



PROPOSAL TO EXTEND THE AGE RANGE OF YSGOL GYFUN GWYNLLYW TO 3 – 18 CONSULTATION DOCUMENT



January 2019



TORFAEN
COUNTY
BOROUGH



BWRDEISTREF
SIROL
TORFAEN

**EDUCATION SERVICE
GWASANAETH ADDYSG**

**Chief Officer, Education & Lead Director for Children and Young People
Prif Swyddog, Addysg & Cyfarwyddwr Arweiniol ar gyfer Plant a Phobi Ifanc
Dermot McChrystal BA (Hons) PGCE MSc**



Your re/Eich cyf:
Our ref/Ein cyf: MH/
Date/Dyddiad: 14th January 2019

Please contact/Cysyllter â Mark Horton
Direct line/Llinell union: 01495 766910
Email:
mark.horton@torfaen.gov.uk

To: Statutory Consultees and Other Interested Parties

Dear Consultee,

PROPOSAL TO EXTEND THE AGE RANGE OF YSGOL GYFUN GWYNLLYW FROM 11 - 18 TO 3 – 18

Welsh Government has recently confirmed funding in principle for this project, which would specifically see:

- i) An extended age range of Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw from 11 – 18 to 3 – 18.
- ii) As part of i) above, the establishment of a nursery provision on site for 30 (full time equivalent) 3 and 4 year olds.
- iii) An amendment to the catchment areas of Ysgol Bryn Onnen, Ysgol Gymraeg Cwmbran, and Ysgol Panteg to reflect the additional primary age provision within Torfaen, and as a consequence ensure all schools remain viable and are able to benefit from a balanced intake each year.

It is proposed that these changes will be implemented on 1st September 2021.

The proposal is being advanced following an announcement by Welsh Government on 19th September 2018 that Torfaen County Borough Council had been successful in its bid for £6M to provide additional Welsh Medium primary provision on the Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw site, subject to the outcome of statutory consultation.

The regulations require that consultees must be given at least 42 days to respond to the document, with at least 20 of these being school days. Taking this into account, the consultation period will begin with the issue of this letter (Monday 14th January 2019), and will close on Monday 25th February 2019.

Any comments/observations on the proposals can be made:

- i) By writing to Mr Dermot McChrystal, Chief Officer, Education & Lead Director for Children and Young People (FAO Mark Horton) c/o Torfaen County Borough Council, Civic Centre, Pontypool, Torfaen NP4 6YB.

- ii) By email: 21stcenturylearning@torfaen.gov.uk
- iii) By attending a “drop in” consultation event (details below) and completing a response proforma (attached to the consultation document) and returning it to the above address.

Separate arrangements will be made for children and young people to participate in the consultation, which will include the views of the school councils. Pupils will be issued with their own version of the consultation document and will have an opportunity to discuss the proposals and submit their views and comments.

Consultation events in relation to these proposals will be held as follows (these will take the form of “drop in” events allowing consultees to attend at a time that is convenient to them):

DAY/DATE	TIME	VENUE	INTENDED AUDIENCE
Thursday 21 st February 2019	4.00pm to 6.00pm	Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw, Folly Road, Trevethin, Pontypool. NP4 8JD	Staff (teaching, non-teaching & support), Governors, parents/carers and other interested parties.
Tuesday 12 th February 2019	4.00pm to 6.00pm	Ysgol Bryn Onnen, Varteg Road, Varteg, Pontypool. NP4 8TY	Staff (teaching, non-teaching & support), Governors, parents/carers and other interested parties.
Monday 11 th February 2019	4.00pm to 6.00pm	Ysgol Gymraeg Cwmbran, Henllys Way, St Dials, Cwmbran. NP44 3NB	Staff (teaching, non-teaching & support), Governors, parents/carers and other interested parties.
Wednesday 20 th February 2019	4.00pm to 6.00pm	Ysgol Panteg, Station Road, Griffithstown, Pontypool. NP4 5JH	Staff (teaching, non-teaching & support), Governors, parents/carers and other interested parties.

Officers from the council will attend these sessions to answer questions and ensure all comments/views made are recorded to allow Elected Members to make an informed decision at the appropriate time.

The consultation document in relation to this proposal can be found on the Torfaen Council website. The link is here:

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

If you are unclear about anything or require further information please do not hesitate to contact me on 01495 766910.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Horton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mark Horton
PRINCIPAL OFFICER, FORWARD PLANNING

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

Consultation Document

1. Introduction

As part of the Welsh Government's commitment to the goal of a million Welsh speakers by 2050 the Cabinet Secretary for Finance announced on 16 January 2018 that £30 million would be allocated to support capital projects dedicated to supporting and growing the use of the Welsh language in education. This is on top of the existing allocation announced for Band B of the 21st Century Schools and Education Programme.

Torfaen County Borough Council bid for funding and on 19th September 2018 it was announced that its bid had been successful and £6M had been allocated to provide additional Welsh Medium primary provision on the Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw site subject to the outcome of statutory consultation.

2. Consultation arrangements

Before a final decision is made on the proposal, statutory consultation is required with all interested parties. The following information is therefore provided to set out the process by which consultation will be conducted.

Statutory consultation is necessary because the age range of the school is being extended from 11 – 18 to 3 – 18. This will be achieved by the provision of a 210 place primary (plus nursery) provision on the existing Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw site. The core of the building (hall, dining facilities, outside play etc) will be built to a 315 place specification allowing additional classes to be built in the future should demand require it.

Torfaen County Borough Council wish to seek the views of a wide range of interested parties regarding this proposal which if agreed would be implemented on 1st September 2021.

A list of all those being consulted is attached as an appendix (1) to this document.

Consultation events in relation to these proposals will be held as follows (these will take the form of "drop in" events allowing consultees to attend at a time that is convenient to them):

DAY/DATE	TIME	VENUE	INTENDED AUDIENCE
Thursday 21 st February 2019	4.00pm to 6.00pm	Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw, Folly Road, Trevethin, Pontypool. NP4 8JD	Staff (teaching, non- teaching & support), Governors, parents/carers and other interested parties.

Tuesday 12 th February 2019	4.00pm 6.00pm	to	Ysgol Bryn Onnen, Varteg Road, Varteg, Pontypool. NP4 8TY	Staff (teaching, non- teaching & support), Governors, parents/carers and other interested parties.
Monday 11 th February 2019	4.00pm 6.00pm	to	Ysgol Gymraeg Cwmbran, Henllys Way, St Dials, Cwmbran. NP44 3NB	Staff (teaching, non- teaching & support), Governors, parents/carers and other interested parties.
Wednesday 20 th February 2019	4.00pm 6.00pm	to	Ysgol Panteg, Station Road, Griffithstown, Pontypool. NP4 5JH	Staff (teaching, non- teaching & support), Governors, parents/carers and other interested parties.

Officers from the council will attend to answer questions and ensure all comments/views made are recorded to allow Elected Members to make an informed decision at the appropriate time.

