

Longfields Latest News



13th June 2025

Dear families,

As we approach the end of the academic year at Longfields, we are beginning the important process of organising class and staff allocations for the coming year. We understand that this is a time of anticipation for both children and families, and we are committed to ensuring the transition is smooth and positive for everyone. Our aim is to create balanced classes where every child feels supported and able to thrive, with staff who are dedicated to their wellbeing and learning. We will keep you informed throughout this process and will share your child's class and teacher allocation on the move up day on the 8th July, allowing plenty of time for any questions or concerns to be addressed.

Class allocations for September 2025

We thoughtfully consider a range of factors when placing children into classes for the next academic year. Our aim is to create balanced, supportive, and positive learning environments where every child can thrive. When making decisions, we look at each child's individual needs, friendships, learning styles, and academic progress, as well as ensuring a mix of abilities and personalities in each class. We also take into account any specific information you have shared with us that may support your child's wellbeing and learning. Our priority is to ensure that all classes provide the best opportunities for every pupil to achieve their potential and to feel happy and settled in school.

As we move to becoming a one and a half form entry school (i.e. 45 children in each intake). This September we have 45 children joining our school in Reception, they will be in two classes. In KS1 we will have 3 mixed year Y1 and Y2 classes, whilst in Key Stage two we will continue to have two classes per year group for the next academic year.

What is a mixed-age and split year group class?

A mixed-age class is defined as a class in which there are children who are from more than one year group.

Therefore, Year 1 and Year 2 children are split between three classes. The expertise of the staff is used to ensure that children are placed in a class with their best interests in mind.

Will my child be held back if she/he is placed in a class with the young year group?

Definitely not! The ways in which teaching and learning are organised in primary schools means that teaching and work is tailored to the needs and current achievement levels of individual pupils. The staff at the school are very experienced at planning and delivering work to match the needs of mixed-age classes. They provide challenge for the more-able children and support for those needing more help whichever year group they are currently in. Furthermore, the school plans educational experiences for pupils in all classes in ways which ensure good progression and continuity, whichever year group or class they are in.

Are there any benefits to the arrangements?

Children benefit in many ways from the opportunity to become an 'expert' for the younger children and a positive role model which the younger children often aspire to. This 'vertical' grouping often nurtures thinking & problem-solving skills, vocabulary & social competences. There is often a greater sense of cooperation and opportunities to work with a wider circle of peers.

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I am concerned that forming a mixed age or split year group class may mean that my child's friendship grouping is being broken up.

Although care is taken in allocating pupils to classes – their social needs are not ignored – in general terms it is likely to be good for children to experience classes with different classmates so that their circle of friends and acquaintances can be extended beyond the traditional age boundaries. Where new classes are formed, opportunities are created beyond the standard curriculum for pupils to maintain contact with friends who have been allocated to other classes (such as at lunchtimes, playtimes, special activities, trips, school performances). When children transfer to secondary school, new friendship groupings in different subject areas become a fact of life, and this situation is generally welcomed by many children.

How are decisions taken about which children should be allocated to which class?

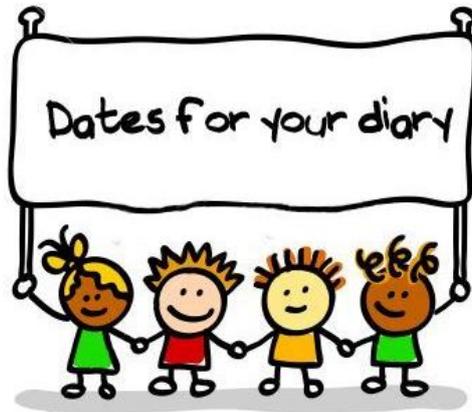
At Longfields that we take a number of influences into consideration and make a professional judgment based on this. Classes are considered very carefully, depending on each cohort of children. These include (and are in no order of preference):

- social learning group;
- age of child;
- emotional development;
- readiness to learn;
- stage of learning;
- learning styles;
- additional needs; and
- gender and age (balance of class and year group).

All these factors will be taken into consideration by the staff when deciding. Parents are informed about the new organisation and opportunities are made available for any family wishing to discuss their child's learning. However, the headteacher, in consultation with the wider leadership team, who makes the final allocation based on their professional judgement of where the child will best flourish in both their personal, social and academic achievements.

We hope you have a lovely weekend and get to enjoy the warmer weather that has been forecast.





Dates for your diary:

- 27.06.2025—Year 6 Trip to Bletchley Park
01.07.2025—Year 4 play performance to parents 13:45
02.07.2025—Year 4 play performance to parents 16:30
03.07.2025 & 04.07.2025—Whitelands Academy Transition Days
07.07.2025 & 08.07.2025—Cooper School Transition Days
08.07.2025—Bicester School Transition Day
08.07.2025—Longfields move up day
10.07.2025—Year 1 Trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park
18.07.2025—Year 2 Trip to Windsor Castle
22.07.2025—Year 3 Trip to Science Oxford
22.07.2025—Last day of school before the summer holidays
01.09.2025—Inset Day
02.09.2025—Inset Day
03.09.2025—First day back at school after the summer holidays

Please see School Life Calendar/school website for full dates



- Nursery and Reception—
Monday 23rd June at 14:15
Year 1 & 2—Tuesday 24th June
after registration
Year 3 & 4—Wednesday 25th
June after registration
Year 5 & 6—Thursday 26th June
after registration
Extra day in case of rain earlier
in the week—Friday 27th June



Summer Cabin 2025 is back!

It will run from Wednesday 23rd July until Friday 15th August 2025.

Times are 8 am until 3 pm with a late pickup option until 4 pm. The cost is: 8am - 3 pm = £32.00 (includes breakfast) & 3pm - 4 pm = £5.00 extra late pick up option.

There are limited spaces so book fast to avoid disappointment (spaces have been allocated already to Cabin Club Members). If you would like to book a space please email Louise Pieton - Cabinclub@longfields-primary.org for a booking form.



Notice Board

SUMMER CAMP

**TWO WEEKS OF
FOOTBALL
THIS SUMMER**

WEEK 1 - 28TH JULY - 1ST AUG

WEEK 2 - 11TH AUG - 15TH AUG

9AM - 3PM
(08:30 EARLY DROP OFF)

**£20 PER DAY OR
£75 FOR 5 DAYS**

**WHITELANDS FARM
SPORTS GROUND
BICESTER**

SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER

ALL COACHES ARE DBS CHECKED,
FA/UEFA QUALIFIED AND FIRST AID
TRAINED

[HTTPS://OXFORDSHIRE-
RTC.CLASSFORKIDS.IO/CAMP/28](https://oxfordshire-rtc.classforkids.io/camp/28)



Oxfordshire
Regional Talent Centre

Pre-loved children's toys, books and clothes

**TOY
SALE**

**Launton Parish Hall
Saturday 14 June, 10:00-12:00**

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