



## Lenzie Meadow Primary

### Rationale for Class Composition

*Community and connection are at the heart of school life at Lenzie Meadow Primary. Regularly seeking and providing opportunities for our children to mix, collaborate, learn and play together will support our aspiration to be inclusive, connected and allow our children to flourish as they develop and grow.*

### Guidance for Families

The purpose of this guidance is to explain how classes are structured at Lenzie Meadow Primary and to share information about how we make up a composite class. The need for change happens as the roll of a school increases or decreases, and this may happen a number of times during your child's time at school.

### Background Information

Government regulations set a normal maximum number of 25 pupils in P1, 30 pupils in P2-3 and 33 pupils in P4-P7 for single year stage classes in primary school. The maximum number of pupils for classes containing more than one year stage (composite class) is 25.

It is normally possible to form single year stage classes when the number of pupils at each year stage is slightly below the class maximum of 33 or a multiple of 33. Where numbers are very small or where they are slightly larger than 33, it is usually necessary to form composite classes.

Schools receive an entitled complement of teaching staff in accordance with the total number of pupils on the roll before annual classification can be considered. The Head Teacher works with officers in the central team to begin workforce planning in January of each year.

### What does our class structure model look like at Lenzie Meadow?

We have a 20 class structure model in our school and are triple stream at five out of seven stages. In recent years, our one composite class has been placed at the Primary 3/4 stage. The year groups considered for composite may change over time and this will be reviewed on an annual basis, based on the factors noted above.

### Making up a class

Careful consideration is given to ensuring that a range of learning and teaching approaches and opportunities are in place, in order that children can work with a range of peers and adults to support their learning.

In the formation of new classes, full account will be taken of overall numbers of children in the school and at each stage, gender balance, children's additional support needs and existing successful work groupings (namely literacy and numeracy).

Identifying groups of children who are of similar ability within their stage and who the teacher feels will work well together allows best value use of teacher input and equity for all.

In light of Lenzie Meadow having multiple classes at each stage, it is important to note that this is not a 'setting' model across a year group, instead each class in the school will have a maximum of three working groups.

In all classes the membership of teaching groups may change during the course of a school session as a class teacher, using professional judgement, responds to pupil needs and progress over time.

Please be assured that staff know our children and young people very well and always consider social dynamics as part of classification.

There will be opportunities for year groups to mix and learn together.

### **Supporting your child with change**

When children are part of a reorganisation of learning in schools, they face new experiences, opportunities and challenges. School staff understand that change has to be managed well, through good communication and planning for transition. Change is a normal part of school life and staff are experienced in ensuring that any necessary supports are put in place as children transition from one year to the next.

A range of activities will be planned for your child to support this transition, including meeting their new teacher(s) and classmates and the identification of new learning groups. Our teaching team will plan collaboratively for that transition and ensure that all relevant information is shared in detailed planning and handovers.

### **How can I support my child to prepare for moving on to a new class?**

You can help your child to prepare for change and to settle in comfortably and quickly by chatting positively, and with excitement, about their new class.

Please don't hesitate to contact the school via the office if there is any matter you wish to discuss.