

Class Structure at The Flitch Green Academy

Children spend 7 years at primary school, split into three different stages:

The Early Years Foundation Stage.

The 'Reception' year at school where children enter at 4 years old. The curriculum is explained in the assessment section of our website. The curriculum is very child led, with short, directed teacher led sessions.

KS1

The curriculum is more formal and with around 2 hours per day focused on core English and maths skills. In Y1 there is a focus on continuing the phonics learning journey so the children eventually become confident readers able to access text for learning and for pleasure.

KS2

Children continue to build on the core skills they have learnt through EYFS and KS1. Children are given statutory assessment tests (SATs) at the end of this key stage. These tests are taken in May in Y6 and are sent to the DfE (department of education) to be externally marked.

At the Flitch Green Academy our PAN (published admissions number) is 45 per year group. Consequently from KS1 upwards we have mixed age classes:

Phase	EYFS	KS1	Lower KS2	Upper KS2
Set up	X2 classes of 23 / 22 maximum	X3 parallel classes of Y1 and Y2 children	X3 parallel classes of Y3 and Y4 children	X3 parallel classes of Y5 and Y6 children
Class names	Pluto Mercury	Venus Saturn Jupiter	Neptune Mars Moon	Sun Comet Earth

In KS1 and KS2, we have two cycle maps - A and B, which alternate. Maths and English, the two main core subjects, are taught daily and at the appropriate level for children in each of the parallel classes. Other subjects, including all foundation subjects cover key skills and knowledge but the 'topics' are not repeated each year to allow children to access all areas. For example one pupil may learn about the 'Romans' in Y3 and another pupil, in Y4. The cycle maps have been carefully planned.

A journey for a pupil at our school could be as follows:

Year Group	Class	Cycle Map
EYFS (YR)	Mercury	The EYFS curriculum
1	Venus (as a Y1)	Cycle Map A
2	Jupiter (as a Y2)	Cycle Map B
3	Mars (as a Y3)	Cycle Map A
4	Neptune (as a Y4)	Cycle Map B
5	Sun (as a Y5)	Cycle Map A
6	Earth (as a Y6)	Cycle Map B

It is possible a pupil stays in the same named class (e.g. Jupiter) but remember each year the pupil in that class will change. The strength of this is the children form wider relationships across their year group and with the ones above and below them. It allows the teaching staff to make necessary adjustments, ensuring the 'chemistry' in the classes is positive.

For any mixed age class in the school the criteria for placing children is to ensure the classes are parallel - so a mix of the two age groups, boys and girls, SEND needs etc. We also ensure friendship groups are respected but clearly children cannot be in a class with all of their 'best' friends. The school teaching staff meet regularly in the spring and summer terms to finalise the lists.

Please be aware that this process is explained fully to and supported by our Board of Governors. Whilst we understand parents may not agree with the choice of class for their children we ask you to respect the decision of the professional teaching staff. If you have any queries about placement in classes please arrange to speak to your child's class teacher or the headteacher. We are of course more than happy to explain the rationale. The Board of Governors have agreed to this process.