

STATUTORY NOTICE

PROPOSAL TO CLOSE TIVERTON PRIMARY SCHOOL, PULFORD ROAD, LONDON N15 6SP DFE NO. 309/2057

Notice is given, in accordance with Section 15 (1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 (as amended by the Education Act 2011) and the School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of Schools) Regulations 2013, that Haringey Council proposes to close Tiverton Primary School, Pulford Road, London N15 6SP with effect from **31 August 2025**.

On the 11 February 2025, Council's Cabinet agreed to proceed to publishing this statutory proposal for closure as a result of the significant decrease in pupil numbers at the school. This decision followed an informal consultation on the proposals, which took place from 6 November 2024 to 18 December 2024.

Fewer children on roll means less government funding for schools to operate, which over time creates significant financial pressures. The link between pupil numbers and school funding means that it is not always feasible to keep a school operating to guarantee the standard of education families and pupils deserve. Should the decision to close Tiverton Primary School be taken, all children attending the school would be supported to find places at alternative schools in line with parental preferences and/or availability of places within the area starting in September 2025.

Within four weeks from the date of publication of this notice, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by either:

- a) Emailing objections, comments, or questions to: schoolconsultation@haringey.gov.uk or
- b) Writing to: School Admissions, 5th Floor, Haringey Council, 48 Station Road, London N22 7TY.

Responses must be received by **5pm on 24 March 2025** when this statutory notice and the representation period are due to expire. In line with the requirements of Schedule 2, Paragraph 18 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 (as amended by the Education Act 2011), a decision must be taken by the decision maker no later than two months following the expiry of the representation period. Therefore, Haringey Council's Cabinet must make a decision on this proposal by **19 May 2025** (subject to a 5-day call in period), otherwise, it must refer the decision to the Schools Adjudicator.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be viewed at: <https://tivertonprimary.commonplace.is>

If you require a paper copy of this, please contact us via email at: schoolconsultation@haringey.gov.uk

This document has been translated into the following languages: Albanian, Portuguese, Somali, Spanish and Turkish. These are the languages required to ensure access for families with English as an additional language, as identified during the previous consultation period. Translated versions are available to view at: <https://tivertonprimary.commonplace.is>

If you need this document to be translated into another language, please contact us as soon as possible by emailing us at: schoolconsultation@haringey.gov.uk

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Jane Edwards".

Jane Edwards
Assistant Director for Schools and Learning

24 FEBRUARY 2025

STATUTORY PROPOSAL TO CLOSE TIVERTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

CONTACT DETAILS:

1. **The Proposer:**
Haringey Council, 5th Floor, 48 Station Road, London N22 7TY Website: www.haringey.gov.uk
2. **The School:**
Tiverton Primary School, Pulford Road, London N15 6SP Telephone: [020 8800 3779](tel:02088003779)
Email: office@tiverton.haringey.sch.uk
3. **School category:**
Tiverton Primary School is a community school maintained by Haringey Local Authority.

IMPLEMENTATION:

The planned implementation date for the closure of Tiverton Primary School is 31st August 2025.

REASON FOR CLOSURE:

The main factors leading to the closure proposal are low and falling pupil numbers impacting on the school's financial viability and consequent ability to sustain a high-quality education for pupils. Pupil numbers at Tiverton Primary School have consistently declined over recent years. As school budgets are based on the number of pupils a school has on its roll, there has been a growing financial pressure on the school's finances, which is expected to worsen if Tiverton Primary School were to remain open. By the end of the 2024/2025 financial year, the school is projected to have a deficit of £704k, rising to more than £1.3M by the end of the 2025/2026 financial year.

We have consulted on options for the future of Tiverton Primary School, however, due to the continuing drop in pupil numbers, no short or medium-term plans to recover the deficit are considered achievable. Additionally, low pupil numbers also impact school experience for students, as there are fewer opportunities for enrichment activities and less staff to provide quality curriculum, which the students deserve.

The Council has a duty of care to ensure children in its schools are able to receive a good education and to access the full curriculum. A school with a declining roll will be challenged to do this effectively because of inevitable financial pressures from reduced funding. The link between pupil numbers and school funding means that it is not always feasible to keep a school operating to guarantee the standard of education families and pupils deserve. Keeping Tiverton Primary School open is therefore likely to be detrimental to the education of the students on roll and extend the period of uncertainty around the future of the school. As a result, closing the school is the best option to avoid any further detriment to the children's education.

