

Barnes Farm Junior School

Henniker Gate, Chelmer Village,

Essex CM2 6QH

Head Teacher: Mr R McTaggart

Tel: 01245 467973

E-mail: admin@barnesfarm-jun.essex.sch.uk

Website: www.barnesfarmjuniors.co.uk



26th May 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Class restructuring 2022-2023

As a three-form entry school, we have a wonderful opportunity to enable the children to make as many learning and social connections with other pupils in the classroom as possible. Over the past few years, our [class structure policy](#) has successfully enabled us to engineer the best working relationships for our pupils as well as ensure that classes remain balanced due to transfers and transitions. This is completed on an annual basis based primarily on the professional judgement of the teaching staff and senior leadership team.

We aim to provide a successful balance of the following criteria:

- Gender
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)
- Academic ability
- Attitudes to learning and friendship groups

We believe involving the opinions of pupils is essential and therefore, following a brief PSHE lesson, we have asked the children to thoughtfully consider up to 6 children (from across their yeargroup) with whom they believe **they work best** in lessons. Thinking carefully about who can most positively influence the progress and success of pupils is not necessarily the same as who their best friends are. We asked them to reflect on the qualities that they need in their classmates such as co-operation, empathy, teamwork, positivity, concentration, etc. But also, we reminded the children that they will still see the year group at playtime and lunchtime if choosing six children seems an impossible task!

After half term, current Year 3-5 class teachers will then start the process of discussing and planning the new class structures for next year based on their own observations as well as your child's opinions. It is important for children to understand that they may not be placed in a class with all of the pupils that they list but they will have at least one of their choices and we ask that you help your child to keep this in mind.

If you have any questions about the process, please email remotesupport@barnesfarm-jun.essex.sch.uk

Yours sincerely,

Mr Ross McTaggart
Headteacher

