

## STATUTORY PROPOSAL FOR THE DISCONTINUANCE OF SQUIRRELS HEATH INFANT SCHOOL

Extract of Schedule 2 of the School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of Schools) Regulations 2013

### Contact Details

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The name and contact address of the local authority or governing body publishing the proposals.

London Borough of Havering, Town Hall, Main Road, Romford, RM1 3BD

The name address and category of the school it is proposed that should be discontinued.

Squirrels Heath Infant School Salisbury Rd, Gidea Park, Romford RM2 5TP

### Implementation

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The date on which it is proposed to close the school or, where it is proposed that the closure be implemented in stages, the dates of and information about each stage.

The proposed date of closure is 31 August 2025

### Reason for Closure

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A statement explaining the reason why closure of the school is considered necessary.

The Local Authority has brought forward the proposal as they consider that an amalgamation of Squirrels Heath Infant and Junior Schools will be in the best educational interest of current and future pupils.

A 4 Week period of public consultation, including meetings with staff, governors, and parents, along with other interested parties was undertaken from 24/02/2025 to 24/03/2025.

The views of responses received during the consultation period is as detailed in the consultation feedback report; appendix B of the executive decision for the publication of statutory notice which can be viewed via this [link](#).

## **Pupil numbers and admissions**

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The numbers (distinguishing between compulsory and non-compulsory school age pupils), age range, sex, and special educational needs of pupils (distinguishing between boarding and day pupils) for whom provision is currently made at the school.

Squirrels Heath Infant School is a co-education infant school for pupils aged 4 to 7. The school has a published Admissions Number (PAN) of 90 for each year group, giving a total of 270 places. As at January 2025, the school had 257 pupils on roll.

The school does not have any boarding provision or provide educational provision recognised by the local authority as being reserved for children with special educational needs. There are 18 pupils on roll who have been identified as having special educational needs (SEN support) and 17 pupils with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

## **Displaced pupils**

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A statement and supporting evidence about the need for school places in the area including whether there is sufficient capacity to accommodate displaced pupils.

No pupils will be displaced

Details of the schools or further education colleges at which pupils at the school to be discontinued will be offered places, including:

- any interim arrangements;
- the provision that is to be made for those pupils who receive educational provision recognised by the local authority as reserved for children with special educational needs; and
- in the case of special schools, the alternative provision (i.e. alternative suitable schools in the area) made by local authorities other than the local authority which maintain the school

All pupils attending Squirrels Heath Infant School at the time of its closure will automatically transfer onto the roll of the enlarged Primary School

## **Impact on the Community**

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A statement and supporting evidence about the impact on the community of the closure of the school and any measures proposed to mitigate any adverse impact.

There will be no impact on the community through the closure of Squirrels Heath Infant School as the new Primary School will serve the same community and will use the same site

## **Rural Primary Schools**

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Where proposals relate to a rural primary school designated as such by an order made for the purposes of section 15, a statement that the local authority or the governing body (as the case may be) considered section 15(4).

Not Applicable
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## **Balance of denominational provision**

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Where the school has a religious character, a statement about the impact of the proposed closure on the balance of denominational provision in the area and the impact on parental choice.

The school does not have a religious character
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## **Maintained nursery schools**

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Where proposals relate to the discontinuance of a maintained nursery school, a statement setting out:

- the local authority's assessment of the quality and quantity of the alternative provision (i.e. alternative suitable schools in the area) compared to the school proposed to be discontinued and the proposed arrangements to ensure the expertise and specialism continues to be available; and
- the accessibility and convenience of replacement provision for local parents.

N/A
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## **Sixth form provision**

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Where the school proposed to be discontinued provides sixth form education, the effect for 16 to 19 year olds in the area that the closure will have in respect of:

- their educational or training achievements;
- their participation in education or training; and
- the range of educational or training opportunities available to them.

Not applicable
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## **Special educational needs provision**

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Where existing provision that is recognised by the local authority as reserved for pupils with special educational needs is being discontinued, a statement as to how the local authority or the governing body (as the case may be) believe the proposals are likely to lead to improvements in the standard, quality and/or range of the educational provision for these children.

Squirrels Heath Infant School is an inclusive school and do not provide educational provision recognised by the local authority as being reserved for children with special educational needs. The school has 17 students with Education Health Care Plans; their needs will continue to be met in the amalgamated single Primary School.

## **Travel**

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Details of length and journeys to alternative provision (i.e. alternative suitable schools in the area).

The proposed arrangements for travel of displaced pupils to other schools including how the proposed arrangements will mitigate against increased car use.

The proposed arrangements will mitigate against increased car use.

The new Primary Schools will utilise the site of both Squirrels Heath Infant and Junior Schools, therefore, there will be no change in the travel journey to the new amalgamated single primary school.

## **Procedure for making representations (objections and comments)**

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The representation period starts on the date of publication of the statutory proposal and will last for 4 weeks.

During this period, any person or organisation can submit comments on the proposal by

Email: [schoolsorganisation@haverling.gov.uk](mailto:schoolsorganisation@haverling.gov.uk)

Post: Pooneeta Mahadeo  
School Organisation Manager  
London Borough of Havering  
Town Hall, Main Road  
Romford, RM1 3BD

**Any objections or comments must be received on or before 5pm on Thursday 23/05/2025**