

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CONSULTATION REPORT

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR - EDUCATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT

SCHOOL MODERNISATION PROGRAMME: OUTCOME OF CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSAL TO MAKE A REGULATED ALTERATION TO ENLARGE YSGOL GYMRAEG BRO OGWR TO A 2.5 FORM-ENTRY SCHOOL, WITH A 90-PLACE FULL-TIME-EQUIVALENT NURSERY PLUS AN 8-PLACE OBSERVATION AND ASSESSMENT CLASS ON LAND OFF FFORDD CADFAN, WITH EFFECT FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE AUTUMN TERM 2025

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 This public report is to inform of the outcome of the consultation on the proposal to make a regulated alteration to enlarge Ysgol Gymraeg (YG) Bro Ogwr to a 2.5 form-entry (FE) school, with a 90-place full-time-equivalent (FTE) nursery plus an 8-place observation and assessment class on land off Ffordd Cadfan.

2. Connection to corporate well-being objectives/other corporate priorities

- 2.1 This school modernisation programme assists in the achievement of the following corporate well-being objectives under the **Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**:

- **Supporting a successful sustainable economy** - taking steps to make the county borough a great place to do business, for people to live, work, study and visit, and to ensure that our schools are focused on raising the skills, qualifications and ambitions for all people in the county borough.
- **Smarter use of resources** – ensure that all resources (financial, physical, ecological, human and technological) are used as effectively and efficiently as possible and support the creation of resources throughout the community that can help deliver the Council's well-being objectives.

3. Background

- 3.1 In October 2021, Cabinet approval was given to commence a statutory consultation process to enlarge YG Bro Ogwr to a 2.5 FE school, with a 90-place FTE nursery plus an 8-place observation and assessment class on land off Ffordd Cadfan and open with effect from the beginning of the autumn term 2025.

- 3.2 This report outlines the responses to the consultation.

4. Consultation process

- 4.1 In order to progress the proposal, consultation exercises were carried out between 7 February 2022 and 21 March 2022 in accordance with the statutory School Organisation Code 2018. A copy of the consultation document was made available during this time on the Council's website:

<https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/media/12775/ysgol-gymraeg-bro-ogwr-consultation-report.pdf>

- 4.2 The consultation document invited views and opinions to be submitted in respect of the proposal. A list of stakeholders consulted can be seen at Appendix 13.

5. Summary of responses to consultation

- 5.1 Key points from the consultation exercise were as follows, with full details appended at the end of this report. The local authority held 6 'virtual' meetings with learners, staff, governors and Coity and Brackla Community Councils and members of the community. Local members actively engaged and supported the process. 4 representatives from BCBC attended all of the meetings. Welsh translation services were offered and provided when requested.

5.2 Governing body consultation

A virtual 'Zoom' call consultation meeting was held with representatives from YG Bro Ogwr on Monday 7 March 2022. Full details of the meeting discussions, responses and clarifications given are detailed in Appendix 1 of this consultation report.

School governors asked about the highways, access to the new site and what the plans are for a school drop-off and pick-up area. Officers explained that an open dialogue with the highways department is ongoing with regards to the drop-off and pick-up area. The local authority is planning to run a workshop to understand whether the mitigation measures in place at other schools in the county work effectively. Highways has commissioned and concluded a Transport Impact Assessment (TIA) which has been reported to Cabinet as part of the feasibility. The TIA will be reviewed and the local authority will make sure it is providing any active travel infrastructure that is needed as part of this scheme. The local authority must satisfy highway requirements.

Access for school transport vehicles will be at the back of the school and access for parents, visitors and staff will be at the front of the school. Many learners who attend YG Bro Ogwr travel to school by bus as they are not eligible for school transport, as per the Home to School/College Transport policy. The school will need to develop a school travel plan in order to support a planning application.

Car parking provision was raised as a concern. Many staff travel from further afield and the lack of sufficient car parking spaces will have a significant impact on staff recruitment and retention. The Decarbonisation 2030 Strategy is pushing further towards sustainable travel also, as a developer, the local

authority must comply with parking guidelines. These concerns will be relayed to the Council's highways team and further discussions will be held to express this important aspect.

The school grounds will be secure. There will be 2m to 2.4m high safety fencing around the perimeter and in areas such as the yards, pitches and the bus bays (to prevent vehicle / pedestrian conflict). Entrance gates will be lockable. Footways and external spaces will be fully lit as part of the scheme. Unauthorised persons will not be able to access the school.

Pitch flood lighting is not included in this scheme. However, infrastructure for floodlighting columns will be included, so that they could be provided in the future. There will be a significant amount of green space, there are plans for a wetland and the Council will aim to improve the ecology and biodiversity across the site.

Officers were asked how the formula of a 2.5 FE school was reached. A set of options, costs and strategy was considered in order to maximise Welsh-medium education in the area. The option of a 2.5 FE school was deemed the preferred option. This proposal will be the largest school that we have in Bridgend. There are further plans to increase Welsh-medium provision in the area, as detailed in the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP).

The WESP references a potential 3 to 18 secondary school. Concerns were raised whether there will be enough demand for two schools with the same age groups in such close proximity to each other. The development of a bilingual school is planned at the Parc Afon Ewenni site, which is a proposed new residential development. The Council need to have education provision to accommodate the proposed new housing development. The proposed Parc Afon Ewenni school would be a 2 FE school; 1 FE Welsh-medium and 1 FE English-medium. By creating Welsh-medium education places, the Council should attract learners to fill those places from the southeast area. The local authority is meeting the Welsh-medium secondary headteacher to consider the options available to centralise secondary education within the county.

5.3 Brackla Community Council consultation

A 'virtual' consultation meeting was held with Brackla Community Council on 10 March 2022. Full details of the meeting discussions and responses/clarifications given are detailed in Appendix 2 of this consultation report. Questions were raised concerning Welsh Government's Gymraeg 2050 agenda is to achieve 1 million Welsh speakers by 2025, community use, traffic assessments and plans for the existing YG Bro Ogwr school.

