



Grouping Policy

Date agreed by Governors: March 2019

Date of Review: March 2020

Member of Staff Responsible for the Policy: JAP

Dissemination of the Policy: All staff and Governors, Website

Purpose and aim of the policy and procedures

To ensure that the grouping of pupils in individual subjects at Pittville School allows them to access the curriculum successfully and achieve their full potential, regardless of ability, gender, cultural or social background.

Pupils will initially be placed in 'streamed' sets commensurate with their learning needs, allowing the more able to be extended whilst the less able receive targeted support. At both key stages prior attainment data will be used to inform grouping. Faculties will track pupil progression with regular assessment points whilst data is regularly reviewed by the Data Team to identify under or over achievement. Within the timetable there is the flexibility for pupil movement, but only in consultation with the assistant Headteacher (curriculum), KS3 data manager, heads of faculty and the heads of house.

If pupils are in sets where the work is of an appropriate level of challenge they are more likely to succeed as learners and to become confident individuals.

Grouping Arrangements by Subject and Key Stage

KS3 :

In the academic year 2018-2019 Years 7 and 8 will be split into two populations X and Y. In Year 7 these will be of similar academic ability. In Year 8 the X band is higher ability than Y band, with X3 and Y1 being parallel sets to allow movement. Performing arts, technology and PE are all mixed ability groups with two separate A and B bands. At the start of Year 7, KS2 data is used to decide upon sets.

Throughout KS3, pupils may be moved between sets, depending upon their progress and performance in lessons. Set changes will be decided by Heads of Faculty and agreed by the assistant Headteacher and KS3 data manager. Letters will be sent to parents when set changes are made.

KS4 :

Core subjects (English, maths, science and RE) are set across a whole year group in Years 9, 10 and 11. Sets are determined by the Heads of Faculty at the end of Year 8. During KS4, pupils can be moved as performance dictates. Set changes are decided by Heads of Faculty and agreed by the assistant headteacher. Groups for other subjects are largely decided upon as a result of options choices.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

Effective grouping takes into account under or over achievement but also the differing rates at which pupils learn; where, for example, a pupil regularly over performs over a targeted period, they will be moved to a higher group to ensure the appropriate level of challenge. Groupings are therefore fluid, dependant on the rate of progress made by individual pupils. As such, they are reviewed regularly by the Heads of Faculty in consultation with Heads of Subject and classroom teachers who are responsible for tracking pupil progress.

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure compliance. This policy review will be undertaken by the Headteacher or nominated representative.

Linked Policies:

Curriculum

Accessibility Plan

Equality and Diversity Policy

SEND Policy

PSHE

Complaints against the Curriculum