



Nottingham

City Council

Proposed Closure of Snape Wood Primary & Nursery School

Frequently Asked Questions

Nottingham City Council

Version 1.0, June 2025

This period of uncertainty may feel challenging for families. Nottingham City Education and the local schools are working together to develop appropriate support for parents/carers and children.

The questions and answers below provide more information for families affected by the proposal to close Snape Wood Primary & Nursery School, which is currently under consultation with all those affected.

1. When will a final decision be made about the future of my child's school?

The Council will consider all the views put forward during this consultation period before making a decision on whether to publish proposals required by law. If proposals are published to close the school, there will be a further Stage 2 period for comments, called the representation period. This would run for 4 weeks in September. A final decision on the proposal will be considered by the Council's Executive Board and is expected to be made in November 2025, although this timeline may be subject to change.

If the decision is made in November to proceed with closure of Snape Wood Primary and Nursery School, arrangements to implement the decision will begin. Admissions Officers will work with parents/carers to ensure that every child is offered a place to begin at an alternative local school in September 2026.

2. Can I get help to apply for an alternative school place?

If the decision is made to close the school, all children attending Snape Wood Primary & Nursery School would be guaranteed a place at one of the other local primary schools from September 2026. The closest schools are Crabtree Farm Primary, Hempshill Hall Primary and Rufford Primary. From September 2026, there will be sufficient capacity across these three local schools to accommodate pupils who currently attend Snape Wood Primary & Nursery School. Affected pupils, parents and carers will be supported to apply for a place at their local school of choice and the normal admissions criteria will apply for available spaces.

Dedicated admissions officers from the council will work closely with families to guide and support you in applying for a new school, ensuring that every child applies and is offered an alternative place to commence in September 2026.

School Admissions Team contact by phone: 0115 841 5568. Lines are open Mon-Weds: 9.30-12.30. Or you can make a new application online via the Citizens Portal at: https://ems.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en or visit www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/schooladmissions for guidance and FAQs.

3. When should I apply for a school place?

If a decision is made this November to close the school next year at the end of August 2026, then you can apply for an alternative school place at any time.

Although we encourage families to keep their children at Snape Wood Primary until a decision is made and implemented.

4. Will my child be given priority if I apply for a school place?

If a decision is made to close the school at the end of August 2026, and there is a waiting list at any of the three closest community schools, we fully intend that Snape Wood Primary children will get extra priority on the waiting list for these schools – Hempshill Hall, Crabtree Farm and Rufford primary schools. This arrangement will be subject to approval by the Office of the Schools Adjudicator (OSA) if the decision is made to close the school.

5. What will be done to support a smooth and effective transition for those children moving to a new school in September 2026?

Our primary schools are very experienced in supporting children who transfer from one school to another during the school year, or at any time. The Council is working closely with the other local schools to provide information and assistance for families during the process, including advice and guidance on how to apply to change schools. We will collectively ensure that transition is well planned and supported, with additional support for those who are most vulnerable.

6. How will pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) be supported in transition to a new school?

Children with SEND, with or without an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), will receive additional support to ensure a smooth transition. All of the local schools provide a welcoming and inclusive environment for children with SEND.

If the decision is made to implement the proposal, direct support will be provided to the families of children with an EHCP to identify another school that can meet their needs. Targeted support will also be provided to children with SEND, but without an EHCP, to ensure they can transfer to a local school where their needs can continue to be met.

Your child's current Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo) will ensure your child's successful transition by sharing important information with the receiving school. We recommend that this includes your child's current SEND support plan, which sets out targets and interventions that are in place to achieve these, as well as their profile information, which sets out their strengths, needs and aspirations for the future. At the start of the move, your child's SENCo will meet with their link SEND professionals, to identify vulnerable children with more personalised support.

7. How will you ensure standards of teaching are maintained between now and any potential closure?

The leadership team at Snape Wood will continue to put the education of children attending this school at the centre of all decisions they make. A robust school improvement plan will continue to be developed which will focus on supporting children at Snape Wood attaining a good quality of education in Maths, Reading and Writing. Standards of teaching will continue to be developed and monitored by senior leaders and school improvement advisors.

Other subjects will also be monitored to ensure that children continue to receive a good standard of education across the curriculum. Plans are already made to ensure that children at Snape Wood do not miss out on extra-curricular activities and opportunities such as clubs, trips and residential. We will plan with other local schools and schools within Nottingham City to collaborate on Arts events / sports projects to ensure that the children attending Snape Wood have the opportunities which they are entitled to so that the school's vision of 'Excellence For All!' is maintained between now and any potential closure.

8. How will my child be supported to feel integrated into a new school community?

If a closure is agreed, local schools will work together to ensure that children moving to a new school community have all the information they need to get to know a new school quickly. Parents will be offered tours of local schools with their child(ren) in any new school they join. A new school will gather admission information for your child prior to them joining which will include pastoral information / SEND information / academic information etc.

It is likely that local schools will have an existing "Induction Policy" for children who start with the school mid-year and so arrangements will be made on an individual pupil basis to ensure a child settles quickly. This may include support from a Nurture team within a new school community e.g. ELSA trained staff member / a peer buddy system to support a new child make friends and feel welcomed. It is also likely that school Family Support Workers will support new families get to know a new school community quickly and offer them support and guidance throughout any programme of transition.

Where larger groups of children are being inducted into a new school community at one time - there will be a well-considered induction plan which will make every effort to be proactive and reflective so that the experience felt by all children is inclusive and promotes community cohesion.

9. Will I get help to buy uniform if a decision is made to close my child's school?

Nottingham City Council will support you to buy new uniforms for your child(ren) if they leave Snape Wood Primary School due to school closure, **after a decision has been made.**

Children in Reception to Year 5 will be eligible for a one-off grant to help with the cost of buying new uniforms if a decision is made to close the school.

More information about the specifics of the uniform grant and how you can apply will be shared in due course.

10. If the school closes, what will the site be used for?

Any decision on the future use of this site will be taken in the context of Nottingham's priorities, particularly in relation to education and value to the local community and best use of the school estate.

We are currently updating and developing Phase 2 of our SEND Sufficiency Strategy to increase the provision of specialist school provision. All potentially available sites will be reviewed and considered as part of this work.

11. What if the number of children increased and there is more need for school places in the future?

The situation regarding the demand and supply of school places is kept under continual review. In forecasting demand we consider a number of factors including birth rate, the pupil roll census, new applications for Reception places at the start of a new school year, the number of in-year moves, migration in and out of the city, current and future new housing development and other changes that could impact the number of families with young children in the local area.

We are always considering the best options when proposing changes that impact our schools. Our projections continue to show that the demand for school places will remain low. However, should future demand for primary places increase, we will make provision for growth. The council has a statutory duty to provide enough high-quality school places for all children in the city.