

# School Organisation Consultation

**Proposal to lower the age range of  
Stamford Green Primary School**

**February  
2021**



## **Introduction**

1. This paper outlines a proposal to lower the age range of Stamford Green Primary School, Epsom from 4 to 11 years to 2 to 11 years. The process and timescales are outlined below for the change of age range.

## **Background**

2. Stamford Green Primary School is a three form entry primary school in the borough of Epsom & Ewell, rated Outstanding by Ofsted in 2015. The school currently also offers childcare for 2 – 4 year olds under section 27 of the Education Act 2002 which enables Governing bodies of maintained schools to set up and run facilities and services whose provision furthers any charitable purpose for the benefit of (a) pupils at the school or their families, or (b) people who live and work in the area in which the school is situated.

## **Proposal**

3. Surrey County Council and the Governing Body of Stamford Green Primary School, are proposing to lower the age range of Stamford Green Primary School in Epsom from 4 to 11 years to 2 to 11 years.
4. This would mean that the current nursery provision for 2 – 4 year olds led by the Governing Body would become a maintained nursery managed by the school, under the same Ofsted registration as the school.

## **Why are we proposing to change the age range of Stamford Green Primary School?**

5. Surrey County Council and Stamford Green Primary School propose to change the current section 27 nursery provision to become a nursery that is under the same registration as the school and continues to provide a secure, stimulating, quality nursery provision for children in the local area. The nursery is currently meeting a need identified through the Surrey County Council Childcare Sufficiency assessment and will continue to do so under this proposal.
6. The nursery at Stamford Green Primary school was initially set up under section 27 of the Education Act 2002 which allows schools to open and establish a nursery as a separate community provision. As the nursery is now an integral part of the community, by lowering the school age the nursery children become pupils of the school and supports more efficient governance and operational functions. This continues to support the government's policy on providing 15 and 30 hours Funded Early Education for 2, 3 and 4 year olds in schools.

## **Vision Statement**

7. Stamford Green Primary School's vision is to be a continually improving learning community for all, where children realise their potential.
8. Lowering the school age to incorporate the current nursery provision as part of the maintained school, will enable the school to build on and strengthen the arrangements already in place and provide a joined up approach to achieving our vision for all children from 2 to 11 years old. As nursery children will be on roll as

part of the whole school, the systems and processes will be streamlined, enabling the school to deploy our resources across the nursery and school to ensure that every child realises their potential.

### Why are we consulting now?

9. Changes to the DFE/Ofsted regulations enabling schools to include provision for 2, 3 and 4 year olds will ensure that the nursery provision is included on the schools inspection process.

### Will the proposal have any impact on the school's admission arrangements?

10. Currently we offer 90 reception places each year for local children. There are no planned changes to the Published Admission Number (PAN) of 90 reception places.
11. There are currently 39 full-time (30 hours) and part-time (15 hours) for 3 – 4 year olds and 4 full-time places for 2 year olds offered at the section 27 nursery at Stamford Green Primary. There is no change to how parents apply for a nursery place and information can be found on the schools website [www.stamford-green.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.stamford-green.surrey.sch.uk). Children who currently attend the nursery at Stamford Green will continue to attend the same setting with the same staff and do not need to reapply for a place under the new registration.
12. The capacity in the school from year R to year 6 is not impacted by this consultation. The permanent capacity of the school from year R to year 6 is 630. However, there are currently 120 places in year 4 due to a bulge class commissioned in September 2016. The last year group with 60 places will leave the school in July 2021 so from Sept 2021 to July 2022 the school will have a capacity of 660 from year R to year 6.

**Table 1. Numbers on roll (Yr R – Yr 6) at Stamford Green Primary School (October 2020 census)**

Year group	R	1	2	3	4	5	6
Number of Pupils	89	90	90	90	119	91	60

13. Please note there is no automatic right for nursery aged children to gain a reception place at the school. The admissions criteria for community and voluntary controlled schools, along with other individual schools admissions criteria, in Surrey are published each year in the [schools admissions booklets](#). Stamford Green Primary School can be found in the Primary School Booklet for Epsom and Ewell primary schools. Parents of children applying for a reception place would need to apply in the normal way for admission to the primary school whether their child attends the nursery provision or not.

