despite Elvington's reputation for providing an exceptional holistic education; combined with the highest academic outcomes in the local area.

We have worked hard to promote our school, utilising the York Press to publicise Elvington's Open Morning and having direct links to local pre-school providers. However, there are only a finite number of families in the local area with primary aged children. Consequently, it will not be possible to sustain a five class structure next academic year.

A recent report from the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) suggests that there is a negligible link between class size and pupil attainment – *"The estimates indicate that class size does not have a statistically significant effect on student achievement"*. This is however more significant in the early years of primary – *"There is some evidence for additional benefits of smaller class sizes with younger children, so smaller class sizes may be a more effective approach during the early stages of primary school"*. Consequently, the number of children in EYFS/KS1 are still lower than in the vast majority of schools.

Taking the aforementioned into account, below is the structure that will be implemented from the start of next academic year.

Class 4	18 Year 6s & 16 Year 5s	34 pupils
Class 3	14 Year 4s & 21 Year 3s	35 pupils
Class 2	16 Year 2s & 11 Year 1s	27 pupils
Class 1	11 Year 1s & 11* EYFS	22 pupils

*Projected September 2024 EYFS intake

As Class 1 and Class 2 numbers are most likely to fluctuate, I will balance these up once numbers are confirmed.



Quality Mark
EARLY YEARS
AWARD



Quality Mark
PRIMARY
AWARD



"I have come in order that you may have life – life in all its fullness." John 10:10

It is likely that the combination of a falling birth rate and no additional housing in the village will continue to be a factor over the coming years. However, we have made plans that will support either an increase or decrease in pupil numbers.

Class allocation information will be included in your child's end of year report. We are still receiving applications for places, consequently, it will not be possible for this information to be shared earlier.

I would like to reassure you that we will continue to maintain the highest standards of pedagogy and pupil care. There will be no reduction in the amount of teaching assistant support provided; with the added benefits of having an additional classroom for group activities. In addition, Elvington's teachers have all had experience of teaching larger classes while ensuring exceptional pupil outcomes.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me (head@elvingtonprimary.org.uk).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Buttery', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mr. Andrew Buttery