

THE WESTGATE SCHOOL

Hampshire's First 4-16 'All Through' School

*The Westgate School is a community of learners where partnerships inspire success for all:
learning together – achieving excellence"*

Headteacher: Mrs F A Dean, MA (Ed)

Initial Policy date	November 2008	Next scheduled review	May 2026
Governor approved	May 2025	Key person/people	HT
Model Policy	No	Model localised	Yes
Pupil leadership team review	Y / N / N/A		

PUPIL GROUPINGS

At The Westgate School we believe that effective teaching and learning takes place when individual pupil progress is tracked, monitored and reviewed regularly and teaching and learning activities are matched to pupils' abilities. A flexible approach is adopted in relation to the organisation of teaching groups. A combination of mixed ability and setting exists across different curriculum areas in order to best meet the needs of each individual pupil.

Principles

Pupil Groupings promote:

- Equality of opportunity irrespective of sex, gender, race or any other protected characteristic.
- Access to high level learning opportunities.
- Opportunities to achieve and extend learning and progress.
- Faculties are encouraged to adopt a flexible and personalised approach to pupil groupings.
- The Westgate believes in the benefits of mixed ability groupings and opportunities for older pupils or more experienced learners to support younger pupils/less experienced learners.
- The inclusion of every pupil in a broad and balanced curriculum with opportunity to learn alongside peers.
- To meet the needs of all learners and real time adjustments such as through masterclasses and peel away groups.

Practice

Teaching groups are formed by using professional judgement and in response to and informed by:

- Individual tutor groups/the timetable
- Course and home learning grades.
- Assessment information.
- Test and examination results.
- Consultation with the SLT/Year Leader/Faculty/Subject Leaders and class Teachers.
- Individual pupil needs and the best use of resources to support inclusion in line with the efficient education of all pupils.

Lower School

- In each Year group there are two mixed ability classes.
- Pupil groupings will be reviewed regularly, and class changes will be made at least annually.

Upper School

- English and Maths are grouped, based upon assessment information and professional judgement of teachers.
- Science is organised in mixed ability groups.

- PE is grouped in Year 7 according to individual needs.
- Modern Foreign Languages – pupils entering the school in Year 7 will usually be expected to learn the language that they followed in Key Stage 2.
- All other subjects are mixed ability and based in tutor groups until Years 9 – 11 where foundation/curriculum choices (Year 9) and option choices (Years 10 & 11) inform groupings.

The flexibility to move individual pupils exists when:

- the Faculty Leader or Subject Leader makes a request to the Assistant Headteacher (Curriculum) supported by the appropriate information;
- additional information becomes available regarding a new pupil to the school;
- the demands of the curriculum require a different approach;
- a Year Leader deems it necessary to make adjustments to tutor groups which may include a re-organisation of groups over the course of Years 7 to 11 inclusive.

Year Leaders will liaise with Faculty/Subject Leaders and Assistant Headteacher (Curriculum) prior to making pupil moves which affect the timetable.

FLs/SLs will liaise with Year Leaders regarding concerns about individual pupils' progress before changes to groups are carried out.

Teachers will contact home before changes to groups are carried out.