Council representatives explained that a 2.5 FE school was deemed the preferred option for the school and as mentioned above, forms part of a wider 10-year WESP to increase Welsh-medium education in Bridgend. The school will be designed to facilitate community use and will include two sports pitches, a community kitchen and cycling facilities with showers and changing rooms. A full TIA has been undertaken which will inform what opportunities can be created to link active travel routes with the wider area. In relation to the current YG Bro Ogwr, officers explained that there is potential to create a new

English-medium school on the site, however, this is subject to the successful outcome of the YG Bro Ogwr proposal and it will require a separate consultation process.

5.4 Coety Community Council consultation

A 'virtual' consultation meeting was held with Coety Community Council on 10 March 2022. Full details of the meeting discussions and responses / clarifications given are detailed in Appendix 3 of this consultation report. Questions were raised mainly concerning the highway, parking and drop-off areas, active travel routes, plans for the existing school and capacity of the new school.

Officers explained that there is ongoing dialogue with the Highways department. A workshop is planned to understand if the measures in place at other schools will work effectively at YG Bro Ogwr. Following the outcome of the workshop, the team can agree a way forward for the drop-off zone, whether it is to be located within the school grounds, or outside. The size of the school was determined by an options appraisal process undertaken by the local authority in order to maximise Welsh-medium education in the area and the design of the school site will allow for future expansion to accommodate additional demand for places. The potential plans to create an English-medium school on the existing site were discussed, along with the plans for work to be undertaken now to address the current backlog maintenance.

5.5 Staff consultation

A 'virtual' consultation meeting was held with the staff of YG Bro Ogwr on 14 March 2022. Full details of the meeting discussions and responses/clarifications given are detailed in Appendix 4 of this consultation report. Questions were raised mainly concerning increasing Welsh-medium education, recruitment and retention of staff, access to outdoor spaces, parking and drop-off areas.

Council representatives explained that a set of options was explored to maximise Welsh-medium provision in the area and further plans to increase Welsh-medium provision are detailed in the WESP. The design of the school is future proofed at an early stage to accommodate for growth. The school will have a learning plaza (street) and there will be at least two staircases for learners to access the yard. All Foundation Phase will have direct access outside from their classrooms. Officers work with the school to ensure the yard space works and will be consulting formally with staff in the future regarding design requirements, if approval for this scheme is received from Cabinet. With regards to parking spaces and drop-off areas, officers must follow planning policy set by Welsh Government. Officers noted the concerns raised and will hold a separate workshop with our highways team to discuss highways and parking as part of the design development.

5.6 Learners consultation

YG Bro Ogwr's School Council met virtually with BCBC representatives on Monday 7 March 2022 to discuss the proposal. The pupils were given a child friendly version of the consultation document prior to the meeting and asked about their views. Full details of the meeting discussions and

responses/clarifications given are detailed in Appendix 5 of this consultation report.

The school's Eco-Council were interested in sustainable energy, recycling and water saving facilities and suggested the option for charging points for electric cars. The School Council asked what facilities would be at the new school and if they could bring legacy items from their current school to the new school. Council representatives explained that although detailed design has not yet been undertaken, sufficient indoor and outdoor space would be provided including circulation space, sports pitches, games courts, soft play areas, hard play areas and habitat space. Should the proposal progress, further meetings would be arranged so that pupils can input into the design process.

A School Council vote as to whether the pupils felt that the proposal was generally a good or a bad idea was held at the end of the meeting. All 12 pupils present agreed that they felt it was a good idea.

5.7 Open consultation event – virtual Zoom call

A virtual 'Zoom' call consultation meeting was held on Tuesday 15 March 2022. Full details of the meeting discussions, responses and clarifications given are detailed in Appendix 6 of this consultation report.

Questions were raised in relation to there being no catchment areas for Welsh-medium schools in the county and whether the local authority are considering putting catchment areas in place. Council representatives explained that plans are being progressed to increase Welsh-medium education places within the county and that catchment areas are something that officers will consider going forward. Feedback from parents is welcomed to help inform decisions.

Concerns were raised regarding the proposal to replace the current site of YG Bro Ogwr with an English-medium school and the impact this will have on current English-medium schools in the area. Officers explained that further work is ongoing on a wider plan, including identifying the catchment area. This scheme is subject to a separate proposal and it will not proceed until the process for YG Bro Ogwr is concluded. Stakeholders will be fully engaged in the proposal. The school has a backlog maintenance of £750k and some immediate work will be undertaken to make improvements, as the school will be occupied until 2025.

There is an increasing need for additional capacity at YG Bro Ogwr. The Ffordd Cadfan site is large enough to accommodate a 2.5 FE school. The school will be designed to allow for a 4-classroom extension if needed in the future, taking the school to 3 FE. This project is the first phase of the wider plan to build more schools. This project is the first phase of a long-term plan to increase Welsh-medium education provision across the county borough as part of the Bridgend WESP. There are plans to increase provision in the south-east and central Bridgend area, which includes a proposal for a dual-stream school at Parc Afon Ewenni (1 FE Welsh-medium and 1 FE English-medium), a 1 FE school in Porthcawl and an all-through Welsh-medium school

to cater for ages 3 to 19 years, located centrally in Bridgend county. These plans will align to planned housing developments and available budget.

The local authority will work closely with the school to understand the impact of the additional number of learners and which year groups would need to expand. The nursery will have both part-time and full-time provision. There will be 75 FTE places for pupils aged 3 to 4 years and part-time provision will make-up the other fifteen FTE places (that is, thirty part-time in total). In addition, there will be an 8-place observation and assessment class for children with additional learning needs.

The team were asked why are the local authority are considering building a new school now. The school did not have enough capacity back in 1994 and now it is in a poor state of repair and is in need of investment. It was suggested that Maes Yr Haul Primary School in Broadlands should be a Welsh-medium school to provide equal coverage across the county. The local authority has built a Welsh-medium primary school (that is, Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Calon Y Cymoedd in Bettws, which replaced Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Cwm Garw). The future ambition of the local authority is to create more Welsh-medium schools. Construction is underway for two Welsh-medium childcare settings at Bettws and Ogmere Valley. Welsh Government has given approval in principle to create a Welsh-medium seedling school in Porthcawl and there are plans to create provision in the southeast and centrally in Bridgend town, along with potential plans to relocate Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd to a more central location. The local authority's draft WESP (2022-2032) sets out our ambitions for the next 10 years and we are firmly committed to promoting and growing Welsh-medium education.

