

# CHANGE IN INTAKE NUMBERS

Sent By: School Office

Sent 25 Feb 2022 15:30

Dear Parents/Carers

## **Change in intake Numbers**

Over recent years the school has been in consultation with the Local Authority with regards to falling birth rates within the local area. We have been advised that that there will continue to be low numbers of children who are ready to start school for at least another four years in the Parkwood and Medway area.

Here at Parkwood we currently provide spaces for 90 children (three classes of 30) in each year group and are required to keep classes open and staffed to accommodate that number, whether they are full or not, to allow for those who may move into the area.

To put this into context for our school, all schools are financed in such a way that the number of children who attend is used to form the basis of the budget for that year – less children means less money for resources and support services.

Therefore, with this information and the commitment to give our children the best offer, as they deserve, the decision has been taken to temporarily reduce the intended intake, alongside the current Foundation Stage, for the next three years and identify these years as two form entry instead of three. This will allow the school to concentrate on appropriate resourcing for the children who are here.

When, and if, the birth rate predictions change the school will react accordingly and adjust to a three form entry once again to make sure we are meeting the needs of children in our community.

Mr A Moir (Headteacher)

Mr T Wildman (Chair of Governors)