



UPLANDS MANOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents and Carers

May 2026

Year 6 classes for 2026-2027

As we approach the end of this school year we are in the process of organising classes and staffing ready for September. As in previous years, we will be mixing the Year 5 classes into four new classes for Year 6. This has always been a positive and successful move as we prepare the children for their SATs and their transition into secondary school.

Over time there can be various changes to the original classes that the children joined: mobility of pupils in and out of our school meaning a number of 'new' children; identification of special educational and / or behavioural needs, creating an imbalance across the year group as some classes have more needs than others; changing pastoral or educational needs; changing relationships and dynamics between individuals and groups of children; English language needs.

Mixing classes together enables us to put together a good balance of abilities and needs within each class, such that children who share similar strengths or difficulties in particular areas can sometimes work together or access shared support. This is not streaming or setting the children – classes will remain as mixed ability groupings. We will however remain open to flexible groupings for some lessons just as we do now.

What are the benefits for the children?

- ✓ Better resilience in developing friendships in a safe, comfortable environment – extremely important as they will be moving to secondary school soon and having a wider base of friends would be beneficial.
- ✓ The opportunity to work with some different children in class. In fact, some children already have friends in the other classes and have requested the opportunity to work with those friends.
- ✓ Being and feeling part of a year group and not just a class.
- ✓ Balancing out of the special educational and behaviour needs across the year group. This will benefit the children with identified needs but also the other children as well.
- ✓ For some children a better match to a working group of similar needs.

Please note: break times and lunchtimes will remain unchanged and the children will be able to interact and play with class mates and other children as they did before.

What happens now?

- The teachers from all of the classes in Year 5 have worked together to look through and discuss key information to organise the Year 6 classes (we have tried to make sure that children have some of their friends in their new classes).
- We will share your child's new class with you as soon as this process has been completed and in time for transition activities in school in July.

Yours faithfully

Mrs R Keen
Head Teacher