5.8 Summary of written representations

Five items of direct correspondence were received during the consultation period and one was received after the consultation period closed. This item was accepted as it was clearly sent during the consultation period, but the email address used was incorrect. See Appendix 7 of this consultation report for details and responses/clarifications.

- 5.9 Responses were sent to the originators of items of correspondence thanking them for their submissions and stating that their comments would be taken into consideration.

5.12 Summary of online survey responses

Overall, 50 respondents completed the online questionnaire. In respect of the question on whether they support the proposal, 31 responded 'Yes' and 15 responded 'No'. See Appendix 8 of this consultation report for details and the authority's responses/clarifications in respect of issues raised.

6. The view of Estyn, Her Majesty's Inspectors of Education and Training in Wales

- 6.1 Estyn has considered the educational aspects of the proposal. See Appendix 9 of this consultation report for full details. Estyn's has concluded as follows:

“Estyn considers that the proposal is likely to, at least, maintain the standard of education provision in the area.”

7 Impact Assessments

- 7.1 An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out as part of the consultation stage and was published as part of the consultation document. The assessment concluded that the proposal is unlikely to impact disproportionately on any protected group. Having reviewed responses to the consultation, the conclusion remains valid.
- 7.2 A Welsh Impact Assessment has been carried out as part of the consultation stage and was published as part of the consultation document. It concluded that it is anticipated this proposal would significantly improve teaching and learning opportunities and it is likely that the uptake of Welsh-medium education in the area will increase as a consequence of providing a sustainable community school, thereby supporting the local authority’s WESP targets, promoting the Welsh language and increasing the number of nursery learners transitioning to a Welsh-medium primary education. There should be a positive impact on Welsh language groups as the new building will be accessible to the local community. This could involve Welsh for adult classes and meetings of Welsh language groups.
- 7.3 A Community Impact Assessment has been carried out as part of the consultation stage and was published as part of the consultation document. The distance between the current YG Bro Ogwr and the new site at Ffordd Cadfan is 0.2 miles. It is therefore not anticipated to be significant potential for there to be negative impact on the community. There is a possibility that there may be a positive impact on community cohesion. Should the proposal proceed, pupils would be attending a new school building which will incorporate purpose-built community facilities. There is a requirement to work with our highways team to ensure compliance with Statutory Guidance, but also to ensure we provide sufficient car parking facilities, drop-off areas and highways links and the reduction of traffic congestion in the local area. It was highlighted in the consultation that staff recruitment and retainment highly depend upon these facilities.
- 7.4 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 has been considered in formulating the proposal (see Appendix 10).

8. Conclusion

Following the consultation process, the local authority has revisited the proposal to determine the likely impact on the promotion of the Welsh language, quality and standards in education, the community and the potential future use of the residual YG Bro Ogwr school.

Promotion of the Welsh language

The proposed enlargement to YG Bro Ogwr is planned for delivery during the first phase of the 10-year WESP (which sets out the local authority’s strategy

to promote and provide additional Welsh-medium education places in key geographical locations within the county borough).

The proposal significantly increases provision for early years pupils, which is considered essential in terms of the promotion of the Welsh language. In addition, the new school will include an 8-place observation and assessment class for Welsh-medium pupils with additional learning needs.

It is considered that this significant capital investment in primary Welsh-medium provision supports, stimulates and promotes a Welsh-medium education and the Welsh language.

The proposed 2.5 FE YG Bro Ogwr is appropriate; it addresses the demand for pupil places and promotes the Welsh language. BCBC's Major Projects Team has confirmed that the site will allow for future expansion, should additional demand for Welsh-medium places be required at this location.

Quality and standards

The proposal will deliver a Sustainable Communities for Learning school with a first class teaching and learning environment. The building and external spaces would be designed to meet the needs of school staff and pupils. Estyn's view is that the proposal is likely to, at least, maintain the standard of education provision in the area.

Community

A Community Impact Assessment was undertaken as part of the consultation process and has subsequently been reviewed.

The proposed school would be situated on land off Ffordd Cadfan which is regarded as the most suitable location for the replacement school in terms of its size, proximity to the existing school and geographical position within the area, with good links to Bridgend town, the Valleys Gateway and Pencoed areas, thereby being suitable for community use.

The new school would be designed with community use in mind and include facilities that could be used by Welsh language groups, the Urdd and sport organisations.

Future use of the residual YG Bro Ogwr school

In light of feedback to this consultation, the local authority will revisit the options appraisal in respect of the existing YG Bro Ogwr school building/site.

9. Statutory process in determining proposals

9.1 The following table sets out the provisional timetable:

Activity	Date
Consultation period where the Council welcome your views and observations on the proposal*.	7 February 2022 to 21 March 2022
Draft Consultation Report to Cabinet on the outcomes of the consultation.	14 June 2022
Publish the approved Consultation Report on the BCBC website, hard copies available on request.	15 June 2022
If agreed by Cabinet, a statutory notice will be published and there will be a period of 28 days in which to submit any objections to the proposal in writing.	30 June 2022
If there are no objections cabinet can decide whether to proceed or not. If there are any objections, an Objections Report will be forwarded to Cabinet for their consideration and subsequent determination. The approved report will then be published on the BCBC website and hard copies of the report will be made available upon request. Publication of the decision letter.	September 2022
Implementation.	September 2025

Hard Copies of this report are available on request.