In addition, any views or comments can be made:

- By writing to Mr Dermot McChrystal, Chief Officer, Education & Lead Director for Children and Young People (FAO Mark Horton) c/o Torfaen County Borough Council, Civic Centre, Pontypool, Torfaen NP4 6YB.
- By email: 21stcenturylearning@torfaen.gov.uk.
- By completing a response proforma (attached as an appendix to this document) and returning it to the above mentioned address.

It is important to note that any unfavourable comments made during the consultation period will not be treated as objections and that if you wish to object, you will need to do so in writing during the statutory objection period. If consultees submit a request during the objection period that a response submitted at the consultation stage should be treated as an objection this will be accepted.

The views of children and young people are important. Therefore separate consultation and engagement arrangements will be made specifically tailored for children and young people. Pupils will be issued with their own version of this consultation document and will have an opportunity to discuss the proposals and submit their views and comments which will be included in the report to Cabinet.

3. The Proposal

The proposal is as follows:

- **Torfaen County Borough Council propose to extend the age range of Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw from 11 - 18 to 3 - 18 with effect from the 1st September 2021.**

Although not directly linked, this particular proposal does align with the Council's 21st Century Schools programme, the aim of which is to provide appropriate places and choices through investment in new and/or refurbished school buildings. As mentioned above it also supports the Welsh Government's goal to achieve a million Welsh speakers by 2050.

All children currently attending Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw would transfer to the new 3 – 18 school.

The primary provision within the school will initially be for 210 full time pupils, therefore a 1 form entry with an admission number of 30. The secondary element of the school would remain as it is with a capacity of 1107 and 186 places each for Year 7 to Year 11 and 88 for Year 12 and 13.

It is proposed that the nursery will cater for 30 (Full time equivalent) children.

The new provision on the existing school site will be specially designed and purpose built with facilities that are fit for the curriculum now and in the future. The existing school will be invited to contribute to the design from the early stages and the school council will also be consulted. The design and operation of the site will consider and manage the needs for all pupils and separation of age groups. Design will be established in early 2019 following the appointment of a design & build contractor.

The environment will be nurturing as pupils move through their educational journey from the age of 3 until they leave school at the age of 18.

In terms of leadership and management of the new 3 – 18 school there will still be one governing body, one Headteacher and one group of staff. The governing body would include, parent governors, local education governors and teachers and staff governors.

Prior to the opening of the new school, on 1st September 2021, the Governing body will take key decisions required regarding the staffing structure, uniform, policies etc. as a consequence of the extending the age range.

There are therefore three elements to the proposal contained within this consultation document, specifically:

- i) To extend the age range of Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw from 11 – 18 to 3 - 18.
- ii) As part of i) above, establish a nursery provision on site for 30 (full time equivalent) 3 and 4 year olds.
- iii) Amend the catchment areas of Ysgol Bryn Onnen, Ysgol Gymraeg Cwmbran, and Ysgol Panteg to reflect the additional primary provision within Torfaen, and as a consequence ensure all schools remain viable and are able to benefit from a balanced intake each year. Current and proposed primary catchment area maps are provided at appendix 2.

4. Background information

School Numbers on Roll/Pupil Projections

Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw currently provides Welsh Medium Secondary Education to pupils from Torfaen, Blaenau Gwent and North Monmouthshire.

Until September 2016 the school also catered for pupils from Newport and South Monmouthshire, before Ysgol Gyfun Gwent Is Coed in Newport opened to cover these areas. Some pupils will therefore remain in the school from these areas for a few years as they complete their studies.

The schools primarily affected or likely to be affected by the proposals are as follows. They are partner and/or feeder schools to Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw and can therefore be considered to lie within the catchment area for that school:

Name of School	Location	Category	Language	Age Range
Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw	Folly Road, Trevethin, Pontypool. NP4 8JD	Maintained	Welsh Medium	11 – 18
Ysgol Bryn Onnen	Varteg Road, Varteg, Pontypool. NP4 8TY	Maintained	Welsh Medium	3 -11
Ysgol Gymraeg Cwmbran	Henllys Way, St Dials, Cwmbran. NP44 3NB	Maintained	Welsh Medium	3 - 11
Ysgol Panteg	Station Road, Griffithstown, Pontypool. NP4 5JH	Maintained	Welsh Medium	3 - 11
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni	Heol Dewi Sant, Abergavenny NP7 6HF	Maintained	Welsh Medium	3 - 11
Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Helyg	Rising Sun Industrial Estate, Blaina, Abertillery NP13 3DQ	Maintained	Welsh Medium	3 - 11

Although not directly affected, there could be an impact on pupils transferring from Ysgol Y Fenni and Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Helyg as the number of available places for Year 7 will be reduced by the number of Year 6 (30 pupils) who are already enrolled at the school.

Any potential impact of the new provision on these and other schools will however not be immediate as the primary provision will start as a “seedling” school offering places at Nursery and Reception only in its first year of operation. The first year of impact will be September 2028.

As a “regional” secondary school provider Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw will continue to provide places for learners from outside Torfaen where they are available.

The following table provides details of numbers on roll for the previous four annual school census years, currently on roll (as of September 2018) and a five year forecast for those primary schools in the cluster that may be affected by these proposals.

School (current capacity)	Act Sept 2014	Act Sept 2015	Act Sept 2016	Act Sept 2017	Act Sept 2018	Proj Sept 2019	Proj Sept 2020	Proj Sept 2021	Proj Sept 2022	Proj Sept 2023
Ysgol Bryn Onnen (210 places)	217	213	197	197	191	195	201	205	209	214
Ysgol Gymraeg Cwmbran (360)	352	353	337	337	328	324	324	323	327	328
Ysgol Panteg (420)	196	232	286	321	356	372	387	392	412	415
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni (262)	189	217	221	232	227	244	253	262	275	N/A
Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Helyg (258)	274	248	232	225	231	265	263	266	258	253
Total numbers on roll (Total <u>current</u> Capacity: 1510)	1228	1263	1273	1312	1333	1400	1428	1448	1481	1210+ Y Fenni

Notes:

- 1) Numbers exclude nursery aged children (if applicable).
- 2) School capacity is calculated using Welsh Government guidance, specifically the Welsh Government Circular No 21/2011”Measuring the Capacity of Schools in Wales”. Current Torfaen School capacities (calculated Autumn Term 2018) are provided in above table.
- 3) For Torfaen Schools, projected/forecasted numbers are based on current admission and parental preference trends and health authority live birth data. Any future admissions should be restricted to published admission numbers for individual schools during the appropriate admissions round, with oversubscription criteria and the requirements of Government Infant Class Size legislation applied where necessary.
- 4) Projected/forecasted numbers for the Abergavenny and Blaina schools are as provided by the relevant local authority. Monmouthshire are only able to provide forecasts to 2022.

