



1. Would this begin in Sept 2019? **Yes....we hope so.**
2. Will all classes be mixed or just some? **No, not 5th or 6th. Senior Infants to 4th Class may be subject to remixing.**
3. What stage of the year would the classes be told they are being mixed? **We would hope to inform parents by May every year.**
4. What criteria would be looked at for mixing classes? **Gender rebalance, additional needs rebalance, personality dynamic rebalance, encouraging inclusion in all classes.**
5. Would there be an imbalance of abilities in the mixing of the classes? **As above**
6. Are we going to be told the reason for the mixing of particular classes e.g. gender etc.? **In most cases it will be based on a mix of the same criteria (see point 4), sometimes the gender balance criteria would be already met.**
7. Will it be done on an annual basis? **A class would only be re-mixed only once in their school life. This would occur between Sen infants and 4th class. It would happen once a year, to one class per year. Junior Infants are only re-constituted to free up 3 classrooms for new Infants coming in**
8. Who will explain the process to the children...parents or teachers? **This was discussed on the night. As parents will be informed first, we would expect that they will talk to their children. Teachers will then have some gentle discussion with them and talk about the benefits. They will be reassured that they will still have one or two of their best friends in the new mix and that they will probably have at least 10 of their former classmates in the new mix! Also, they will still meet their former classmates in the yard at playtime. The class that is to be re-mixed will engage in Learn Together and SPHE lessons focused on making and sustaining friendships, conflict resolution, recognizing and coping with disappointment, dealing with worries and confidence building throughout May and June.**
9. What is the follow up procedure if the mix is not working? If a certain child is not settling into the new mix, can they be moved again? **That child would be scaffolded by social skills interventions e.g. teacher giving the child some group sessions where they can learn some skills for making new friendships. It is unlikely to happen though as all children will have at**

Blacklion, Greystones, Co. Wicklow A63 YE36

Ph-01-287-1817 www.greystoneset.ie

email contact@greystoneset.ie

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least one of their former friends with them in the new mix. If needs are transient the class teacher and parents will support. If needs are more enduring, then Support Staff are deployed to support the relevant pupils.

10. How would the process be managed from the point of view of the anxiety of the children? **The children would be assured in advance of it happening that it is a very natural process in all schools. Children who have been through the process already in our school will be invited to talk to the classes that are to be re-mixed, about their experience of it. The classes to be re-mixed would have opportunities in advance to share activities e.g. co-operative games in the yard or roleplays/ table quizzes in the hall.**