### Finance and Resourcing

14. There is no change to the Early Years pupil funding rates for the nursery as set by the Department for Education. However it is proposed that from September 2021 the pupils at the nursery will be registered on the school pupil census and the DfE

funding will be allocated to Stamford Green Primary School by Surrey County Council.

## Capital planning and buildings

15. Planning permission has been granted for the building to expand in its existing location. The plans below are not directly related to this consultation to lower the age range of the school but we include the following paragraphs to share information about improvements planned on the school site.
16. Currently the nursery is based in the clubhouse hut at Stamford Green Primary School. The Governing Body of Stamford Green Primary School have commissioned a building programme to improve the nursery provision in the longer term. This would provide two nursery classrooms and re-provision of the clubhouse hut. The two classrooms would be used for two years to house two classes from the year group containing the bulge class but from September 2023 these two new classrooms would be occupied by Nursery.
17. The Governing Body of Stamford Green Primary School will commission the building programme subject to a Self-Delivery Agreement with Surrey County Council. Surrey County Council will transfer funds equivalent of a temporary classroom for the bulge class commissioned in Sept 2016. The Governing Body of Stamford Green will lead a larger building programme with additional funding from the school budget to commission permanent classrooms which can be utilised to provide additional space for the nursery in 2023 when the bulge classes are no longer needed by the mainstream class.
18. Further information regarding the plans can be found on the [school's website](#)

## Consultations, approvals and overall timescales

19. It is proposed that the age range of the school changed from 1 September 2021. The proposed changes require a period of consultation, the publication of Statutory Notices and the agreement of Surrey County Council's Cabinet Member for All-age Learning if the proposal is to proceed.
20. The first stage of consultation will be informal and will open on 22 February 2021. During this period the Surrey County Council will share its proposals with the wider professional network, schools including headteachers and chairs of governors, with unions, parent representatives, partner agencies and with the staff and parents of the school subject to the proposals.
21. Following the informal consultation period, it is proposed to publish a Statutory Notice for a four week period. The publication of Notices is when the local authority formally states that it intends to implement the proposed changes. This will be the final opportunity for consultees to make their views known before a final decision is taken. Following the consultation periods officers will summarise the feedback and will report to the Cabinet Member for All-age Learning. A decision is due on 8 June 2021.

## Have Your Say

Surrey County Council and Stamford Green Primary School would like to know what people in the area feel about the proposal. The consultation will open on 22 February 2021.

You can respond by:

- a) Accessing the consultation online on the 'Surrey Says' website: [www.surreysays.co.uk](http://www.surreysays.co.uk)

and searching for the school's consultation (school name or post code), or by scrolling through the list of open consultations.

b) Completing the consultation response form that is available alongside this document. You can email the form or print it, complete it and send it back to the address below.

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Email: [schoolorg@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:schoolorg@surreycc.gov.uk) with the subject: FAO Stamford Green Primary Consultation

All responses must be received by 19 April 2021

## **What happens next?**

We will hold an online public meeting for parents and any other interested parties to discuss the proposals and to hear the views that people have. As a public meeting, anyone who wishes to may attend, please email [school.org@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:school.org@surreycc.gov.uk) to register your interest and you will be sent a link to the online event. The online event will be held on the 2 March 2021 at 10:30 am, there will be a short presentation followed by questions and answers.

Please join to share your views and ask questions. You do not have to have a child at the school to join the meeting.

At the end of the consultation period, we will review all of the responses received and share these with the school and publish them on the Surrey Says website.

Subject to the outcome of the consultation we intend to publish a Statutory Notice at the school, in a local newspaper and on the Surrey Says website stating our intention to change the age range of Stamford Green Primary School from 4 – 11 years to 2 – 11 years. There will be a four week statutory consultation period for further representations to be received by the council.

All representations will be reviewed before a final decision is taken by the Cabinet Member for All-age Learning Decisions at the decision meeting in June 2021.