PUPIL NUMBERS AND ADMISSIONS

Despite extensive efforts by the school to attract more families, Tiverton Primary School has not seen any improvement in the number of families applying to the school. From October 2019 to October 2024, the total number of pupils enrolled at the school decreased by nearly a half, dropping from 310 to 152 (see Figure 1 below).

By January 2025, roll return data from the school shows that the number of pupils currently enrolled at the school has fallen further to 122 pupils (Reception to Year 6). This continuous decline in pupil numbers has resulted in a significant loss of essential funding year after year. In the 2024/25 academic year, for every surplus place that a maintained primary school carries, there is a loss on average of £4,025 AWPUP (Age Weighted Pupil Unit) funding per pupil.

With the current enrolment number being well below the expected number for a one-form entry primary school, which has a capacity for 210 pupils from Reception to Year 6, the school is not considered financially viable to continue to operate. Figure 1 below shows the total number of pupils enrolled at the school between October 2019 and October 2024, while Figure 2 shows the number of pupils enrolled in each year group as of the October 2024 census.

Figure 1: Total number of pupils on roll – October school census data

School	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Tiverton Primary	310	354	301	271	241	152

Figure 2: Tiverton pupil numbers by year group – as of October 2024 census

School	Year R	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
No. of pupils	20	22	14	16	24	26	30

Figure 3 below shows the gender split and the number of children with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan enrolled at the school as of October 2024 school census. The consultation process on alternative schools for children with EHC Plan has commenced in line with the statutory SEND process to ensure these children are not impacted by the proposal to close the school, should it be implemented.

Figure 3: Gender and SEN characteristics of pupils on roll by Year Group as of October 2024 school census

October 2024	Male	Female	SEN Support	EHCP
Reception	7	13		2
Year 1	10	12	2	
Year 2	6	8	2	3
Year 3	13	3	1	1
Year 4	11	13	1	3
Year 5	10	16		2
Year 6	10	20	4	1
Total Roll	67	85	10	12

DISPLACED PUPILS

As of October 2024 census, there were 152 pupils on roll in Reception to Year 6. Since the start of the Stage 1 informal consultation process in November 2024, some families have made in-year applications to transfer their children to other schools. As of January 2025, roll return data from the school shows 122 pupils in Reception to Year 6 remained enrolled at the school. As the closure of the school will not affect the children in Year 6 as they will be transferring to secondary in September 2025, at most, 93 pupils are expected to be affected by a decision to close the school in August 2025.

There are currently no nursery children attending the school. There is adequate alternative nursery provision in the local area with 11 Haringey primary schools within 1 mile of Tiverton Primary operating a nursery. There is also a Haringey maintained nursery school (Woodlands Park Nursery School and Children's Centre) within 0.6 miles of the school.

Figure 4 below shows the number of places available in Haringey schools within a 1 mile distance to Tiverton Primary School as of December 2024. Whilst these numbers may have varied due to pupil movement, there are currently more than sufficient vacant places across all year groups in the 14 Haringey schools within 1 mile of the school. This is evidence that there is enough spare capacity in local schools to accommodate children likely to be displaced if the decision to close Tiverton Primary School is implemented.

Figure 4 - Local school vacancies in Haringey schools within a 1 mile walking distance to Tiverton Primary School from school roll return data as of December 2024

SCHOOL	PLANNING AREA	METRIC	Year 0	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Chestnuts Primary School	PA3	Vacancies			3	1			2
Crowland Primary School	PA3	Vacancies	9			10	4		10
Seven Sisters Primary School	PA3	Vacancies		2	31	1		29	
South Haringay Infant School	PA3	Vacancies		5					
South Haringay Junior School	PA3	Vacancies				1		1	17
St Ann's CE Primary School	PA3	Vacancies		5	5	5	5		10
St Ignatius Catholic Primary School	PA3	Vacancies	2	13	7	6			9
St John Vianney Catholic Primary School	PA3	Vacancies			1		3	1	3
St Mary's Priory Catholic Infant School	PA3	Vacancies	7		2				
St Mary's Priory Catholic Junior School	PA3	Vacancies				22	15	2	25
West Green Primary School	PA3	Vacancies					1		
Earlsmead Primary School	PA4	Vacancies	11	9				2	1

Harris Primary Academy Philip Lane	PA5	Vacancies			1	5	4		8
North Harringay Primary School	PA5	Vacancies		15	1		6	11	3
		Total Vacancies	29	49	51	51	38	46	88
Tiverton Primary School	PA3	Children on Roll	17	18	11	13	18	21	29
		Remainder	12	31	40	38	20	25	59

IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY

The evidence in Figure 4 above shows that given the availability of spare places in local schools, the impact on the community of the closure of Tiverton Primary School will be limited. All schools in the local area are rated by Ofsted as 'Good' or 'Outstanding.' We will endeavour to meet parental preference for school places, wherever possible.

