



20<sup>th</sup> April 2018

Dear Parents,

As many of you will be aware, fairer school funding has been headline news for some time.

In April of this year the Government announced a new funding formula for all schools nationally. Devon school Headteachers and County Councillors have been campaigning for many years for a fairer funding system. However, this has not been resolved under this new formula and many schools are still struggling financially with unfunded wage increases, changes to pension contributions and annual price increases.

As a school we have reduced our spending across all areas of expenditure during the past 5 years and relied on many successful grant applications to enhance the school building. Unfortunately we are now at a stage where our only option is to reduce staffing. The Governors have fought hard for this not to happen but now feel that there are no other alternatives.

Our Reception year group admission numbers for the last two years have been well below our maximum number of 60 pupils per year group. Governors have therefore been forced to make the difficult decision to make some redundancies within the teaching team and they propose to have mixed group classes within Year 1 & 2 from September, for the next academic year. An exact structure for this has not been agreed and we welcome your comments to support this process.

We know that parents will have many questions and concerns regarding this proposal so would like to hold a parents' meeting on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May at 3.30pm.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Selbie  
Headteacher

Mrs C Down  
Chair of Governors