The following table provides similar information for Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw in its current 11 – 18 setting:

Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw (current capacity: 1107)	Act Sept 2014	Act Sept 2015	Act Sept 2016	Act Sept 2017	Act Sept 2018	Proj Sept 2019	Proj Sept 2020	Proj Sept 2021	Proj Sept 2022	Proj Sept 2023
	998	972	939	888	860	889	870	906	959	1014

It should be noted that although the decision in December 2017 confirmed that sixth form provision will be provided for the whole of Torfaen in a single sixth form centre, this will be for English Medium students only and Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw will retain its sixth form to ensure pupils are immersed in the Welsh language for the entirety of their studies.

Early Years/Nursery Provision

The standard of nursery education and the sufficiency of accommodation and facilities offered

The 2017 Child Sufficiency Assessment (CSA) shows that there are 36 settings in Torfaen approved to provide free part time nursery education places for three and four year olds.

Funded places throughout the Autumn 2015 and Summer 2016 within the private and voluntary settings identified that:

- The majority of 3 & 4 year olds attended English and some bilingual element settings between the Cwmbran (total: 497) and Pontypool area (403)
- Welsh medium places are relatively low, and is funded solely through one childcare provider located within the Pontypool area.

Within the Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw area there are no Welsh medium foundation phase nursery settings, the nearest being located as mentioned above within a private setting in the Pontypool area. However, there is a maintained nursery in Ysgol Bryn Onnen, Varteg and Ysgol Panteg, Griffithstown.

The need for additional nursery places in the area and the effect of these proposals on other institutions, including private and 3rd sector providers

The CSA shows that there is limited capacity for rising threes within the Penygarn and St Cadocs area. There is also limited rising three availability for Welsh Medium education within the Panteg area. Local intelligence also suggests there are pockets within Torfaen where maintained schools/classes are full and cannot accommodate rising threes in the Spring and Summer terms. This is particularly so in the Ysgol Panteg school catchment area.

Birth rates for Pontypool and Cwmbran reveal that rates are higher predominantly in Pontypool than the all Wales average, yet they fluctuate in comparison.

The higher birth rates for Pontypool would support further provision in the north of the borough and, at the same time improve availability for provision within the area served by Ysgol Panteg.

Additional childcare requirements were highlighted by respondents in the CSA to enable them to claim their full entitlement. For the Pontypool area this included an additional Playgroup/Meithrin/Nursery.

The extent to which these proposals will integrate early year's education with childcare services or are consistent with an integrated approach

The proposed additional nursery provision will help support the sustainability of a childcare setting (which is the subject of a separate bid and proposal). This would provide a registered breakfast club, sessional childcare, after school childcare as well as holiday provision.

Through the medium of Welsh this would accommodate parents' childcare needs for children up to the age of 12.

Detailed information in respect of provision in the area can be found at Appendix 3 of this document.

5. Options considered

Following the Welsh Government invitation for proposals in May 2018, the council considered a number of options:

1. Using existing space in an existing school - Discounted as the council could not utilise existing provision without compromising English Medium provision for those who want it given that it has successfully managed down surplus places to an acceptable and safe level over recent years in accordance with Welsh Government policy.
2. A new school on a new site (all size options below) – Discounted as unaffordable.
3. Create a 210 primary with a 15 full time equivalent (FTE) place nursery on an existing site – The council has, as a matter of policy, closed all of its smaller schools (<315) because they are less viable to run.
4. Create a 315 with a 30 FTE place nursery – This would be preferable but may be unaffordable given the size of grant available from Welsh Government for the whole of Wales.
5. Create a 420 with a 30 FTE place nursery – Would require its own site, which would be unaffordable.
6. Create a 210 primary with a 15 FTE place nursery on an existing site, but using a 315 footprint to allow for possible future expansion – This would be an appropriate compromise given the grant available and is the preferred option. The viability of the provision would be enhanced by virtue of the fact it would be part of a 3-18 provision if placed on the Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw site

Risks of the Proposal

A number of risks and counter measures have been considered as part of this proposal:

<u>Risks</u>	<u>Counter measure</u>
Pupils' education may be disrupted, as the new provision is developed on an existing "live" school site.	Disruption will be kept to an absolute minimum. The council has experience of working on "live" sites and will ensure that there is full cooperation from the contractor.
There will be issues with traffic congestion around the school, especially if more children are in attendance.	<p>Traffic and parking congestion outside schools at the start and end of the day are acknowledged by the Council. We will carry out a Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) as part of the planning process to identify traffic and pedestrian movements and consider what improvements are necessary to accommodate the additional school places.</p> <p>The council will also work with the school on its Travel Plan and try to encourage less use of vehicles. Welsh Government policy remains not to encourage driving and transport movement around schools. Safety is paramount.</p> <p>As the catchment areas for the existing three Torfaen Welsh Medium primary schools will be redrawn to accommodate the new provision, it will provide more opportunities for pupils and their parents/carers to walk to school as distances to Welsh Medium provision is reduced.</p>
Project delivered late or over-budget due to main contractor delays.	Ensure robust timing and cost plans are delivered and monitored with the appropriate contractor with sufficient contingency allowance.
Public and schools opposition to change, delays or stops the proposal being realised. (A single objection could delay or stop the process.)	Positively engage with the schools and public at appropriate times during the development of the proposal. Statutory consultation is necessary as the age range of the school is being extended.
Failure to gain planning approval.	Ensure early engagement with Planning and Public Protection Service.
Insufficient capacity for future demand.	The Education Forward Planning team annually reviews demand for school places. This includes assessment of all future planned housing developments and takes them into account when planning school sizes. School Capacities to be actively

	<p>managed and monitored throughout the programme.</p> <p>As Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw also serves Blaenau Gwent and North Monmouthshire, and as demand for Welsh Medium education rises, early discussions with these neighbouring authorities will be essential to ensure there is sufficient Welsh Medium secondary capacity in the region to meet future demand.</p>
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This list will continue to be developed and managed throughout the lifespan of this proposal.

Benefits of the proposal

As a consequence of the above, the main benefits for the project would be:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposal supports the Welsh Government’s commitment to the goal of a million Welsh speakers by 2050. • Introduces a combined nursery, primary, secondary and post 16 provision on a single site. • After their period in nursery, pupils will only have to make one application for admission to the new school. • Larger schools are more viable financially with fewer, cost inefficient smaller schools. • High quality buildings and facilities that inspire learners and the community. • The new building will provide pupils and other users with accommodation in modern buildings that are more accessible (DDA compliant). Newer buildings are also more economical to run and minimise CO2 emissions. • Another key factor in this offer is the opportunity for the school to be a strong and nurturing community where the older pupils look after the younger pupils, and develop relationships where the older pupils become role models. Young people in all-thorough schools tend to look out for each other, and younger children observe patterns of behaviour and examples of academic, personal and social success to which they can aspire. • An all-thorough school can also help alleviate budgetary constraints that may limit individual schools. It will allow a new school to have an effective senior and middle leadership structure, and a broad and balanced curriculum that meets statutory requirements. The school will also provide a smooth transition between primary and secondary school that encourage more pupils to continue with a Welsh Medium education. |
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Costs of the proposal

The scheme budget is £6,000,000, fully funded by Welsh Government, to develop a 210 place primary plus 30 place nursery provision on a 315 place footprint on the Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw site with the age range of the school extended to 3 – 18 to accommodate it.

