



Stepney Greencoat

Church of England Primary School

Learning together for life. Jesus said: 'Love one another as I have loved you' (John 15:12)

Prescribed alteration to the School's age range to enable the establishment of a nursery provision

The governing body of Stepney Greencoat CE Primary School is proposing to extend the age range of the school to 3 -11 years of age, to enable the permanent establishment of a nursery provision for 3 - and 4-year-olds.

The plan to add a new nursery was first proposed in March 2023. An initial informal consultation with neighbouring primary schools took place in July 2023, and the Stepney Schools Partnership was formally consulted on 8 May 2024. The proposals were met positively. Consultation also took place with the London Diocesan Board for Schools, who has given its support to this proposal.

The school's plans were first discussed with the Local Authority in June 2023. It was agreed for the school to start its nursery as a pilot with a view to the provision being established on permanent basis, if the pilot proved successful.

Pilot Provision

Since September 2023, with only internal advertising and through word of mouth, the school has admitted 11 nursery aged pupils to the pilot class.

School Year 2023-24 terms	Numbers on roll
Autumn 1 (Sept-Oct)	5
Autumn 2 (Nov-Dec)	6
Spring 1 (Jan-Feb)	8
Spring 2 (March-April)	9
Summer 1 (April-May)	10
Summer 2 (June- July)	10
(Autumn 1 2024-25)	10 (currently)

The proposal will allow for up to 30 places to be available to 3–4-year-olds. These places will include the 15 hours universal entitlement and also 30 hours extended entitlement for working parents.



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Accommodation

As of June 2024, The Ben Hanbury room (previously used as a computing room / break-out space) has been reassigned as a classroom to accommodate Year 1. This enables the Reception and nursery cohorts to split between two separate rooms.

The introduction of a permanent Nursery class will have no negative impact on space for the remainder of the school and the school floor plan will remain the same besides the repurposing of one room.

Outside Space

The early years playground has been refurbished (Autumn 2023) to accommodate more pupils with a more varied outdoor provision including opportunities to develop gross motor skills.

Early Years Curriculum & Quality of Teaching

Quality of teaching will be ensured through careful planning and high-quality early years trained staff. There is at least a 1:8 teaching ratio at all times including a Scale 5 practitioner.

Our children can access early years provision from several different places before attending Stepney Greencoat. This proposal will also provide them with the opportunity to have access to the school's EYFS curriculum prior to entering its Reception year.

The current pilot nursery cohort (2023-2024) indicates that children are making very good progress in all areas of the EYFS. This will have a significant, positive, impact on their attainment and transition to Reception.

Wraparound provision is available to all EYFS children (including nursery pupils). This includes a breakfast club from 7:45 – 8:45am and afterschool care until 5:30pm.

Aims & Objectives

A permanent nursery provision will enable the following:

- The school to develop children's EYFS curriculum knowledge and skills over two years of carefully planned teaching with support from expertise at partner school, St Peter's London Docks;
- The opportunity for early intervention from the school re: SEND,



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safeguarding, behaviour and speech and language;

- The opportunity to build strong relationships with parents / carers from the start of their child's school journey;
- One 'settling-in' period, rather than two, for families who seek nursery places elsewhere before starting in our Reception;
- A positive and consistent, through-school experience for our pupils;
- Support to local families financially (by providing free childcare hours);
- Support to existing Stepney families by removing the need for a 'double drop-off' where younger siblings are forced to attend other local nurseries settings.

Equalities Impact

This proposal includes an equalities impact analysis, where the initial screening has determined that it will not have a negative impact on people with protected characteristics or disadvantaged groups. However, this assessment will be updated following responses to this consultation.

The nursery will not be in competition with other local primary schools but will allow Stepney Greencoat to provide access to equal provision (Nursery to Year 6) for local families.

All primary schools in the local area currently have a full-time nursery provision which feeds into their Reception class. It is important that Stepney Greencoat is able to meet its parent community demand to offer the same provision as other local schools.

Financial Sustainability

The pilot nursery has proven to be financially viable and this will increase as the permanent provision is established.

The benefits for the school long term include;

- Higher pupil-roll in Reception class as Nursery families apply; and
- Opportunity for earlier intervention for SEND allowing for funding requests to be made sooner (where necessary).
- Workforce development in the form its EYFS curriculum?



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Proposed Timetable

5 July 2024 for a min of 6 weeks	Statutory Consultation
16 October 2024	Tower Hamlets Council decision
By 31 January 2025	Admission arrangements determined
1 September 2025	Nursery provision established on permanent basis for the start of the 2026-27 school year.

Formal Consultation Meeting

9am on Wednesday 17 July 2024

**Stepney Greencoat Primary School, School Hall
Norbiton Road, Limehouse. London E14 7TF**

This meeting is open to all stakeholders including parents, Governors, staff, members of the local community and all other interested parties. This will be an opportunity to share further information and collect views.

Please register your interest in attending by calling 020 7987 3202.



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