Furthermore, the closure of Tiverton Primary School would reduce the number of surplus primary school places in Planning Area (3) and across the borough. The Council considers that allowing surplus places to remain above 10% through inaction would directly and negatively impact the financial viability of other Haringey schools, which in turn will have an impact on the quality and breadth of the education offered at these schools.

The school provides use of its portacabin facilities to a local charity which operates a foodbank and cadet program onsite, however, suitable alternative facilities can be made available at other nearby locations. The Council is able to support the charity to either find a suitable alternative location or continue operating onsite if the decision to close the school is implemented. There will be no loss of any enrichment clubs or programmes for local families in the community.

Working collaboratively with other schools in the borough, measures are being taken to facilitate redeployment (where possible and appropriate) of staff likely to be displaced by the closure to other Haringey schools where there are staff vacancies. Where redeployment is not possible, appropriate individual support will be offered to limit the impact of the closure on the affected staff. In addition, the Trades Unions and relevant professional associations will be consulted with regular liaison maintained with them throughout the closure process, if closure is agreed.

BALANCE OF DENOMINATIONAL PROVISION

The school does not have a denominational status. The proposed closure will not affect the number of primary schools within Haringey with denominational status. There will continue to be 4 schools with denominational status within Planning Area 3 (PA3) where Tiverton Primary School is located (1 Church of England and 3 Roman Catholic). The number of non-denominational primary schools will reduce by 1.

TRAVEL

Mapping and data analysis of children by postcode at Tiverton Primary School demonstrates that the vast majority of families reside in the local area with a small number living outside Haringey in neighbouring boroughs such as Hackney. As of week commencing 27 January 2025, there were 122 children on roll at Tiverton Primary in Reception to Year 6 (roll return data submitted by the school). Tiverton is the closest Haringey school for 42% (51 children). However, only 105 of these children are Haringey residents. The remaining 17 children live in neighbouring boroughs, and will be allocated places in their home boroughs, which may be geographically closer to their home. These families are very likely to have several alternative schools within statutory walking distance of their homes (i.e. two miles for children under eight years of age, three miles for pupils aged 8–16).

Tiverton Primary is the closest school for only a third of pupils currently on roll (42 children). Looking solely at Haringey residents (accepting that non-Haringey residents will be placed in schools by their home boroughs):

- The average travel distance currently to Tiverton is 0.3731 miles.
- 59% live closer to another Haringey school.
- If all were to be offered places at their closest alternative Haringey school, the average travel distance for this group of pupils would be only 0.2006 miles.
- If all were to be offered places at their closest alternative Haringey school *which has a vacancy available as of today*, the average travel distance for this group of pupils would be 0.2142 miles.

This means that in terms of travel distance, Haringey residents currently attending Tiverton Primary would be somewhat advantaged in their daily commute to school as this would on average be shorter by over 0.15 miles. Therefore, the proposal to close the school is not likely to result in an increase in car usage or longer journeys for displaced pupils as they will on average be travelling a shorter distance if they were to be offered their closest alternative Haringey school with an available place.

PROCEDURE FOR MAKING REPRESENTATIONS

Within four weeks from the date of publication of this notice, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by either:

- a) Emailing objections, comments, or questions to: schoolconsultation@haringey.gov.uk
or
b) Writing to: School Admissions, 5th Floor, Haringey Council, 48 Station Road, London N22 7TY.

Responses must be received by **5pm on 24 March 2025** when this statutory notice and the representation period are due to expire. In line with the requirements of Schedule 2, Paragraph 18 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 (as amended by the Education Act 2011), a decision must be taken by the decision maker no later than two months following the expiry of the representation period. Therefore, Haringey Council's Cabinet must make a decision on this proposal by **19 May 2025** (subject to a 5-day call in period), otherwise, it must refer the decision to the Schools Adjudicator. If you require a paper copy of this, please contact us via email at: schoolconsultation@haringey.gov.uk

This document has been translated into the following languages: Albanian, Portuguese, Somali, Spanish and Turkish. These are the languages required to ensure access for families with English as an additional language, as identified during the previous consultation period. Translated versions are available to view at: <https://tivertonprimary.commonplace.is>

If you need this document to be translated into another language, please contact us as soon as possible by emailing us at: schoolconsultation@haringey.gov.uk