



# ELVINGTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

**'Working Together We Can All Achieve Success'**

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07/06/2024

## **Four Class Structure – September 2025**

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you are no doubt aware, our current Year 6 cohort consists of 17 children. When these children transition to Secondary School, it will have an impact on the number of pupils we have on roll, and subsequently the amount of funding we receive.

Following Primary School Allocation Day (Wednesday 16th April), we have received 15 first-choice applications for EYFS places in September. This is a relatively positive outcome, particularly against the backdrop of a declining birth rate. It also reflects Elvington's strong reputation for delivering an exceptional holistic education, alongside achieving the highest academic outcomes in the local area.

We have worked proactively to promote our school—publicising our Open Morning through the *York Press* and building direct links with local pre-school providers. Elvington was also ranked 9th out of 352 primary schools in North Yorkshire in a *Yorkshire Post* article published in November 2024: [www.yorkshirepost.co.uk/education/north-yorkshire-17-top-performing-state-primary-schools-based-on-pupils-basic-english-maths-skills-4842824](http://www.yorkshirepost.co.uk/education/north-yorkshire-17-top-performing-state-primary-schools-based-on-pupils-basic-english-maths-skills-4842824).

Despite these positive developments, the number of families with primary-aged children in the local area remains limited. As a result, it will not be possible to return to a five-class structure in the next academic year.

A recent report from the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) suggests that there is a negligible link between class size and pupil attainment – *"The estimates indicate that class size does not have a statistically significant effect on student achievement"*. This is however more significant in the early years of primary – *"There is some evidence for additional benefits of smaller class sizes with younger children, so smaller class sizes may be a more effective approach during the early stages of primary school"*. Consequently, the number of children in EYFS/KS1 are still lower than in the vast majority of schools.

Taking the aforementioned into account, below is the structure that will be implemented from the start of next academic year.



**Quality Mark**  
EARLY YEARS  
AWARD



**Quality Mark**  
PRIMARY  
AWARD



**Good**  
THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

"I have come in order that you may have life – life in all its fullness." John 10:10

Class 4	Year 6 & Year 5
Class 3	Year 4 & Year 3
Class 2	Year 2 & Year 1
Class 1	Year 1 & EYFS

Class 3 will be split into two groups for their morning Maths and English sessions. Each group will be taught by a teacher and supported by a teaching assistant.

As Class 1 and Class 2 numbers are most likely to fluctuate, I will balance these up once numbers are confirmed.

It is likely that the combination of a falling birth rate and no additional housing in the village will continue to be a factor over the coming years. However, we have made plans that will support either an increase or decrease in pupil numbers.

Class allocation information will be included in your child's end of year report. We are still receiving applications for places, consequently, it will not be possible for this information to be shared earlier.

I would like to reassure you that we will continue to maintain the highest standards of pedagogy and pupil care. There will be no reduction in the amount of teaching assistant support provided; with the added benefits of having an additional classroom for group activities. In addition, Elvington's teachers have all had experience of teaching larger classes while ensuring exceptional pupil outcomes.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me ([head@elvingtonprimary.org.uk](mailto:head@elvingtonprimary.org.uk)).

Yours sincerely,



Mr. Andrew Buttery