

Torfaen County Borough Council, Civic Centre, Pontypool, Torfaen NP4 6YB

Notice is given in accordance with section 42 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the School Organisation Code that Torfaen County Borough Council, having consulted such persons as required, propose to alter Ysgol Panteg, Oxford Street, Griffithstown, Pontypool, NP4 5HP so that the capacity is increased to 420 places and the new replacement school is relocated to a site on the former Avesta Steelworks site, adjacent to Station Road, Griffithstown. The school is currently maintained by Torfaen County Borough Council.

Torfaen County Borough Council undertook a period of consultation before deciding to publish this proposal. A consultation report containing a summary of the issues raised by consultees, the proposer's responses and the views of Estyn is available on: <http://www.torfaen.gov.uk/en/EducationLearning/21st-Century-Learning/Latest-News.aspx>

It is proposed to implement the proposal on 1st September 2016.

The current number of pupils at the school is 193 and the pupil capacity of the school is 166 and the proposed capacity once the proposal is implemented will be 420 places.

The admission number for each age group that will normally be admitted at the school in the first school year in which the proposals have been implemented will be 60. There will be 26 full-time equivalent (52 part-time) nursery places.

Within a period of 28 days after the date of publication of these proposals, that is to say by Wednesday 22nd October 2014 any person may object to the proposals.

Objections should be sent to Alison Ward, Chief Executive Officer, Torfaen County Borough Council, Civic Centre, Pontypool, Torfaen, NP4 6YG. Email: primaryreview@torfaen.gov.uk

Torfaen County Borough Council will publish a summary of any such objections made (and not withdrawn in writing) within the objection period, together with their observations thereon, within the period of 28 days after the end of the objection period.

Signed: Alison Ward, Chief Executive Officer

For the Torfaen County Borough Council

Date: Wednesday 24th September 2014

Explanatory Note

(This explanatory note does not form part of Notice but is offered by way of explanation)

This statutory notice is the outcome of discussions to replace and relocate Ysgol Panteg. The proposal is one of a number arising from the Authority's 21st Century Schools Programme. This is a strategic plan to create a generation of 21st Century Schools across the Borough.

A "drop in" public engagement event was held for interested parties during July 2014, as part of the consultation process.

The site of the proposed new primary school will be the former Avesta Steelworks site off Station Road, Griffithstown which is approximately 0.5 of a mile away from its current location.

The proposal would see the new school open in September 2016, but until the new school is ready for occupation, Ysgol Panteg will continue to use its current accommodation and also the buildings of the former Kemys Fawr Infants School. This temporary arrangement will provide approximately 259 places over the two sites

It is the intention of Torfaen County Borough Council that transport shall be provided free of charge for pupils to their new school in accordance with the Council policy at that time. The current policy is that primary school aged pupils are eligible for free transport if:

- a) They live more than 1 ½ miles from the catchment school
- b) The Authority is satisfied that the route between home and school is sufficiently dangerous to warrant such provision, even though the distance is under that quoted above.

It should be noted that the current home to school transport policy will change from September 2015. The changes will be phased in meaning pupils currently receiving free transport under the current policy/mileage criteria (1 ½ miles) will continue to do so if their circumstances remain unchanged and until they complete their studies at their current school.

From September 2015 the new mileage criteria (2 miles) will apply for those children starting primary school at Reception Year when eligibility for free transport will be assessed using the new mileage criteria.

END OF NOTICE