

Governors' response to the two form entry proposal for Radyr Primary School

The Governors of Radyr Primary School fully support the expansion of the school to one of a two form entry.

In recent years the uncertainty of pupil numbers has caused challenges for the school and the Governing Body in the areas of budget planning and staff resourcing. The Finance committee of the Governing Body have found it increasingly challenging to accurately plan for each financial year due to the inability to accurately predict pupil numbers.

For many years Radyr Primary have had mixed year group classes. The educational opportunities given to these children have never been compromised but mixed age classes are rarely popular with parents or pupils. A permanent two form intake will mean that there are no mixed year group classes which will assist in school management planning.

The Governing Body have formally noted their desire for the school to be one of a two form entry for many years. Members of the Governing Body have actively campaigned for the change for over 18 months. We believe that the school has the physical space and resources in place to fully support a school of 60 pupils per year group. In addition, looking at the demographic data it is clear that if the school does not become one which can take 60 pupils each year, many children who live in catchment will have to travel to alternative schools. We firmly believe that the increase in pupil numbers will improve financial and resource planning which will improve the educational experience of both current and future pupils.

Jane Griffiths

Chair of
Governors
November 2016

Headteachers' response to the two form entry proposal for Radyr Primary School

As the Headteacher of Radyr Primary School I fully support the expansion of the school to one of a two form entry, which is an increase of only 15 pupils in total.

For many years Radyr Primary have had mixed year group classes. A permanent two form intake will mean that there are no mixed year group classes which will assist in school management planning, this will also have a positive impact on standards allowing teachers to plan more effectively and differentiate for one year group (not as previously across two).

The school has over the years adapted the physical space and resources to fully support a school of 60 pupils per year group and the only necessary accommodation would be an extra classroom. As Radyr Primary is fortunate to have a very large field area and open space a further classroom would not impact on the available playground space for the children.

Radyr Primary school offers a wide range of after school clubs and increasing the numbers of children on roll and increasing the number of staff would only widen the opportunities available.

The school is fortunate to link closely with the community which offers a range of wrap around care. Many pupils attend the local latchkey provision before and after school along with a number of childminders who collect groups of children from school

The Governing Body have formally noted their desire for the school to be one of a two form entry for many years. Members of the Governing Body have actively campaigned for the change for over 18 months. We believe that In addition, looking at the demographic data it is clear that if the school does not become one which can take 60 pupils each year, many children who live in catchment will have to travel to alternative schools.

It is my opinion that the increase in pupil numbers will improve financial and resource planning which will improve the educational experience of both current and future pupils. If the two form entry proposal is not approved the school would revert to a 45 intake, this would still result in a need for 14 classes with only the funding for 45 pupils having a detrimental financial effect.

Claire Skidmore
Headteacher
Radyr Primary
School
November 2016