Contact Officer: Education and Family Support Directorate (Directorate Support Unit)
Telephone: (01656) 643643
E-mail: edsu@bridgend.gov.uk
Postal Address Bridgend County Borough Council
 Civic Offices
 Angel Street
 Bridgend,
 CF31 4WB

APPENDIX 1



**Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr
Consultation Meeting
with School Governors
Monday 7 March 2022
5pm-7pm**

Present: BCBC staff x4
Headteacher x1
Welsh Language Translator x1
School Governors x12

The Schools Programme Manager introduced the consultation session and set out the purpose of the meeting, nature and process of the consultation and outlined the proposal. The Principal Architectural Assistant provided an overview of the site layout and access points.

Questions/Issues	Answer/Comments
Access, highways and the drop-off zone is a concern.	<p>There is ongoing dialogue with our highways department with regards to the drop-off areas. Officers will be running a workshop to understand whether the mitigation measures in place at other schools work effectively. Following the outcome of the workshop, the team can agree a way forward for the drop-off zone. Officers will work with the school in terms of the design.</p> <p>Access for school transport will be to the back of the school. This was felt to be the safest option. Access for parents, visitors and staff will be at the front entrance.</p> <p>Our highways team has commissioned and concluded a Transport Impact Assessment (TIA) which has been reported to Cabinet. Consideration will be given to the TIA and the local authority will need to provide any active travel infrastructure that is needed in the area as part of this scheme.</p> <p>In order to ensure planning approval, we have to satisfy highway requirements.</p>
We have mapped the postcodes for our learners and very few live within the walking distance to school. Many pupils travel to school by bus. We have an opportunity to	In order to support a planning application, the school will need to develop a school travel plan. Every school should have their own travel plan, we will work with the school

<p>make this an excellent facility and it is important that we get it right. We don't want to see the retail area overflowing with traffic, making it unsafe for our learners. We have explored the option of a walking bus, but school transport provision is not under our control, and we are not prepared to engage in that at the moment, this is a BCBC responsibility.</p>	<p>to develop a school travel plan. The new school site will also need a travel plan in place.</p>
<p>The new location and the accessibility to the site is very positive and we are looking forward to having a new 21st century school. I am concerned about the timetable in relation to the planning application and the public notice. It does not allow for parents to be aware of access points etc.</p> <p>If we hope to open the new school in September 2025, what timetable are we working to once we have completed the 3 stages and tender process?</p>	<p>This process is separate to the planning process. The School Organisation Code is a separate statutory process which must be done in advance. The statutory notice can include an explanatory note detailing how we envisage the site to work, eg school transport access. There are 3 separate processes remaining: the School Organisation Code, planning approval and the Welsh Government full business case.</p> <p>Construction is eighteen months at present. The only thing that will change the timetable is if the ground conditions or highways works are more than we anticipate.</p>
<p>Does the assessment include the 62 new proposed homes by Shepherds Vets? The highway to the retail outlet is already considered as a bottleneck. We are concerned that if we cannot create a suitable drop-off area, the new school will not be popular with local residents. The new proposal halves the number of car parking spaces, you noted that it is the responsibility of the school governors to align staffing with increasing numbers of pupils. More pupils will mean more traffic. If we increase the number of parking spaces, it has been said that the planning approval will be refused. Welsh Government want to increase walking and cycling to school, which is commendable, but is concerning as staff budgets and recruitment is already difficult. Car parking is a concern as it will have an impact on staff recruitment and retention.</p> <p>Staff don't tend to live in the local area, and they have to travel from afar. Agency staff are asking for a higher premium to stop them taking jobs closer to home. We previously discussed that staff could use the drop-off zones to park their cars.</p>	<p>The proposal regarding the 62 new homes is at pre-application stage, and therefore those number are not included in the Transport Impact Assessment.</p> <p>Officers will hold a separate workshop to discuss highways and parking as part of the design development. Officers must comply with parking guidelines and will need to develop a strong case to present to our highways colleagues to explain the concerns regarding recruitment and retention. A school travel plan needs to be developed. It is important to gather information on current staffing issues and car parking and the collation of postcode data to help support this. The Decarbonisation 2030 Strategy is pushing further towards sustainable travel.</p>

<p>This is not going to be effective as they are on duty before school starts and after it closes; they can't constantly be outside moving their cars around to different parking areas.</p>	
<p>I understand we have to develop our travel plans and consider sustainable travel. The majority of our learners do not live within walking distance to school. If our school is relocating slightly down the road and we are not opening another Welsh-medium school, we cannot adopt a travel plan to include walking and cycling. This again will affect our staff recruitment and retention.</p>	<p>There is a long-term plan to increase Welsh-medium education provision across the county borough as part of WESP. Although this is the first project, there are plans to increase provision in the south-east and in the Bridgend area.</p>
<p>The proposed new Welsh-medium school is an exciting opportunity. I read an article regarding Welsh-medium school staff retention, which mentioned that of all teachers who qualified in 2010, 40% have left the profession by the current date. There are staffing issues across Wales. I have to travel an hour to get to work and it worries me if staff are faced with restricted parking and access. It will be difficult to attract and retain teachers to the school. We appreciate that we need to look after the environment, but it seems that it is in conflict with recruiting and retaining good members of staff.</p>	<p>XX In agreement with XX. We as a Welsh-medium school, represent Welsh-medium education. I am aware many people are against Welsh-medium education as a principle and if we don't get things right it won't help the cause if we create problems for local residents. I understand the need to protect the environment, but we need to have balance with the people living close to the school and their attitudes to Welsh-medium education.</p>
<p>Estyn visited the school in 2017 and they raised concern regarding site access and security. Is there fencing and gates to stop un-authorized access to the site?</p> <p>Will there be community access during out-of-hours use, will the whole school be accessible?</p>	<p>XX shared the site plan and explained the security boundary of the fencing and the location of the gates and access points. No person will be able to walk through the school. There will be safety fencing in areas, including the bus bays, to prevent vehicle / pedestrian conflict. There will be fencing in the yards and the pitches will also have their own fencing. The fence around the site will be between 2m to 2.4m high. The gates will be lockable.</p> <p>It will depend on what use you as a school want to offer to the community. It can be as flexible as you want. There are community facilities within the school, as well as the pitches. The school and grounds can be made as secure as you need.</p>
<p>We will be at our current school site until 2025 at least. The condition survey has identified work that needs to be undertaken. Are there plans to undertake any of this work now?</p>	<p>Corporate Landlord Department is currently looking at the condition survey and have plans to undertake work at the school. The team will contact the school to discuss.</p>

