

## CLASS SETTING POLICY



**2024-2027**

Updated: October 2024

Adopted by GB: Autumn Term 2 Meeting 2024

Policy Review Date: **October 2027**

TITLE	NAME	SIGNED	DATE
Headteacher	Simon Roberts	<i>S. Roberts</i>	7/11/24
Chair of Governors	Jeff Fish	J. Fish	7/11/24

In Maesybryn Primary school we aim to keep classes as close to 30 pupils as possible. In our youngest classes (Nursery, Reception and Years 1 - 2), this is a requirement of Welsh Government but in older classes it is advisory. The school believes that having smaller class sizes is beneficial for pupil learning and for standards of teaching. However, our normal intake number is usually above 30 and can far exceed this number and thus there will always be a need to split pupils within a year group across two or more classes. This policy sets out how this is to be done in a fair way that ensures classes are inclusive and socially balanced.

## Aims

**The aims of this policy statement are to ensure;**

- That all classes have 30 pupils or fewer, wherever possible, and exceptions are authorized by the LEA officer for admissions.
- Where classes are over 30, that this is due to the size of a year group, financial pressures or the desire to not mix certain year groups which would make curriculum planning less beneficial to the needs of the children.
- Pupils are placed in classes according to age unless an Individual Development Plan (IDP) states an alternative or where an individual child would be emotionally or physically disadvantaged by being placed in a particular class grouping. The school will also consider the gender mix of a class to ensure balance.
- All pupils cover work and develop skills in line with their ability and not their age or the particular class that they are in.
- Parents are clear as to why their child is placed in a particular class and what can be expected as regards to planning and areas of learning.

## Procedures

**These aims will be achieved by:**

- Grouping classes into two-year phases i.e. Yrs 5 & 6; Yrs 3 & 4; Yrs 1 & 2; Reception & Nursery, wherever possible.
- Ensuring that teachers plan, assess and work together to deliver a common thematic approach, whilst concentrating on the individual skills of the pupils in each class inline with Curriculum for Wales (2022).
- Children are placed into classes chronologically, according to date of birth.
- Exceptions are identified through IDPs or other pastoral data (such as gender balance) and placed in the appropriate class with adjustments then made to the chronology of pupils throughout the phase.
- Discussion will always be had with regard to siblings (especially twins) being in the same class or being split from one another.
- Class details are communicated to parents when their child's report is sent to them.
- New pupils to the school after September will be placed, where possible, in line with this policy but consideration will be given to class numbers and gender balance if

required until classes are again set in July.

- Any complaints or issues are raised with the Head teacher prior to the end of the Summer Term. Outstanding issues should be dealt with in the normal way by contacting the Governing Body or the Local Authority (details available on request).
- In year movement is only permissible in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Head teacher.