There will be revenue costs associated with this project due to the increase in the size and pupil capacity. This is estimated at £274,000 per annum for premises costs

(buildings maintenance, caretaking, cleaning, grounds maintenance, energy and rates), leadership costs and administration costs.

Any funding that the school will receive for pupils will be from existing funding allocations given to schools, as it is assumed that pupils will go to this school from existing Torfaen schools rather than new pupils coming into Torfaen.

It should be noted that any revenue costs will not include home to school transport costs. Home to school transport as a non-delegated budget is held and administered centrally by the Council.

6. Admission arrangements

As admissions authority Torfaen County Borough Council will be responsible for the admission of pupils to the extended provision of Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw, as is the case now.

The school as proposed will have two Admission Numbers (AN). For the primary age range it is proposed as 30 (with an option at some time in the future to increase to 45). For the secondary section the AN will be 186 (as currently calculated).

Pupils already on roll at the school will automatically transfer to the secondary phase education at the school and will not have to go through an admissions process.

This would result in a further 156 places being available for “new” Year 7 pupils applying to attend the school which is considered sufficient for Torfaen given its current primary provision, but also leaves some capacity for applications from outside the county.

7. Home to school transport

The mileage criteria (2 miles) will apply for those children who reside in the catchment area starting primary school at Reception Year and eligibility for free transport will be assessed using this mileage criteria.

For secondary aged children (Year 7 to Year 11) a 3 mile criterion will continue to apply.

Free transport may also be provided where the council is satisfied that the route between home and school is sufficiently dangerous to warrant such provision, even if the distance is under those quoted above.

Post 16 students will be provided with financial support in accordance with the council’s current Home to School/College Transport Policy.

8. Human resources

The Council will support Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw and the governing body who will be responsible for the appointment of staff to the new provision at the school. This is new provision in the county borough so will provide additional opportunities for Welsh Medium teaching and support staff.

9. The quality and diversity of education

It is the view of the council that the proposal would not adversely impact on standards in 11 – 18.

The new provision will be equipped to provide all pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum from Foundation phase to Key Stage 4.

Fundamentally, all-through schools have many advantages and are an innovative approach to teaching and learning that seeks to raise levels of attainment. The new 3 – 18 school would:

- Improve transition between key stages and help to avoid the traditional dip in achievement at the time of transition from the primary to the secondary sector that some pupils experience.
- Create a common ethos and common expectations for pupils, staff and parents/carers.
- Pupils would have access to a broader complement of teaching staff offering expertise in a number of different curriculum areas.
- Offer a large measure of flexibility in planning and applying the curriculum.
- Decrease duplication of learning between key stages 2 & 3.
- Provide a more appropriate education in relation to pupils' ability levels as staff can contribute to policies and practices in every area across the age range, especially in encouraging able and talented pupils and supporting those who need additional help.
- Ensure specialised facilities for children who have additional learning needs.
- Facilitate the tracking of progress and attendance as pupils develop through the age range.
- Create consistent policies in pastoral care, which are compatible with children's ages and understanding, which will contribute considerably to creating good quality personal support and care.
- Establish positive relationships between parents/carers and teachers, as they become familiar with the school and staff as their children progress through the school system.
- Facilitate more effective management and governance methods as there will be one single governing body for the whole school.
- Ensure an additional range of resources, services, and facilities that pupils of primary and secondary age can share in different locations on the same site.
- Give the community the opportunity to make use of the resources and facilities.
- Ensure that the staff from the different sectors share good practice and take advantage of each other's experience and expertise.
- Draw from a wider range of expertise and experiences across the sectors in order to develop pupils' learning experiences.
- Provide a wide range of learning programmes for children and young people.
- Collaboration across the sectors on the same campus will facilitate the link between education and children's services, children and young people's health services and other agencies involved with children and young people.

- Offer more opportunities for Continuing Professional Development for staff.
- Enable some pupils in the secondary sector to accompany their younger siblings to the primary school, which gives parents/carers peace of mind and promotes safety.

Appendix 4 details the current performance of those schools listed including their most recent Estyn inspection reports.

10. Community impact/Equality impact assessment

A Community Impact and Equality Impact Assessment for the proposal is attached as appendix 5 to this document.

If this proposal is implemented, the seven core aims of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, will be at least maintained:

- 1) Have a flying start in life.
- 2) Have a comprehensive range of education and learning opportunities.
- 3) Enjoy the best possible health and are free from abuse, victimisation and exploitation.
- 4) Have access to play, leisure, sporting and cultural activities.
- 5) Are listened to, treated with respect, and have their race and cultural identity recognised.
- 6) Have a safe home and a community which supports physical and emotional wellbeing.
- 7) Are not disadvantaged by poverty.

11. Welsh Language Impact Assessment

The Schools involved are Welsh Medium, therefore it is expected to have a positive impact on the number of available places within Welsh language education and, more widely given Welsh Government's commitment to the goal of a million Welsh speakers by 2050.

12. Frequently asked questions

• When would the new school open?

Secondary age education would continue as normal at Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw, with the primary provision opening in September 2021 when the school age range is extended. It would start with a nursery class and a reception class and then grow year on year.

• Has the decision already been made?

No, this is the consultation on the proposal. A report will go back to Cabinet in February/March 2019 to determine the next steps (see "**What happens next?**" below).

• If I make comments now will they be counted as an objection?

No, it is important to note that comments made during the consultation period will not be counted as objections to the proposal. Objections can only be registered following the publication of a statutory notice, should the Council determine this to be the next course of action. A decision on whether to proceed to the statutory notice stage will be made in February/March 2019.

- **Will the catchment areas change?**

The catchment area for secondary school admissions will not change as part of this proposal.

However, with this additional 3 - 11 provision in Torfaen, Welsh Medium primary school catchment areas will change to reflect the additional provision. Maps showing the current catchment areas of Ysgol Bryn Onnen, Ysgol Gymraeg Cwmbran and Ysgol Panteg and the proposed revised catchment areas are shown in Appendix 2 of this consultation document.

- **What school will my child attend?**

Parents/carers can express a preference when deciding on a school for their child. However, it is expected that children living in the proposed primary catchment of Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw and seeking a Welsh Medium education will be predominantly accommodated in the primary provision of the new school.

It is also proposed that the current admission criteria will remain for both primary and secondary admissions.

- **How big will the school be? Is there room at the new school for all parents/carers who apply for a place for their child(ren)?**

The new provision is proposed to have 210 primary school places, plus nursery provision for 30 full time places (60 part time equivalent). It is proposed that the school will start as a “seedling school” with pupils initially admitted into the reception and nursery classes who will apply as part of the normal admissions round.

