



Composite Classes

December 2015

This document forms the basis for the formation of multi-age classes at Wahroonga Public School. All enquiries should be directed to the Principal.

Why

NSW DoE provides teaching staff to schools based on a mathematical formula which considers a prescribed number of students in each class dependent on year level. NSW public schools cannot control or limit enrolments. Students who reside within the catchment area have the automatic right to enrol. These factors mean that it is not always possible to neatly form class groupings close to the DoE's formulated number. The remainder of students who do not fit in a capped class enter a multi-age class.

When

Students who have been placed in a composite class in a calendar year will not be considered for placement in another composite class the following year, except in cases where it is requested by a parent.

Who

Not all students manage well in composite classes, though most do. This is because NSW curriculum documents are organised into staged-based outcomes, meaning, for example, students in years 1 and 2 are working towards the same goals and exploring the same content. All students are available for consideration for placement in a composite class with the exception of students not achieving age-appropriate outcomes. As an indication, students generally achieving 'C' or above on their progress reports may be placed in a composite class.

How

Teachers of composite classes work closely with colleagues from both grades to jointly design and plan learning experiences in line with the NSW Syllabuses for the Australian Curriculum. As in all classes, appropriate curriculum adjustments are made for students as required, in consultation with parents.