



Tuesday 26 August 2025

### Class Staffing Changes in Y3 and Y4 – September 2025

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Dear Parents and Carers,

In April 2025, the school combined the three classes in Year 1 into two, as the year group had reduced to 60 pupils, in relation to the on-going birthrate drop in South East England.

Over the summer, governors have asked us to apply the same principle in Key Stage 2 where numbers allow. As the current Year 3 group has fewer than 62 pupils in total, this year group will now move into two classes rather than three. We have some of our pupils from the new Year 3 joining our Pathways provision too this year, as the older pupils moved out to secondary and specialist settings.

This means a small change to our staffing plan for September:

- **Year 3:** Ms Spanner and Ms Hutt will continue as the teachers for Red and Blue Classes. We will confirm which class your child will be in next week.
- **Year 4:** Ms Wood, our new teacher, will now take on one of the Year 4 classes instead of Mr Wiles.

This arrangement has a number of positives. Ms Wood has already been able to spend time with the children when they were in Year 3 during a school trip, so she is already a familiar face to them. Parents had also expressed concerns that, as a senior leader, Mr Wiles may have had to spend more time out of class. This change allows Ms Wood to be a consistent, full-time presence for her class, giving the children both stability and continuity.

We do appreciate that any change can feel unsettling, particularly for children who find transitions more difficult. Please be assured that we will do everything possible to support a calm, gentle start to the year. Our September "soft start" will give children time to reconnect with their teachers, classmates, and routines in a reassuring way.

Thank you for your understanding and support, especially during the holidays. As always, our priority is your child's wellbeing, and we will work closely with you to make sure this transition feels smooth, positive and secure.

With warm regards,

Mr D Constable-Phelps  
**Executive Headteacher**