



# Marine Park First School

**Headteacher: Mr S Easton**

Park Road, Whitley Bay, NE26 1LT. Tel: (0191) 200 8723 Fax: (0191) 200 8724  
e-mail: [marinepark.first@northtyneside.gov.uk](mailto:marinepark.first@northtyneside.gov.uk) [www.marineparkfirst.co.uk](http://www.marineparkfirst.co.uk)

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4/4/19

Dear Parent/Carer of a child in Year 2

I am writing to confirm that we are planning to mix the Year 2 classes when they move into Year 3 in 2019-20. This will be the second year we have undertaken this mixing process at the end of Year 2. Our decision to continue with this process has been informed through consultation with staff and also a review and refinement of the process we followed last year.

The aim of this approach is to further promote the social, emotional and academic development and well-being of all of our pupils. We feel that a carefully planned reorganisation of the children at the end of Key Stage 1 will be beneficial. In particular we feel it will build wider friendship groups and resilience as well as help pupils to prepare for the subsequent class changes that they will encounter when they move to Middle School.

We understand that the thought of mixing the classes might be a little disconcerting for pupils and their parents/carers. It may be comforting for you to hear that we found that pupils have taken the mix in their stride this year; we, of course, remain committed to ensuring each child reaches their potential and would provide support if this was required. Please be assured, teaching staff and school leaders will carefully coordinate the formation of new class groups taking into account a range of factors including the preferences of children, existing relationships whilst also ensuring a gender balance and wide ability range.

We have created a "question and answer" document which provides more information based on queries which arose when the initiative was introduced at Marine Park last year. You can find it in the parentzone section of the website.

We plan to inform the children and their parents/carers about the new class organisation (both class and staffing) as we normally do towards the end of the year to coincide with end of year reports (typically sent out at the end of June/beginning of July). Linked to this, we will ensure transitional arrangements are in place for the end of Year 2 and beginning of Year 3.

If you have any queries about the content of this letter, do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Easton  
Headteacher