

Dear Staff, Parents and Carers,

**Subject: Proposed Change to Reception Places – Consultation from Monday 24 November to Sunday 4 January 2026**

We'd like to let you know about a proposed change to the number of Reception places offered at Grove Primary School — and invite you to take part in a consultation to share your views.

What's changing?

The Trust is proposing to reduce the number of Reception places from 60 to 30 pupils per year, starting in **September 2027**. This would mean moving from a two-form entry to a one-form entry school — something we have been moving towards for several years.

**Why is this happening?**

There has been a steady decline in the number of children starting school across London, due to falling birth rates and families moving to other areas. To help manage the number of school places available, the Local Authority is working with schools and Trusts to ensure there are sufficient places across Southwark.

Grove Primary is registered as a two-form entry school and we have flexed our staffing structure to accommodate fluctuations in pupil numbers over the years and now we have successfully moved to a one-form entry primary school, providing high-quality teaching and learning. This change simply reflects how the school is already working and formalises the arrangement.

Will anything else change? - No.

There will be:

- No change to our dedicated staff
- No reduction in facilities or resources
- No impact on the excellent education and care we provide

We have looked carefully at the future needs of local families, including housing developments, and we're confident this change won't affect a family's choice to come to Grove Primary School — and will help maintain a strong school system in the local area.

How can you share your views?

We're holding a consultation from **Monday 24 November to Sunday 4 January 2026**. Further information is available on the NEST website [www.nestschools.org](http://www.nestschools.org) and Southwark Local Authority [Project: School Admissions 2027-28 | London Borough of Southwark](#).

During this time, email your views to [consultation@nestschools.org](mailto:consultation@nestschools.org) and following the consultation process, we will update you on our next steps.

Thank you for your ongoing support — we truly value being part of your child's learning journey.

Kind regards,

  
**Paula Farrow OBE**  
CEO, Nexus Education Schools Trust

  
**Galiema Amien- Cloete**  
Executive Headteacher