



Meersbrook Bank Primary School

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Head Teacher: Mrs G. Harvey

Thursday 5th May 2022

Dear Nursery Parents and Carers,

I am writing to let you know about a significant change which will be happening from September. We will be combining our Nursery and Reception classes together to form a Foundation Unit, which will be housed in the current Nursery building.

We have taken this decision for a variety of reasons, and the senior leadership team, along with the governing board and local authority strongly believe that this is a positive step forward, especially given the new approach found within the updated Early Years curriculum. We will combine the skills of a greater number of staff who will work together in a team, rather than the current set-up of a single teacher and one teaching assistant. This will mean greater flexibility in curriculum delivery and increase the number of continuous play activities on offer.

All of the children in Nursery and Reception are taught using the same curriculum (the Early Years Framework) so pooling our resources in place makes better practical, not to mention financial sense. The Nursery children will still be taught together as a group each day, but this 'unit' approach will give more opportunities to deliver a greater proportion of small group teaching which will in turn enable staff to be able to better meet the wide needs of all of the children. Your child will primarily be working with children of their own age, but there will be mixing of ages too, particularly outside. From experience, this works very successfully, allowing older children to develop nurturing and role model skills, and gives younger children exposure to activities which offer more stretch and challenge.

We will be giving the accommodation a bit of a makeover over the summer holidays to freshen it up and we are opening up a small group room as well for story time and sensory play. In addition, we are working towards redeveloping the outdoor space; hopefully with new flooring and a wider range of learning zones with new resources. Long term we also hope to install some larger play/climbing equipment, but we will need to do some significant fundraising before this turns into reality!

If you do have any questions, please get in touch. We hope you are as excited about this next stage of Meersbrook Bank's development as we are.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs G. Harvey
Head Teacher

Mrs Grant
Nursery Teacher

Mrs K. Dyball
Reception Teacher & Early Years Leader

