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Date: **10 January 2022**

Parents & Carers, Townsend Primary  
School

Dear Parent/Carer

### **CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSED CLOSURE OF TOWNSEND PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Townsend Primary School is a one form of entry (1FE), community primary school situated close to the site of the former Elephant & Castle Shopping Centre, on Townsend Street, SE17 1HJ. Pupil roll numbers at the school have been falling consistently for the last three years and currently, the school has more than a quarter of the available places at the school are empty.

Due to low pupil numbers and rolls at the school, as well as a growing deficit, exacerbated by falling rolls, the Council has evaluated a variety of options before taking the decision to consult on the proposed closure of the school by September 2022. The decision to consult on closure was supported by the school's governing body.

In line with the Department for Education's (DfE) guidance, the local authority is now following the statutory processes for consultation on the closure of a maintained school.

The closure proposal guidance involves a statutory consultation period starting on the 10th January 2022, lasting for six weeks, completing at 5pm on the 25<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

This process will include consultation meetings with parents, carers, and stakeholders, which will feed into the decision making process.

The meetings are scheduled to be online on the following dates via Zoom – links included below.

- **17<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 5pm**  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81089370163?pwd=ZGtmM3JqcS8vMVNkcGJpQ293b3p4UT09>  
Meeting ID: 810 8937 0163  
Passcode: 737837
- **18<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 5pm**  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89230346997?pwd=YS9NUytmcWo3SkZUNEJpcEJ2MFo3Zz09>  
Meeting ID: 892 3034 6997  
Passcode: 377037

- **19<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 10.30am**  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87317637604?pwd=UENqRVpXb0t5NFYwZXE5QllwOVNIQT09>  
Meeting ID: 873 1763 7604  
Passcode: 967546

Full details of the proposal are attached herewith, and will also be made available at the school's website at <http://www.townsend.southwark.sch.uk>

or if needed,

Please submit your request for a hard copy of this consultation to [vilma.edwards@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:vilma.edwards@southwark.gov.uk)

To respond to this consultation, please complete a questionnaire - available at the following address.

<https://forms.office.com/r/yvNvrQUV5N>

OR

write your comments on the proposal to [vilma.edwards@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:vilma.edwards@southwark.gov.uk), or

OR

scan the following QR code



After the statutory consultation closing date of Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at 5pm, these responses will be analysed and a Council decision on whether to proceed with the publication of a closure proposal for the school will be taken.

The final decision on the closure of Townsend Primary School will be made by the Council's Cabinet, with regard to any representations and objections received. This would take place in May or June 2022.

Yours faithfully

Nina Dohel  
Director of Education