Torfaen Council, as admission authority is not able to offer a guaranteed places policy particularly given the requirements of the Government Infant class legislation which restricts the size of Foundation Phase classes to no more than 30 pupils per class. Although not statutory, the “target” size for Key Stage 2 classes is also 30.

If applications for admission to a school exceed the number of places available the council’s published over subscription criteria will apply.

- **I live in the new catchment area for Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw but my child(ren) currently go to another Welsh Medium school. Will they have to transfer?**

No. The new primary provision will open as a “seedling” school offering places in nursery and reception only. The school will then grow year on year.

On this basis, older children in other schools will not be able to transfer if a sibling has started in nursery or reception in the new setting.

In these cases however pupils will continue to be eligible for home to school transport until they complete their Year 6 studies at the school currently in attendance.

Where parents/carers want to keep children together they could apply on an “out of catchment” basis for the sibling to follow their older brother/sister, but should be aware that transport will not be provided for the “out catchment” child. The only exception might be if there are spare seats on an existing contract that might be offered on a concessionary basis.

It is also important to note that if awarded a concessionary place it can be withdrawn at short notice if an eligible pupil requires that seat.

- **What about transport?**

See section 7 (Home to School Transport).

- **Will the addition of primary provision at this school cause problems on the roads?**

The council will carry out a Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) as part of the planning application process. The TIA will show if any further measures are necessary.

It is expected that most of the children attending this new provision will be local, and any additional pressures on the roads can be managed by varying the start and finish times of the younger and older pupils.

- **What about staff?**

See section 8 (Human Resources).

- **There will be concerns about younger children mixing with older children?**

The 3 -18 model can work extremely well when the school is well organised and the school day is planned effectively.

There will be segregation between the key phases. The ethos that can be created with a 3 – 18 school is one of caring and nurturing and can be positive to all age groups.

- **How would you resolve the risk of the younger years getting bullied?**

The governing body would enhance its anti-bullying policy to take account of the extended age range in the school.

The design of the new provision will allow for dedicated areas for primary and secondary pupils. There will be separation between year groups and differences

in terms of timetabling the school day so primary aged children would not be on the yard at the same time as secondary pupils.

Although pupils will be in one school together, the contact between primary and secondary pupils during the school day will be managed.

- **What about other feeder primaries that currently feed into Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw – will there still be opportunities for pupils from other primary schools, including those from out of county to join this school? How would transport work across county boundaries?**

This proposal doesn't change the situation until the September 2028 admissions round because there will be no children of that age until that date. Current projections up to September 2023 show the number of places in the 11 – 16 age range is sufficient to cope with the demand that will come through Torfaen's primary schools and those from feeder schools outside the county borough.

We do not have projections beyond 2023, but there may still be capacity for out of county learners but, that position is and will be kept under review with the neighbouring local authorities.

In terms of transport, every local authority has their own transport policies which will dictate who will be allocated transport.

13. What happens next?

The following details what happens next and sets out the statutory process:

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Activity:</u>
Jan 2019	Statutory Consultation. The regulations require that consultees must be given at least 42 days to respond to the document, with at least 20 of these being school days.
Feb 2019	Closing Date for receipt of observations on the proposal.
Feb/March 2019	Consultation Report presented to Cabinet. Publication of Consultation Report. Cabinet to decide whether to approve publishing a statutory notice. If approved – Proceed to Statutory Notice If not approved – Proposal ends.
March/April 2019	Publish Statutory Notices. If approved, the statutory notice will be published on the Council's website and posted in the named schools. Copies of the notice will also be made available to the relevant schools to distribute to pupils, parents/carers and members of staff.

April/May 2019	Closing date for receipt of objections to proposal. (28 days after date of statutory notice.)
May/June 2019	If there are no objections during the Statutory Notice period local determination of this proposal will be made via a report to Executive Member for Education. If objections are received, the determination of the proposals will be the function of the Local Authority's Executive.

14. Response pro-forma

A response pro-forma for comments and suggestions of alternatives to the proposal, including an opportunity for consultees to register their wish to be notified of publication of the consultation report, is attached to this consultation document (Appendix 6).

It is important to note that any unfavourable comments made during the consultation period will not be treated as objections and that if you wish to object, you will need to do so in writing during the statutory objection period. If consultees submit a request during the objection period that a response submitted at the consultation stage should be treated as an objection this will be accepted.

15. Other information

If you are unclear about anything or require further information please do not hesitate to contact Mark Horton on 01495 766910.

