

How does it work?

- Initial groupings can be decided based on discussions with previous class teachers as well as a variety of assessments.
 - Staff work closely as a team to plan, assess and deliver.
 - Planning is shared and closely linked to ensure pupils share similar learning experiences.
 - Through learner discussions pupils can opt for more challenge or support in particular areas too.
 - Meeting regularly allows staff to moderate and assess pupils.
- Communication is essential.

What does it mean for you?

Your child will have the opportunity to work with different teachers and pupils. Your first point of contact, should you have any questions, is still the class teacher.

If you have any questions about this information please get in touch. We would value your comments.

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**Meeting the Needs
of all Learners**

**- A Shared Learning
Approach**

getting it right for every child

Introduction:

'Getting it right for every child' is central to our core values at Viewlands Primary, ensuring that we meet the needs of all of the children that we teach and support. One of the ways in which we aim to do this is through a 'shared learning' approach.

What is 'shared learning'?

It is quite simply where the learning is shared across a year group or year groups across the breadth of the curriculum. This could be a one-off learning experience between classes, a regular weekly experience or even a daily one.

This approach was recently highlighted as 'good practice' in our recent ELAV inspections by Perth and Kinross Quality Improvement Officers. Staff from Viewlands were asked to present at the PAN Tayside conference to develop this approach across the Perth, Angus and Dundee authorities. Since then we have sought out even more meaningful ways to embed this approach in our practice.

Why take a 'shared learning' approach?

- Some of our 'shared learning' groupings are grouped ability wise which allows us to meet the needs of individuals through appropriate pace and challenge, suitable skill development, catered teaching styles and learner activities. Groups are very fluid allowing children to move regularly.
- We strongly believe that shared learning instills confidence in our children- they feel safe, happy and nurtured in an environment suited to their needs, there is a strong ethos of achievement, they take responsibility for their own learning and that of their peers.
- We believe this approach allows for smoother transitions- children experience working with different teachers, moving classrooms and most importantly working with a variety of children whom they would not normally work with. Children become more independent and further develop their social skills.
- As a large school, we believe it is even more important to build and enhance our school community. This approach fosters that sense of community, with more cohesive year groups and levels.

Examples:

This is not a new approach to learning but one which has evolved over the last few years at Viewlands. Examples include:

- P2 sharing their learning about minibeads with the Nursery
- P4s learning about Farmers Market stalls together
- P7 and P3 planning and delivering lessons for each other all about plants
- P7 teaching P6 all about special numbers in numeracy
- P4 and P7 taking part in the Seafood Scotland project
- 'Buddying'
- Learning Partners

These are just a few examples to give you a wee taster!