



The Marches School

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Dear Families,

Re: Setting and Class Codes

We know that some students are experiencing some changes in their classes this week, we would like to apologise for this less than settled start to the year which has arisen at the last minute.

Please be assured that we are working to limit this, and final edits are now being made.

We wish to share how codes on Arbor can be interpreted – which is different in different subjects.

Your child's timetable has a class code for each subject, which includes a letter and a number.

We use attainment to group students – attainment is a measure of whether students have reached a skill level against a benchmark such as showing they can use the past tense confidently in languages or being able to punctuate correctly in English.

Some subjects allocate students to classes based on which benchmarks students have met – sets.

Some subjects group students in a mixed way with students who have reached different benchmarks together. Mixed classes are formed when research shows that students make more progress in this kind of group, with staff skilled to be able to support this approach.

Where there is a set, the code number on your child's timetable will tell you what set this is – it will always be the right set for each child and in a very able year, lower set numbers can all have students who will achieve very well.

The number in a mixed class is just there from the timetabling software we use.

The following table shows which subjects have mixed attainment and which have sets.

In addition, specific attention is given to students who need additional support to ensure that their groups fit their needs, beyond this grouping structure.

We hope that this will be useful to you at home when you are having conversations about school and will alleviate any concerns that you or your child may have about the number next to classes appearing on their timetable.

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
English	Set	Set	Set
Maths	Mixed	Mixed	Banded by test scores: Set 1, Set 2a & b, Set 3 a & b
Science	Set	Set	Set
History	Mixed Attainment	Mixed Attainment	Mixed Attainment
Geography	Mixed Attainment	Mixed Attainment	Mixed Attainment
PRE	Mixed Attainment	Mixed Attainment	Mixed Attainment
IT	Mixed Attainment	Mixed Attainment	Mixed Attainment
Performing Arts	Mixed Attainment	Mixed Attainment	Mixed Attainment
Creative Arts	Mixed Attainment	Mixed Attainment	Mixed Attainment
French	Set	Set	Set
Spanish	Set	Set	Set
PE	Mixed Attainment	Mixed Attainment with one higher attaining set (1).	Mixed Attainment with one higher attaining set (1).

If you have any questions about your child's timetable, please contact their tutor in the first instance.

Yours sincerely,

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