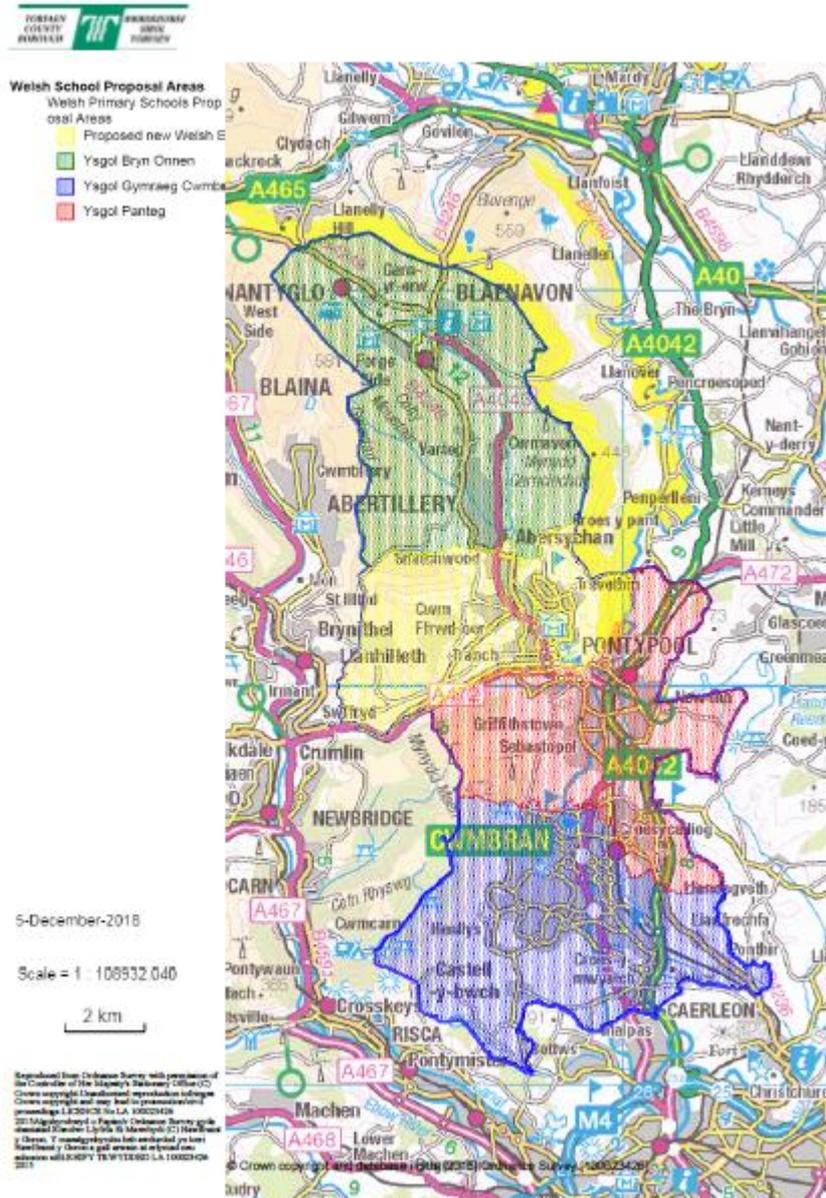
Appendix 1

DISTRIBUTION LIST FOR THE CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

- The Governing body (via Chair of Governors) of each school maintained by Torfaen LEA
- The Headteacher of each school maintained by Torfaen LEA
- Specifically, the Headteachers of Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw and its “feeder/partner” primary schools (i.e. Ysgol Bryn Onnen, Ysgol Gymraeg Cwmbran, Ysgol Panteg, Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni (Monmouthshire) and Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Helyg (Blaenau Gwent))
- The Arcdiocesan Director of Education of the Roman Catholic Church
- The Diocesan Director of Education of the Church in Wales
- Awdurdod Cynwysterau, Cwricwlwm ac Asesu Cymru (the Qualifications, Curriculum and Assessment Authority for Wales)
- The Welsh Joint Education Committee
- The Welsh Language Commissioner
- The Higher Education Funding Council for Wales
- Welsh Government (Welsh Ministers)
- ESTYN
- Pan - Gwent Chief Education Officers (Caerphilly, Newport, Monmouthshire, Blaenau Gwent, to distribute to schools in their areas as appropriate)
- The Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership
- Children & Young People’s Partnership
- Coleg Gwent
- The Careers Service
- Torfaen Association of school Governors
- Libraries; (Blaenavon, Cwmbran and Pontypool)
- Other Directorates of Torfaen County Borough Council
- Schools Library Service
- Blaenavon Community Council
- Cwmbran Community Council
- Pontypool Community Council
- Ponthir Community Council
- Henllys Community Council
- Croesyceiliog and Llanyrafon Community Council
- Welsh Government (Schools Management and Effectiveness Division)
- All relevant Professional Associations (NUT; NASUWT; ATL; UCAC; UNISON; GMB)
- Local AM – Lynne Neagle
- Local MP – Nick Thomas-Symonds
- Other AMs and MPs representing the area served by/intended to be served by any school which is the subject of the proposals.
- All Elected Members of Torfaen County Borough Council

- Parents/Carers of all pupils affected by proposals
- RhAG (Parents for Welsh Medium Education)
- Registered Private/Voluntary Early Years Settings/Providers in Torfaen
- Torfaen Voluntary Alliance
- Communities First Partnership Board
- CYDAG (Cwmdeithas Ysgolion Dros Addysg Gymraeg)
- Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin
- Education Achievement Service (EAS)
- The Police and Crime Commissioner for the area
- The relevant Health Authority (Aneurin Bevan Health Board)

Proposed



Appendix 3

Early Years/Nursery Provision

The 2017 Child Sufficiency Assessment (CSA) data shows that there are 36 settings in Torfaen approved to provide free part time nursery education places for three and four year olds. Of these:

- 20 are maintained nursery schools/classes in schools
- 15 are Full Day Care / Nursery
- 1 is Sessional Day Care

The table below shows the number of maintained and private/voluntary providers of nursery education places distributed by language and area.

Language	Full Day Care/ Nursery			Sessional Day Care			Childminder		
	Blaenavon (Area 1)	Pontypool (Area 2)	Cwmbran (Area 3)	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3	Area 1	Area 2	Area 3
Welsh		1	1						
Welsh & English									
English & some bilingual elements		6	7			1			
English									
Other									

For maintained nursery schools/classes in schools, the location by language and area is:

Language	Blaenavon	Pontypool	Cwmbran
Welsh		2	1
Welsh & English			

English & some bilingual elements	1	6	7
English			3
Other			

CSA 2017 Consultation with childcare providers revealed that certain areas within Torfaen have sufficient childcare provision to meet the needs of working families. Two wards within the Pontypool area (Trevethin and St.Cadocs) were scored highly by childcare providers as having sufficient childcare for working parents. However, this cannot be confirmed by both the analysis of supply and through the parent / carer survey.

Gap analysis reveals that **only** 1 setting provides exclusive Welsh provision, in the Pontypool area. This includes:

- Playgroup/Cylch Meithrin sessions am and pm
- Before and After School Care
- Wrap Around
- Lunch Club

Supply data indicates that there are 4 vacancies.

There are no Welsh Medium childcare places during the school holidays, however there are 46 bilingual places available between the hours 8:00am – 6:00pm which is exclusively delivered by one childcare provider in the Panteg ward.

Supply data reveals that 40 children aged under 12 months to 4 years accessed bilingual full day care during term time, which suggests that there is a shortfall in the number of bilingual places available across Torfaen.

Demand analysis reveals that there were no Welsh Medium childcare requirements, however the data from the parent carer survey was considered statistically insignificant.

Appendix 4

Quality and diversity of education

The following is provided to show the current performance of the Torfaen schools listed in this document.

Key:

FP – Foundation Phase

FPI – Foundation Phase Indicator

LLC – Literacy, Language, Communication Skills

MD – Mathematical Development

PSWC – Personal & Social Development, Well Being and Cultural Development

KS 2 – Key Stage 2

KS 3 – Key Stage 3

KS 4 – Key Stage 4

CSI – Core Subject Indicator

FSM – Free School Meals

Standards achieved

Foundation Phase

These are statutory end of Year 2 assessments in school. FPI is Foundation Phase Indicator, and it is achieved when a pupil attains at least Outcome 5 in Literacy, Language, Communication, Mathematical Development and Personal, Social, Well Being and Cultural Diversity.

FPI (for the Torfaen Primary Schools listed above are as follows):

School	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Ysgol Bryn Onnen	83.3	87.1	92.9	85.2
Ysgol Gymraeg Cwmbran	83.0	92.5	89.9	90.7
Ysgol Panteg	93.8	93.0	82.6	72.7
Torfaen	90.6	86.0	88.6	88.6
Wales	85.2	86.8	87.0	87.3

Key Stage 2

These are statutory end of Year 6 assessments in school. CSI is Core Subject indicator, and it is achieved when a pupil attains at least Level 4 in English, Mathematics and Science.

