

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

Notice is given in accordance with section 43 of the School Standards and Organisation Act 2013 and the School Organisation Code that Torfaen County Borough Council, having consulted such persons as required, propose to discontinue Victoria Primary School, Lower Harpers Road, Abersychan, Pontypool, Torfaen NP4 8PW.

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 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017.

It is intended that pupils currently attending Victoria Primary School (including those already admitted at the time of the proposed closure) will be accommodated predominantly at Garnteg Primary School, Hillcrest, Garndiffaith, Pontypool, Torfaen, NP4 7SJ.

The council is proposing to increase the capacity of Cwmffrwdroer and Garnteg Primary Schools to 315 and 420 places respectively and these proposals are therefore closely aligned to this proposal and that to discontinue Abersychan Brynteg Nursery School.

Home to School Transport will continue to be provided in accordance with current policy and prescribed mileage criteria (1 ½ miles from the school before September 2015 and 2 miles after). Where there are no safe walking routes and the home address is under the prescribed mileage, transport will be provided as is the case now.

Within a period of 28 days after the date of publication of these proposals, that is to say by 30<sup>th</sup> March 2016 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 6YB. Email: [primaryreview@torfaen.gov.uk](mailto:primaryreview@torfaen.gov.uk)

Signed: Alison Ward, Chief Executive Officer

For the Torfaen County Borough Council

Date: Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2016

## **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 discontinue Victoria Primary School. The proposal arises from the Authority's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Programme. This is a strategic plan to create a generation of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools across the Borough. Consultation meetings were held with staff, governors, parents/carers and other interested parties in December 2015.

This proposal along with a similar one to discontinue Abersychan Brynteg Nursery School are also aligned with others in the North of the Borough to alter Cwmffrwdroer Primary and Garnteg Primary Schools by increasing their capacity and in the case of Cwmffrwdroer, to increase the age range from 4 to 11 to 3 to 11 to accommodate a nursery. Consultation in relation to these latter proposals was undertaken during June/July 2015.

Proposals as they affect Garnteg Primary School, Cwmffrwdroer Primary School and Abersychan Brynteg Nursery School are subject to separate statutory notices, all of which were published at the same time i.e. 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2016.

In terms of future admissions, the proposal would also see catchment areas amended with the current Victoria Primary School (and Abersychan Brynteg Nursery School) catchment area being re designated to Garnteg Primary School. The revised catchment areas would then apply for all new admissions to Garnteg Primary School from September 2017.

Home to School Transport will continue to be provided in accordance with current policy and prescribed mileage criteria (1 ½ miles from the school before September 2015 and 2 miles after). Where there are no safe walking routes and the home address is under the prescribed mileage, transport will be provided as is the case now.

A Welsh version of this notice can be obtained by telephoning 01495 766910 or by visiting the Council's website: [www.torfaen.gov.uk](http://www.torfaen.gov.uk)

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