

Formal consultation

**Proposal to extend the age range of
Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw from 11 – 18 to 3 – 18**

Young People's Version

Who are we?

Torfaen County Borough Council are responsible for schools in Torfaen. The Forward Planning education team work for the council to support and improve education in schools.

Our aim is to ensure that children and young people are given the best chance to learn in the best school buildings. To do this we want to give everyone the opportunity to have their voice heard and listened to in decisions that directly affect them.

What is happening?

We are working on a plan to change your school. We would like to know what you think about our plan.

What is the plan?

We would like to extend the age range of Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw and make it an “all-through” 3 -18 school.

We would like to put primary school provision, on your existing site adjacent to the current buildings.

What will change?

If the proposal proceeds, Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw would not change its name, or its uniform and existing students at the school would carry on as normal. What will change will be the addition of a primary setting to the school, meaning there will be younger pupils on site too. There would still be one head teacher in charge of the school.

Bringing everyone together as a 3 – 18 all through school means that everyone could learn from one another and share all the good things that such a setting would provide.

The new provision would fit in total around 1310 pupils. This would consist of 210 places (plus a nursery) for primary school pupils (age 3 -11) and 1100 places (as is the case now) for secondary school pupils (age 11 – 18).

A 3 – 18 school will encourage more children to continue with a Welsh Medium education and will make it easier to move to secondary education. For some pupils the move to secondary schools can be unsettling and impact on their learning and well-being. Remaining in the same school until the age of 18 will help with this process. Although both primary and secondary pupils will be taught on the same site, there will be separate learning and playground use for primary and secondary pupils.

Why are we asking you?

We want to give everyone the opportunity to have their voice heard and listened to in decisions that directly affect them.

We are asking your parents, teachers and the parents and teachers of other schools in the area and, in fact lots of other people who are interested in our schools. We want to give you the chance to tell us what you think and we will listen to your views.

As part of the process we would like the school council and individual pupils if they wish, to consider this proposal. We would also like you to answer and return the questionnaire in this document.

Why do we think things need to change?

As part of the Welsh Government's commitment to the goal of a million Welsh speakers by 2050 it announced in January 2018 that £30 million would be allocated to support building projects dedicated to supporting and growing the use of the Welsh language in education. Torfaen was successful in its bid and in September 2018 was awarded £6 million to develop a primary provision on the Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw site but must first ask for people's views on this idea.

Our aim is to give children and young people the best chance to learn and develop. We have the chance to create a new provision with modern classrooms and learning resources. We can provide up to date facilities which we think will allow pupils to learn and develop new skills. To achieve this we will ask you about the design and layout of the building.

How long will things take?

Getting people's views	January/February 2019
Telling everyone what we've decided to do	March/April 2019
Design of the new school is created	To May 2020
Building the new school	June 2020 - June 2021
Opening the new school	September 2021

Want to find out more?

This is a summary of the full Formal consultation Document. You can find the full version plus lots of facts and figures on our website:

www.torfaen.gov.uk/en/EducationLearning/21st-Century-Learning/Latest-News.aspx

What do you think?

You can let us know what you think by completing the questionnaire at the end of this document and posting it to:

Mr Dermot McChrystal
Head of Education Services
(FAO Mark Horton)
c/o Torfaen County Borough Council,
Civic Centre,
Pontypool, Torfaen.
NP4 6YB

If you prefer to use email, send your thoughts to:
21stcenturylearning@torfaen.gov.uk

Remember to tell us

Which school do you go to now?

How do you feel about Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw becoming an "all-through" 3 - 18 school?

How do you feel about having more buildings on your school site?

How do you feel about sharing a school with primary school aged pupils?

Is there anything else you would like to see happen instead of what we are planning?

Please send your comments to us by 25 February 2019.
Unfortunately, we will not be able to accept anything you send to us after this date.