The following tables provide details of KS 2 Performance - CSI for the Torfaen Primary Schools referred to above:

School	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Ysgol Bryn Onnen	94.6	93.9	100.0	84.0
Ysgol Gymraeg Cwmbran	89.5	97.7	95.1	91.7
Ysgol Panteg	N/A	N/A	N/A	95.0

Torfaen	91.2	84.3	89.9	89.5
Wales	86.1	87.7	88.6	89.5

Benchmarking at FP & KS2

Schools are grouped and compared according to the proportion of pupils entitled to FSM (averaged across the last three academic years). Results within each group are divided into 4 'quarters', with 25% of schools within each 'quarter':

Quartile 1 (top 25% schools)	
Quartile 2 (top 50% schools)	
Quartile 3 (bottom 50% schools)	
Quartile 4 (bottom 25% schools)	

Ysgol Bryn Onnen	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
FP FPI	3	3	4	3
FP LLC English	3	3	2	3
FP MD	3	3	2	3
FP PSWC	3	3	1	3
KS2 CSI	1	2	1	4
KS2 English	2	1	1	3
KS2 Mathematics	2	2	1	1
KS2 Science	2	2	1	3
KS2 Welsh	2	2	1	3

Ysgol Gymraeg Cwmbran	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
FP FPI	3	2	3	3
FP LLC English	3	2	3	2
FP MD	3	2	3	2
FP PSWC	2	2	3	3
KS2 CSI	2	1	2	3
KS2 English	3	1	2	3
KS2 Welsh	2	2	2	3
KS2 Mathematics	2	1	2	4
KS2 Science	3	2	2	3

Ysgol Panteg	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
FP FPI	2	2	4	4
FP LLC English	2	3	3	4
FP MD	2	2	3	4
FP PSWC	1	1	4	4
KS2 CSI	-	-	-	2
S2 English	-	-	-	3
KS2 Welsh	-	-	-	2
KS2 Mathematics	-	-	-	3
KS2 Science	-	-	-	3

KS3 and KS4

Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw

KS3- Core Subject Indicator

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
School	88.8	84.0	87.0	91.7
Torfaen	82.4	81.9	83.8	89.0
Wales	81.0	83.9	85.9	87.4

KS4 – L2 Inclusive

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
School	55.2	68.1	60.4	54.7
Torfaen	53.4	56.7	53.5	51.2
Wales	55.4	57.9	60.3	54.6

Benchmarking

Schools are grouped and compared according to the proportion of pupils entitled to FSM (averaged across the last three academic years). Results within each group are divided into 4 'quarters', with 25% of schools within each 'quarter':

Quartile 1 (top 25% schools)	
Quartile 2 (top 50% schools)	
Quartile 3 (bottom 50% schools)	
Quartile 4 (bottom 25% schools)	

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
KS3 CSI	1	4	4	3
KS3 English	3	4	4	4
KS3 Welsh	4	4	4	4
KS3 Maths	2	4	4	3
KS3 Science	1	2	4	4

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
KS4 L2+	4	2	4	4
KS4 L2	2	3	4	4
KS4 L1	2	3	4	4
KS4 CSI	4	1	4	4
KS4 English	3	3	4	3
KS4 Welsh	1	2	2	3
KS4 Maths	-	-	-	4
KS4 Science	1	1	4	3

(Bold = changes to the GCSEs)

Estyn Reports

The most recent Estyn reports for potentially affected schools are summarised below.

During each inspection, inspectors aim to answer three key questions:

- Key Question 1: How good are the outcomes?
- Key Question 2: How good is provision?
- Key Question 3: How good are leadership and management?

Inspectors also provide an overall judgement on the school's current performance and on its prospects for improvement. In these evaluations, inspectors use a four-point scale:

Judgement	What the judgement means
Excellent	Many strengths, including significant examples of sector-leading practice
Good	Many strengths and no important areas requiring significant improvement
Adequate	Strengths outweigh areas for improvement
Unsatisfactory	Important areas for improvement outweigh strengths

Ysgol Bryn Onnen

Date of Inspection: July 2015

Monitoring visit: January 2017

Summary	Judgement
The school's current performance	Adequate
The school's prospects for improvement	Adequate
Key Question 1: How good are outcomes?	Adequate
Key Question 2: How good is provision?	Adequate
Key Question 3: How good are leadership and management?	Adequate

Following a monitoring visit in January 2017, Ysgol Bryn Onnen is judged to have made good progress in respect of the key issues for action following the Estyn visit in November 2016. The school has been removed from the list of schools requiring Estyn monitoring. There will be no further Estyn monitoring visits in relation to this inspection.

Ysgol Gymraeg Cwmbran

Date of Inspection: November 2011

Summary	Judgement
The school's current performance	Good
The school's prospects for improvement	Good
Key Question 1: How good are outcomes?	Good
Key Question 2: How good is provision?	Good
Key Question 3: How good are leadership and management?	Good

Ysgol Panteg

Date of Inspection: November 2014

Summary	Judgement
The school's current performance	Good
The school's prospects for improvement	Good
Key Question 1: How good are outcomes?	Good
Key Question 2: How good is provision?	Good
Key Question 3: How good are leadership and management?	Good

Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni

Date of Inspection: February 2017

Summary	Judgement
The school's current performance	Good
The school's prospects for improvement	Good
Key Question 1: How good are outcomes?	Good
Key Question 2: How good is provision?	Good
Key Question 3: How good are leadership and management?	Good

Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Helyg

Date of Inspection: March 2015

Summary	Judgement
The school's current performance	Unsatisfactory
The school's prospects for improvement	Unsatisfactory
Key Question 1: How good are outcomes?	Unsatisfactory
Key Question 2: How good is provision?	Adequate
Key Question 3: How good are leadership and management?	Unsatisfactory

Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw

Date of Inspection: March 2014

Summary	Judgement
The school's current performance	Good
The school's prospects for improvement	Good
Key Question 1: How good are outcomes?	Good
Key Question 2: How good is provision?	Good
Key Question 3: How good are leadership and management?	Good

The system provides a clear and simple way of understanding how well a school is performing for all its pupils, how effectively it is led and managed, the quality of teaching and learning and the level of support and challenge it needs to do even better.

The system is based on a three-step process:

The following terminology will now be used to describe the outcomes of each step of the categorisation process:-

- Step one: Outcome indicators – no standards group will be published for 2017/18.
- Step two: The outcome will be a judgement about a school’s improvement capacity (A–D).
- Step three: This will lead to a support category for each school (green, yellow, amber, red).

The categorisation colour indicates the level of support a school requires – green, yellow, amber or red (with the schools in the green category needing the least support and those in the red category needing the most intensive support).

The level of support available for each category is as follows.

- Green support category - A school in this category will receive up to 4 days of support.
- Yellow support category - A school in this category will receive up to 10 days of support.
- Amber support category - A school in this category will receive up to 15 days of support.
- Red support category - A school in this category will receive up to 25 days of support

The categorisation outcomes of each school are published annually and provide a snapshot of schools (Categorisation 2017/18).

