



For Questions or Concerns:

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Mixed-age classrooms do not negatively affect student achievement, and students in these classrooms have significantly more positive attitudes towards school, themselves, and others (Stone, 1998; Veenman, 1996).

Sources:

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynum/eracy/combined.pdf>

<http://www.todaysparent.com/kids/school-age/split-grade-classes/>

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**Mitford
School**

*Blended Learning
Communities*



Frequently Asked Questions?

Why do you have classes of blended-grades?

Most classes of blended grades are created to accommodate students in the school when it is not possible to create only single-grade classes.

What are the benefits of placement in a class of blended grades?

There are many socio-emotional benefits for students who are in classes with students of various ages. For example, in such classes, peer interactions have been shown to be very positive; students have opportunities for greater development of social skills and cooperative skills; and students often develop a feeling of comfort and security, a positive self-concept, and a sense of satisfaction with their achievements. There are also significant opportunities for development of leadership skills.

Why was my child chosen to be in a blended class?

When placing students in all classes, educators consider a variety of factors, including number of students, and student interests, strengths, need, learning styles, motivation, work habits and emotional development.

Bob Stefaniuk, principal of Montrose school in Winnipeg says, "In reality, you can go to any classroom across Canada and you may call it grade 3, but you're going to have kids who are reading, writing and learning math at a variety of levels."

Will the teacher have as much time for each child in a blended class?

The amount of time for an individual student is not determined by the organization of classrooms by grades. In all classrooms, teachers employ a number of instructional strategies to address the needs of all students. On a daily basis, teachers work with large groups, small groups and individual students.



How do teachers prepare for teaching a blended class?

In a blended classroom, teachers teach to the child as opposed to the class. Children are viewed as unique individuals. The teacher focuses in teaching each child according to his or her needs. Teachers are trained at differentiating instruction, understanding the curriculum and employing a number of instructional strategies to address all learners needs.

Joel Gajadharsingh, a professor of education at University of Saskatchewan, a leading expert in blended classrooms stated, "Students in blended classes do just as well, if not better academically, thanks to the repetition and exposure to another grade. He adds that their ability to get along with others is superior. They're more independent, confident, responsible, dependable, respectful and collaborative."
