

# MULTI-AGE CLASSROOMS



WEST  
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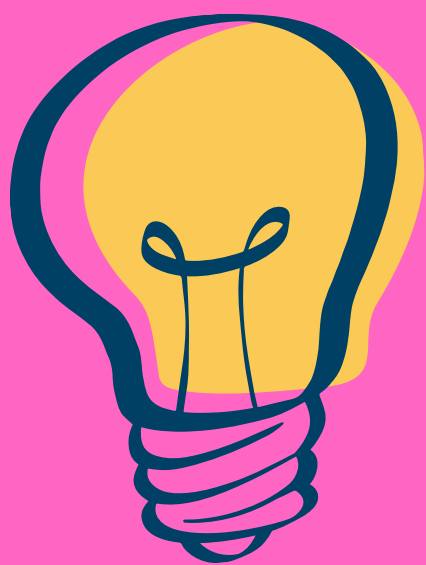
## Why do we have multi-age classrooms?

When the number of students at each grade level does not divide evenly into provincially required class sizes, a combined class sometimes becomes the most effective and balanced way to organize learning.



In addition to enrolment patterns, schools also consider class composition, such as student learning styles, strengths, social dynamics, and peer relationships. These factors help us create classrooms that are supportive, safe, and well-balanced for all students.

## What does it look like?



In multi-age classrooms, the focus is on how students learn, not their grade level, with instruction centred on big ideas, shared experiences, flexible grouping and ongoing assessment.

Planning is guided by each child's strengths and next steps, reflecting how students naturally learn through collaboration and reflection.

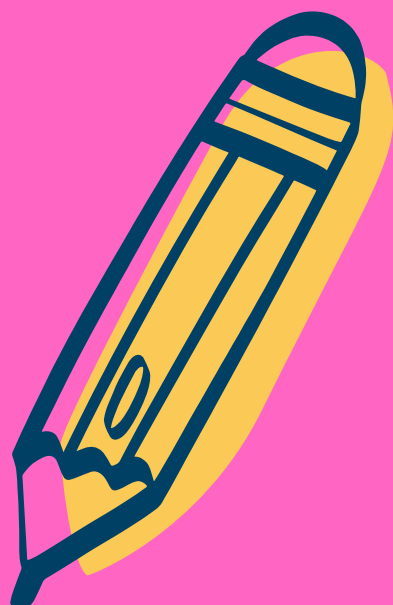
## How are we supporting all students?

Multi-age classrooms use a variety of teaching approaches so all students can learn in ways that work best for them, including working in different group sizes, having choices in how they show their learning, and receiving regular feedback.

These are strong, everyday teaching practices used in all West Vancouver Schools classrooms.



## What about my child?



For students, a multi-age classroom means learning with peers of different strengths, being supported at the right level, and building confidence, independence, and leadership skills.

Children are not expected to be “ahead” or “behind” — they are supported to grow from where they are.

## How do I support at home?

Families can support their child in a multi-age classroom by talking about learning, focusing on progress rather than comparison, and connecting with teachers when questions arise.

Encouraging friendships and speaking positively about the experience helps build confidence and openness to learning.