Will the school car park be available to the community after hours?	Community use will be a school decision. If the school wants parking to be available for community use, the staff car park and the drop-off area could be utilised.
How did you come to the formula of a 2.5 FE school?	Officers considered a set of options to maximise Welsh-medium provision in the area. We don't currently have any school bigger than a 2.5 form entry school in Bridgend. This proposal will be the biggest school we have in Bridgend. A 3 FE school would be very large and considered too big. There are further plans to increase Welsh-medium provision in the area, as detailed in the WESP.
With regards to community access, what lighting will be provided for after hours?	Pitch flood lighting is not included in this scheme; however we will include the infrastructure for floodlighting so that they can be included in the future. Footways and external spaces will be fully lit as part of the scheme.
We've discussed the WESP and additional buildings in Bridgend and the southeast, is this for primary or secondary schools?	In terms of the WESP, there is a proposal for a dual-stream school at Parc Afon Ewenni (1 FE Welsh-medium and 1 FE English-medium), and the local authority is currently undertaking an options appraisal on a proposal for an all through Welsh-medium school to cater for ages 3 to 19 years, located centrally in Bridgend county.
We have many external grassed areas and I would love to see more included.	There is a significant amount of green space, it looks smaller on the drawing than what it is. We will discuss this further at design stage.
Do we have to include a pond on the site?	There are plans for a wetland and there is a need to include a Sustainable Urban Drainage Solution scheme. We will try to improve the ecology and biodiversity across the site.
Further to the discussion of considering a 3 form entry school. It was mentioned that there is no bigger school than 2.5 form entry in the county. What is the reason you are not considering a 3 form entry school?	Officers considered a number of options. Cost and the long-term strategy for Welsh-medium education provision in Bridgend were important factors. The option of a 2.5 form entry school was deemed the preferred option. XX added that we looked at multiple different options including costs, site size and fit. The local authority is keen to create more Welsh-medium schools in future bands of the programme. 2.5 FE is the largest school build in the current programme.

<p>How many learners will be in each year group?</p> <p>Why not keep the current Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr as a 2 form entry and build a new 2.5 school in the south of the county? This will increase Welsh-medium education.</p> <p>Will the school in Porthcawl be a new school, or will Ysgol y Ferch o'r Sgêr be moving to Porthcawl?</p>	<p>75 each year group and there's a 90-place nursery.</p> <p>There is significant investment for Welsh-medium education in this band of the programme. In addition to this, we have capital investment from Welsh Government. Bridgend is one of the biggest recipients of Welsh-medium childcare across all local authorities in Wales. There is an ambitious programme which is matched with Welsh Government funding. We are delighted to progress the Welsh-medium seedling school in Porthcawl and a Welsh-medium primary school in Porthcawl in Band C. The plan is to grow Welsh-medium secondary education and provide a school to cater for ages 3-19 years.</p> <p>There will be an early years seedling school and a new Welsh-medium primary school. Ysgol y Ferch o'r Sgêr will remain at its current location.</p>
<p>Governors have not received any correspondence or communication regarding the First Ministers recent press release, an expression of interest for an additional double mobile classroom. Will our pupil admission number (PAN) expand in preparation for the new build?</p> <p>The press release was on St David's Day and the email arrived on the Friday.</p>	<p>Further work is required to determine the PAN and officers need to have a discussion with the headteacher. Following the announcement, an email was sent to the school. While the expression of interest has been approved, there is a business case process for Welsh Government, which will be submitted by 31 March. We are currently looking at options regarding potential location for the mobile on the school site.</p> <p>We apologise for the concerns raised by the governing body that we did not communicate effectively. The local authority was not expecting the announcement and were not given prior warning. Welsh Government has recognised our ambition to expand Welsh-medium education.</p>
<p>I have not seen plans for a bilingual school. I think the plan for a 3 to 19 secondary school is good. Will there be enough demand for 2 schools with the same age groups to be in close proximity to each other.</p>	<p>Officers are continuing to meet with the schools involved and to look at the options available to centralise secondary Welsh-medium education within the county.</p> <p>The development of a bilingual school is planned at the Parc Afon Ewenni site, which is a proposed new residential development. We need to have education provision to</p>

	<p>accommodate the proposed new housing development. It will be a 2 FE school; 1 FE Welsh-medium and 1 FE English-medium. If we create Welsh-medium education places, we should attract learners to fill those places from the southeast area.</p>
<p>There is no autism provision at foundation phase at Welsh-medium schools. Many parents believe that children with additional learning requirements cannot attend Welsh-medium schools.</p>	
<p>The more provision we create for Welsh-medium education, the more demand there will be for staff. Who do we liaise with to try to attract more Welsh teachers into the profession? We will be in competition with the Welsh schools in Porthcawl.</p>	<p>We are working with Welsh Government to increase the number of high-quality teachers across the board. We acknowledge this is challenging. We help supply teachers with additional travel costs. The local authority will consider the impact that parking facilities have when attracting and retaining staff. The Decarbonisation 2030 agenda is extremely important as is the Cymraeg 2050 agenda, we want them to flourish together. We will work creatively and collaboratively with the Welsh language groups.</p>
<p>I am very excited about the plans. There are ways around the issues with creative thinking and working together.</p>	

APPENDIX 2



**Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr
Consultation Meeting
With Brackla Community Council
Thursday 10 March 2022
10am-11am**

Present: BCBC staff x4
Headteacher x1
Members of Brackla Community Council x2

The Schools Programme Manager introduced the consultation session and set out the purpose of the meeting, nature and process of the consultation and outlined the proposal. The Principal Architectural Assistant provided an overview of the site layout and access points. The school will be designed to achieve Net Zero Carbon.

Questions/Issues	Answer/Comments
The pupil admission number (PAN) is 75. Welsh Government's Cymraeg 2050 agenda is to achieve 1 million Welsh speakers by 2025 and I imagine that the number of people seeking Welsh education will increase. Have you considered extra capacity for this potential increase and would the school require further expansion in future years?	<p>The option of a 2.5 FE school was deemed the preferred option for the location of the school. YG Bro Ogwr forms part of a wider 10-year WESP to increase Welsh-medium education in Bridgend. There is a proposal for a dual-stream school at Parc Afon Ewenni (1 FE Welsh-medium and 1 FE English-medium), and a proposal for an all through Welsh-medium school to cater for ages 3 to 18 years, located centrally in Bridgend.</p> <p>The design of the site allows for expansion of the school to accommodate additional demand for places in the future. There is space on site to build a two storey 4 classroom extension, if required in the future.</p>
Will the school have the capacity to facilitate an adult community class to increase opportunities to learn Welsh?	<p>The community use of the school is a decision for the governing body. There will be a hall with a community kitchen toward the front of the building. This will be set away from the classrooms to ensure security.</p> <p>The school has run adult classes, but it does currently lack space. This will be an opportunity that we will embrace at the new school, working with Menter Bro Ogwr.</p>
Will there be sports facilities available for community use during evenings and	<p>There will be 2 sports pitches at the school. The pitches will be protected with security</p>

<p>weekends and how can they access the facilities?</p> <p>As a community council we would like to continue to work with the school, to maintain an open dialogue and to facilitate community work.</p>	<p>fencing. The use of the pitches is a school decision. We hope that the community will benefit from them. There could be rental costs/income charged to help towards maintenance.</p> <p>Pitch flood lighting is not included in this scheme; however we will include the infrastructure for floodlighting so that it can be included in the future. Community Councils have contributed towards the cost of the floodlighting for past projects.</p> <p>To comply with the British Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method, we will include cycling storage facilities with showers and changing rooms.</p>
<p>I understand a planning application has been granted for a new housing development close to the vets; what traffic assessments have been undertaken in the area?</p> <p>Will existing pavements and footways be improved as part of the wider school developments to help facilitate active travel to and from the school?</p>	<p>Redstart have undertaken a full traffic impact assessment (TIA) which will inform what improvements would be required in terms of active travel routes and the highway. We can provide you with further detail if required. The TIA will be considered by our highways team and they will ensure that any improvements suggested are taken forward as part of the planning application process. They have looked at the implications of the site itself and the wider area that the school serves.</p> <p>We will be looking to place an active travel route outside the school boundary which will link Brackla industrial estate to the roundabout. Our highways team can provide further information.</p>
<p>Is it envisaged that more learners from outside of Brackla and the local catchment area will attend this school?</p> <p>Will BCBC do more to encourage local residents of Brackla to consider choosing a Welsh-medium education at YG Bro Ogwr?</p>	<p>We cannot retain places for a particular area, the school must admit pupils as per the PAN. Traditionally YG Bro Ogwr has served the Valleys Gateway, Pencoed and Bridgend town areas and will continue to serve these areas of the county borough until further new schools are developed. A proposed new school in the southeast, would attract learners from the Pencoed and Coychurch areas, which will create more available spaces at YG Bro Ogwr to attract learners from more central areas.</p> <p>Approximately half of the learners attending YG Bro Ogwr, currently travel by school transport. About 80% of learners attend</p>

	<p>from outside of the Brackla area. Welsh-medium schools do not have a catchment area. However, school transport does have catchment areas and most of the learners who attend YG Bro Ogwr qualify for school transport. Currently there are seven large school buses and three minibuses on site daily. Directing school transport towards the back of the school will be ideal. I think that a new school may attract more learners from the local Brackla area.</p> <p>XX expressed that the school very much wants to work with the Community Council in terms of community use and is eager to seek advice and guidance relating to what has worked and not worked during other new school projects.</p>
<p>The community council welcomes an increase of biodiversity and ecology on the site. Members are very keen on improving and planting trees within Brackla.</p>	
<p>Sports pitches 4G or 3G?</p>	<p>The smaller pitch is called a grass carpet, which is usually used for 5-a-side football and hockey etc. The larger pitch will be 3G, to accommodate community use and training requirements. 4G pitches are usually used for competition grade sports matches.</p>
<p>In terms of the existing YG Bro Ogwr site, I read there is potential for a new English-medium school</p>	<p>There is potential to create a new English-medium school on the site, utilising the existing building. The school will be a smaller provision than it is at present. We will ensure that the space within the building complies with current Welsh Government guidelines. This potential project will be subject to the successful outcome of this scheme and it will require a separate consultation process.</p>

APPENDIX 3



**Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr
Consultation Meeting
with Coity Community Council
Thursday 10 March 2022
6:30pm-7pm**

Present: BCBC staff x4
Headteacher x1
Members of Coity Community Council x7

Introductions were given. The Corporate Director, Education and Family Support welcomed everyone to the meeting and the Schools Programme Manager introduced the consultation session and set out the purpose of the meeting, nature and process of the consultation and outlined the proposal. The Principal Architectural Assistant provided an overview of the site layout and access points. The school will be designed to achieve Net Zero Carbon.

Questions/Issues	Answer/Comments
<p>There have been issues at the drop-off areas at Brynmenyn, Pencoed and Coety Primary Schools. Has more consideration been taken for the drop-off area at YG Bro Ogwr?</p> <p>I have been looking at this over the past year. Some parents will cause problems, but the major problems, especially at Brynmenyn and Coety, is they were built in areas where drop-off zones were not suitable. There is a Wellness Centre and a new development at Brynmenyn, there is not enough space at the site. It is not reasonable to just blame parents; Brynmenyn and Coety were serious failures in planning. A better strategy is needed for drop-off zones. This is about the safety of children, we don't want accidents and we don't want drop-offs to be in place and then</p>	<p>We are fully aware of the situation regarding the drop-off areas. The issues are arising from user behaviour. There is ongoing dialogue with our highways department and health and safety team. We will take into account lessons learnt from other schools and we will be running a workshop to understand whether the mitigation measures in place at other schools will work effectively at YG Bro Ogwr. Following the outcome of the workshop, the team can agree a way forward for the drop-off zone, whether that is to locate it within the school grounds, or outside.</p> <p>I can assure you this is being looked at. There has been extensive work undertaken by our health and safety colleagues, highways and education officers and the schools themselves. We have to ensure that what we provide will serve the purpose and primarily, learner safety is paramount. Location of the drop-off area is key and we will work with our planning and highways colleagues to ensure it is safe.</p>

<p>taken away later. Can we have assurances this will be looked at?</p>	
<p>I don't have confidence that lessons have been learnt from the situation at Brynmenyn and Pencoed. The situation at Coety arose first and I know that officers were warned about Coety and they assured us that lessons would be learnt and applied to Pencoed and Brynmenyn - they clearly were not, otherwise we wouldn't be in this situation. I am happy for you to respond to me later, if not now.</p>	<p>I understand your concerns. I was very familiar with the designs for Brynmenyn, Coety and Pencoed. These drop-off areas were designed at the request of our highways department. We have to work with our highways team to ensure that what we provide is fit-for-purpose. We have learnt lessons from all of these schemes. The drop-off at Pencoed does appear to be better in terms of design, rather than a long linear drop-off like Brynmenyn Primary School has. The drop-off area at Coety Primary School has never been opened. Lessons learnt will be fed through to this scheme at YG Bro Ogwr.</p>
<p>Children from Coity attend YG Bro Ogwr, residents are concerned that the current school is at capacity. Coety Primary School was built too small and parents, governors and staff at YG Bro Ogwr are concerned that you will make the same mistake again. A past performance doesn't necessarily dictate future performance, but you don't have a great track record. I'd like to understand why you decided on a 2.5 form entry school and not a 3 form entry school. You should be future proofing this school.</p>	<p>The size of the school was determined by an options appraisal process undertaken by the local authority in order to maximise Welsh-medium education in the area. The option of a 2.5 form entry school was deemed the preferred option for the location of the school. YG Bro Ogwr forms part of a wider 10-year WESP to increase Welsh-medium education in Bridgend. The design of the site allows for expansion of the school to accommodate additional demand for places in the future. There is create a further four additional classrooms. This would create a 3 FE school, if the demand for additional places arose in the future.</p>
<p>Existing informal footpath that runs from the Brackla Snooker Club, can the footpath be formalized and included?</p>	<p>The school grounds will be secure. There will be an active travel route around the perimeter of the school site and will link the industrial estate with the residential site.</p>
<p>What are the plans for the existing school? You say it is in urgent need of repair and that it is too small.</p>	<p>There is potential to create a new English-medium school on the site, utilising the existing building. This potential project will be subject to the successful outcome of this scheme and it will require a separate consultation process. The school has a backlog maintenance of £750k. YG Bro Ogwr will need to have some work undertaken now, as they will be occupying the building until 2025, we want to ensure any immediate repairs and maintenance are addressed.</p>
<p>Where would the children come from to fill a new English-medium school?</p>	<p>There are a number of new housing developments in the area and currently there is a significant demand for pupil</p>

<p>Therefore, you are saying you built Coety Primary School too small, and that residents will have to send their children to Brackla. The Home-to-School transport policy of a two mile walking rule will apply and all children from Coety will have to walk to Brackla, rather than be able to attend their closest school.</p> <p>That's Litchard catchment, not Coety</p> <p>I don't need the catchment areas thank you.</p>	<p>places. There will be a catchment review of the local area; they will come from the geographical area of Brackla and Coety's catchment.</p> <p>Some of Coety Primary School's existing catchment is located near the site. For example, the new developments by Shepherds Vets.</p> <p>That's a part of Coety Primary School's catchment area. If there are changes to the catchment areas, it will be subject to a consultation process. However, that cannot happen until this process concludes. If you would like me to share the catchment boundaries for the existing schools, I can.</p>
<p>The land identified in the turquoise colour is in Bridgend Council ownership. We have received pre-planning from Wales and West for a potential housing development in the area. Is this development a joint purchase and if the housing doesn't proceed, does this undermine the school development?</p>	<p>The purchase of the site has already been agreed. It is not dependent upon the housing development, which is located on land near Shepherds Vets. It is not the land identified in turquoise on the plan. I believe a pre-consultation process is being undertaken in terms of the housing.</p>
<p>The only brief observation I would make in relation to the drop-off points, is that it appears to me, Bridgend Council's highways department are not fit-for-purpose. Have you considered employing traffic management consultants for this school? It could alleviate future problems that could occur.</p>	<p>We will be engaging with our highway designers and they will inform our design plans. In advance of this, there is the consultation and a workshop with highways colleagues.</p>
<p>You refer to "drop-off points", I think it would be better to call them "pick-up points" as that is where the major problems are. Dropping learners off at school is a fairly quick process. Picking-up is considerably slower.</p>	<p>They are dual purpose for school drop-off and pick-up.</p>
<p>You said 90 children will attend the nursery, but only 75 will go into each class after nursery.</p>	<p>There is part-time and full-time provision for the nursery. There will be 75 full-time places for ages 3 to 4 years and part-time provision will make-up the other 15 (full-time -equivalent) places (30 part-time places in total).</p>

Thanked everyone for their contribution today. If there are any additional questions following this meeting, please send them through to the team.

APPENDIX 4



**Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr
Consultation Meeting
with School Staff
Monday 14 March 2022
5pm-6pm**

Present: BCBC staff x4
Headteacher x1
Welsh Language Translator x1
School staff x19

The Schools Programme Manager introduced the consultation session and set out the purpose of the meeting, nature and process of the consultation and outlined the proposal. The Principal Architectural Assistant provided an overview of the site layout and access points. The school will be designed to achieve Net Zero Carbon.

