

This leaflet is intended to give more information about composite classes, how they work and how children are taught in a composite setting.

The leaflet has been created to give further detail to the Scottish Borders Council Admissions Policy, which details how composite classes are created and the criteria for creating these classes. The full policy can be found here:

[Admissions and class composition policy | Scottish Borders Council \(scotborders.gov.uk\)](https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/admissions-and-class-composition-policy)



Next session, there will be composite classes at West Linton Primary School. For the first time in many years there will be more composite classes than 'year group classes' and your child may be in a composite class for the first time.

Initially we would like to reassure you that being in a composite class gives no advantage or disadvantage to pupils. Instead all classes at West Linton Primary School (WLPS) are taught by experienced and qualified teachers who have a full and clear understanding of Curriculum for Excellence from Early – Second level (spanning nursery to Primary 7 and beyond). The teachers will plan, implement and assess learning based on where the pupils are and their own learning targets.

How Composite classes are created

Composite classes are created based on the whole school roll from P1-7 and are classes that include children from more than one year group.

Composite classes are necessary when there are more than the capped number of pupils for a class in one year group or if there are too few pupils in a year group to create a single stream class. When a child is in a composite class, measures will be taken to ensure that they do not lose touch from friends by developing their year group identity and they can continue, of course, to choose who to play with a recreation times.

Where year groups are split into composite classes, the first criteria for creating the classes will be date of birth, followed by consideration to gender balance within the class. Attainment or progress **are not a factor** in the creation of classes.



In some instances there may only be a small number of pupils from one year group transitioning into a composite class, however in this situation, there will be:

- no fewer than four pupils
- at least one other child of the same gender from a child's previous class.

How Composite Classes Work

Composite classes work in exactly the same way as single year group classes.

Teaching staff teach Curriculum for Excellence experiences and outcomes, appropriate to the level of learning of all pupils in the class.

All classes require a level of differentiation and a composite class is no different to this. (Differentiation refers to the range of teaching techniques and lesson adaptations that educators use to instruct a diverse group of students, with diverse learning needs, in the same classroom, or learning environment)

To ensure that pupils in composite classes have a year group identity as well as a class identity; teachers plan their class learning together to ensure similar opportunities are planned and where appropriate, the teachers will come together to ensure that there are times during the school year where children from the same year group learn/ play together.

Some of the opportunities year groups will have together may include:

- Year Group Services/ Assemblies
- School trips
- Health and Wellbeing learning
- Small group activity/ development e.g. Ministers For groups in Primary 7

How children are taught in a Composite Class

Children in a composite class have the same experience of teaching and learning as children in a single year group class.



Teachers will plan learning based on levels of learning and assessment evidence to support young people to continually make progress.

All teaching is underpinned by the 'Scottish Borders Council Teaching, Learning and Assessment Framework' which details how children should be taught in Scottish Borders classrooms. The policy can be found here on our school website: [Curriculum | West Linton Primary School](https://www.westlintonps.scot.nhs.uk/curriculum/)

Should you have any questions relation to the leaflet or the policies hyperlinked, then please contact the school on: WestLintonPS@scotborders.gov.uk

West Linton Primary School

Composite Class Information 2021



A booklet for parents