School Name	Step 2	Step 3
Ysgol Bryn Onnen	C	Red
Ysgol Gymraeg Cwmbran	A	Green
Ysgol Panteg	B	Yellow
Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw	D	Red

Each school will receive a tailored programme of support, challenge and intervention based on this category. The support category along with the outcomes for step two will be published annually on the My Local School website. For a guide to the National School Categorisation System and information on individual schools please use the following link:

<http://mylocalschool.wales.gov.uk/>

Appendix 5

COMMUNITY AND EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Community Impact Assessments are a structured way for the Council to fully understand the implications of our decisions and whether they are detrimental or discriminatory to certain groups or sections of the community. They help us to consider the impact of Council decisions and policies within and between communities more generally. The Community Impact Assessment process ensures that our decision making process is robust and impacts on all communities within Torfaen ensuring that they are fully considered in Council business. By carrying out impact assessments, the Council is working to promote equality for all our service users, employees and the wider community that we serve.

This proposal is for an extension of the age range of Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw from 11 – 18 to 3 – 18 and it is considered there would be a positive impact if implemented.

The proposal will have no significant impact on 11 – 18 Welsh Medium secondary school provision across Torfaen. Therefore, this community impact assessment relates specifically to the expansion of the age range of the school which will if agreed, include a primary provision (i.e. for years 3 – 11).

Schools have an important role within their wider communities and are a focus for them. The proposal to increase the overall capacity of the school will not affect this in any way – the space that can be utilised by the community out of school hours will remain and be enhanced. School sites host sports facilities that are used by the wider community and the proposal will continue this arrangement. Schools are also significant employers. The location of where people who are employed by the council in communities will not change significantly. The proposal will not affect where school based staff spending power is exercised.

The proposal is unlikely to have a negative effect on the local economy. The proposal adds to the already established secondary school provision where it is currently provided. As a result, any change that results from this proposal is likely to be minimal.

It is very unlikely that the proposal will result in an increase in crime and disorder.

In terms of equality impact, and because of the nature of this proposal, there is unlikely to be a significant impact, either positive or negative on groups or individuals with the following protected characteristics:

Protected Characteristics	Current schools	Proposal	Impact
Race	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Torfaen has a low proportion of people from an ethnic minority.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Young people from an ethnic minority background are unlikely to be adversely affected by the proposals.	No Change

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No discrimination against race in Admission Policy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No discrimination against race in Admission Policy. 	No Change
Disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Young disabled people are more likely to live in Torfaen's main towns. Access plans will indicate any issues in relation to the physical environment and how to improve them. Improved access will allow disabled people to take advantage of education and associated services in schools. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new primary age provision would offer full accessibility. Buildings will also have good IT and network facilities which makes it easier to support pupils with additional needs through IT. 	<p>Positive</p> <p>Positive</p>
Gender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All schools named in this document are mixed sex. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New provision will be mixed sex. 	No Change
Age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three Welsh Medium Primary schools in Torfaen already provide education for 3 – 11 year olds. Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw currently offers secondary school places to pupils from Torfaen, Blaenau Gwent and North Monmouthshire. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Four Welsh Medium primary settings in Torfaen An extension of the school's age range to 3 – 18 will, in the future potentially reduce the number of Year 7 admissions, particularly for those pupils who live the furthest from the school. <p>However, This proposal does not change the situation until the</p>	<p>Positive</p> <p>No change</p>

		<p>September 2028 secondary admissions round because there will be no children of that age until that date. Current projections up to September 2023 show the number of places in the 11 – 16 age range is sufficient to cope with the demand that will come through Torfaen’s primary schools and those from feeder schools outside the Borough.</p> <p>We do not have projections beyond 2023, but there may still be capacity for out of county learners but, that position is and will be kept under review with the neighbouring local authorities.</p>	
Religion & Belief	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change to all schools named in this document. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change proposed. 	No change.
Sexual Orientation	N/A	N/A	No change
Transgender	N/A	N/A	No change

Transport Impact Assessment

The Learner Travel (Wales) Measure 2008 places a duty on the council to assess the travel needs of learners under the age of 19. In addition to those children who qualify for free transport provision due to meeting the eligibility for distance between home and school, the council is under a legal obligation to assess the travel needs of learners who walk to school.

The mileage criterion (2 miles) will apply for those children starting primary school at Reception Year when eligibility for free transport will be assessed using this mileage criteria.

For secondary aged children (Year 7 to Year 11) a 3 mile criterion will apply.

Free transport may also be provided where the authority is satisfied that the route between home and school is sufficiently dangerous to warrant such provision, even though the distance is under those quoted above.

Post 16 students will be provided with financial support in accordance with the council's current Home to school/college transport policy.

In terms of the distance and travelling time involved in attending Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw or other primary schools in the area, as the proposal involves the extension of the school age range there will be a positive impact on travelling. It is anticipated that travelling time and distances will be reduced, with 4 rather than 3 Welsh medium primary schools serving Torfaen.

As the proposal directly affects the movement of Primary aged pupils it is anticipated that the impact on public transport will be minimal. Where primary aged children are entitled to free home to school transport this is provided by a contracted vehicle.

Staff Impact Assessment

In addition to their role as statutory consultees, meaningful consultation will take place with any staff potentially affected by this proposal. During this period, staff and trade unions will be given the opportunity to comment on the changes and governing bodies and Local Authority representatives (which will include designated support from the Human Resources Team) will listen and take account of views expressed. There will also be an opportunity for discussion to take place through agreed joint consultative processes with recognised trade unions (PSJCC) and collective consultation (and as required 1:1) meetings with staff.

How would Special Educational Needs provision be affected?

A child has special educational needs if he or she has a learning difficulty which requires special educational provision. A learning difficulty means the child has significantly greater difficulty in learning than most children of the same age or that child has a disability that needs different educational facilities for those that the school generally provides for children. Current provision in Torfaen will be unchanged by this proposal.



PROPOSALS:-

- 1) EXTEND THE AGE RANGE OF YSGOL GYFUN GWYNLLYW FROM 11 – 18 to 3 - 18.
- 2) AS PART OF 1) ABOVE ESTABLISH A NURSERY PROVISION FOR 30 (FULLTIME EQUIVALENT) 3 & 4 YEAR OLDS.
- 3) AMEND THE WELSH MEDIUM PRIMARY SCHOOL CATCHMENT AREAS WITHIN TORFAEN TO REFLECT THE ADDITIONAL PROPOSED PROVISION AT YSGOL GYFUN GWYNLLYW.

YOUR VIEWS

WE WOULD LIKE YOUR VIEWS ON THE ABOVE PROPOSALS. THIS IS ALSO YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO SUGGEST ALTERNATIVES TO THIS PROPOSAL. PLEASE EITHER COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN TO THE CHIEF OFFICER, EDUCATION & LEAD DIRECTOR FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE (FAO MARK HORTON) C/O TORFAEN COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL, CIVIC CENTRE, PONTYPOOL, TORFAEN, NP4 6YB, OR EMAIL: 21stcenturylearning@torfaen.gov.uk

Should you require a copy of the consultation report please provide your contact details below

Email:

Name/Address: