

### **Will my child be working at the correct level in a composite class?**

The national guidelines on the curriculum indicate that pupils should proceed through learning experiences tailored to fit their personal level of attainment. This means that pupils in all classes will follow programmes constructed to help them progress from their own level. You should be confident that the professionalism of the staff in your school will ensure that your child will always work within a programme appropriate for his/her age, ability and aptitude. At both school level and education authority level quality assurance procedures exist to ensure that your child is making good progress within the nationally agreed curriculum guidelines. Curriculum for Excellence is about the totality of experiences which are planned for children and young people through their education, wherever they are being educated. This means that pupils in all classes will move through experiences and outcomes to help them progress at their own level. This applies to all pupils

regardless of whether or not they are in a composite or single year stage class.

### **What is a composite class?**

Pupils are organised within single year classes e.g. Primary 3 or in composite classes, e.g. Primary 3/4 which contain more than one year group. The school makes every effort to involve pupils in any one year group in activities which bring the whole year group together. In this way, pupils will be able to continue to identify with children of the same age, especially at important times such as transfer to secondary school. At the same time, the school ensures that the natural identity of each primary class group is maintained.



### **How are pupils selected to be in a composite class?**

Where a composite class is being formed, specific criteria have been provided by the council. In forming new classes, full account must be taken of existing successful groupings of pupils. Schools should use language and/or mathematics groupings as the basis for allocating children to classes. Within this broad guideline, a language or mathematics working group could be described as a number of pupils with broadly the same attainment levels who show the capacity for working well as a learning group. Where a single year class and a composite class are being formed at the same stages, the head teacher, class teacher and, where appropriate, pre-five colleagues, will make use of their professional judgement and all available information to form the two classes.