

## TERRINGTON ST CLEMENT COMMUNITY SCHOOL

### Q&A

Q: How do mixed age/mixed ability classes work?

A: If you have a class with all the same age children in them, every single child will be different. Even though they are roughly the same age, some will be more mature, some less mature. Some will love reading, others will hate reading. Some will be great at sports, some will be great at maths or writing or science. Some will be good at spelling, some will struggle with spelling. In summary, even though they are roughly the same age, their abilities and interests may vary widely.

1. Every teacher uses the national curriculum to find out what children should be able to do / should know by the end of their curriculum year. We use Cornerstones because this helps teachers make sure they cover all of the national curriculum. (See school website [www.terringtonstclementschoo.co.uk](http://www.terringtonstclementschoo.co.uk) ABOUT US / CLASSES)
2. If you look at the curriculum, there are some things which are taught in Y1 and Y2 or Y3 and Y4 and so on.
3. The teacher has in front of them what the children need to know then gives children a task to see what they already can do and what they can't do. So for example,  
**Y1 reading:**  
*Read simple words with contractions, beginning to understand that the apostrophe symbol represents missing letters (eg: I'm, I'll, we'll)*  
**Y2 reading:**  
*Independently read a growing number of contractions found in texts which are age appropriate (eg: can't, didn't, hasn't, couldn't, it's and I'll)*

You can see teaching contractions across Y1 and Y2 is very similar. Y2 children have slightly harder contractions to learn BUT some Y1 children will be able to do the Y2 words AND some Y2 children will only be able to learn the Y1 contractions. The teacher will teach all of them through the learning journey (see example below)

ULO: To read and spell contractions.

1. I can read: couldn't
2. I can read: can't, didn't, hasn't.
3. I can read: I'm, I'll and we'll and explain the apostrophe stands for a missing letter.

The teacher may ask all the children to write on their individual whiteboards each of the words in turn. The teacher will then make a note of where children struggle with spellings and will know that is where the teaching and support from all the adults is needed. This may be Y1 children at step 3 or it

may be Y2 children or a mixture of both. This is normal.

It will not matter which step the children start on; with the group teaching they receive in class, they will all move up the learning journey at least one step.

The same happens in every subject and in every year. This is only one small part of one subject but the principle is the same.