Questions/Issues	Answer/Comments
You mentioned there will be an all-weather sports pitch, I assume it will be a 4G pitch. Will there be a separate netball pitch on at a different location, or the same area?	There will be 2 pitches, smaller grass carpet pitch, which is usually used for 5-a-side football and hockey etc and a larger 3G pitch, to accommodate community use and training requirements. 4G pitches are usually used for competition grade sports matches. I have identified two areas on the playground for netball and basketball courts.
You mentioned the building will be two-storeys; juniors on the first floor, infants and nursery on the ground floor – this is a very old curriculum style to follow. Year 3 comes under progression step 2 and should be with years 1 and 2. Have you taken this into consideration?	We have not started the design stages as yet. The design you see is taken from Pencoed Primary School, to ensure site fit for YG Bro Ogwr. When we start designing, we will be fully engaging and consulting with the school to ensure we can deliver on your needs as best we can.
How much green space we will have? There doesn't look to be much in the drawings.	There is a significant amount of green area space, it looks smaller on the drawing than what it is.
You mentioned Welsh Governments Cymraeg 2050 agenda and the new school is aimed at increasing the number of Welsh speakers in Bridgend county. You are only allowing for half a class in a brand new Welsh-medium school, it doesn't seem like a forward step given the Gymraeg 2050 drive.	Your current pupil admission number (PAN) is 54 and this will be increasing to 75. That is 21 additional places per year group, including a larger 90 place nursery provision (currently 55). YG Bro Ogwr forms part of a wider 10-year WESP to increase Welsh-medium education in Bridgend. There is a proposal for a dual-stream school at Parc Afon Ewenni (1 FE Welsh-medium and 1 FE English-medium), and a proposal for an all through Welsh-medium school to cater

<p>If the nursery PAN is 90, where do you envisage they will go at reception?</p>	<p>for ages 3 to 18 years, located centrally in Bridgend.</p> <p>There is part-time and full-time provision for the nursery. There will be 75 full-time places for ages 3 to 4 years and part-time provision will make-up the other 15 (full-time equivalent) places (30 in total).</p>
<p>There is a lack of storage space at our school, for equipment and within the classrooms. There are not enough plug / electricity points. We would like to work with you at design stage to get these things right.</p> <p>We would like to include a green screen area.</p>	<p>Referring to Band A projects: each classroom has their own dedicated storeroom, and each class will have a class-based kitchen, with kitchen cabinet storage. Outside of the classrooms, there will be curriculum stores and lots of room under the stairway for storage. If you can arrange a visit Pencoed Primary School, you can see what we have included there. Similarly the same will apply to electricity points.</p> <p>There will be space in the learning plaza area for a green screen and we will work with you to create a useable space.</p>
<p>Within the planning document, there is information saying there will not be enough parking spaces available for teaching staff?</p>	<p>We have to follow planning policy set by Welsh Government. We are aware that you have concerns regarding parking provision. We will need to hold a separate workshop with our highways team to discuss highways and parking as part of the design development.</p>
<p>XX would like to mirror the comments raised by XX relating to parking and XX relating to the curriculum.</p> <p>I do think that it's a shame you are not considering a 3 form entry school, however I do understand the reasons behind the decision.</p>	<p>As discussed above, it forms part of a wider plan and affordability.</p>
<p>I want to touch upon the parking facilities. We recruit from a wide area covering South Wales, the furthest being from Carmarthen. To travel such a great distance and not have parking facilities available is not acceptable. I understand planning policy, but this is an issue.</p>	<p>It is important that the authority recognises the issues that the school currently has and we want to ensure that they are resolved as we move forward.</p>
<p>Will the school be big enough? YG Bro Ogwr has had two extensions and has two double mobile classrooms.</p>	<p>We are building the school as 2.5 form entry, however the design of the site allows for expansion of the school to accommodate additional demand for places in the future. There is opportunity to build a 4-classroom extension. This would bring the school to 3 form entry. This project is part of the wider plan to build more schools locally Bridgend and the southeast.</p>

<p>XX extended thanks to everyone for their feedback. The key thing is to get the layout right and to ensure it works for the curriculum for Wales; the size of the indoor and outdoor areas, storage, electrical points and the playing fields. The issue of parking provision is being raised at every meeting and I have raised the concerns with our communities team. I am aware of the issues we have to recruit and retain Welsh-medium staff and we do not want issues of parking to become an impediment. Support staff are massively valued, and we can see the benefits of teachers and support staff having the same facilities available to them.</p>	<p>Future proofing the school is important and we want to work with you on the design of the school. We have received strong feedback from the WESP forum members regarding building more schools, rather than fewer bigger schools. We are committed to a future development in Porthcawl, the southeast and the centre of Bridgend. We want this to work, if you have any comments or ideas, please let us know.</p>
<p>Can you explain where the area for future expansion is?</p> <p>If the extension is built, where will the extra yard space come from?</p>	<p>The two-storey teaching block will be designed in a way that it can be extended if required. It will be identified as “yard space” on the drawings.</p> <p>The site is big enough to accommodate the yard space within its existing area. We will mark on the drawing “land for future development”. The design is future proofed at an early stage.</p>
<p>It’s really good that you want to work with us and to make the building work for the new curriculum in Wales. It can be a hindrance to have a 2.5 form entry school, it would be better to put the money towards another Welsh-medium school within Bridgend rather than put us at 2.5 form entry. If year 3 has to be upstairs, infant children would need to go upstairs to access the curriculum because they’ll count as a split year 2 and year 3 class.</p>	<p>The current class sizes at YG Bro Ogwr are too small and we need to put this right. We need to ensure classrooms are sized as per Measuring Capacity of Schools in Wales guidelines. You are using the building to the max, it really should be 1.5 form entry. There is a demand for places at the school that we need to meet. There is a longer term plan. We have to promote the Welsh language and we have to deliver on the WESP. Welsh Government want us to create Welsh-medium schools.</p>
<p>Will there be a walking path on the school grounds?</p>	<p>The school grounds will be secure. There will be an active travel route around the perimeter of the school site and will link the industrial estate with the residential site.</p>
<p>Why wasn’t a 3 form entry school considered from the start?</p>	<p>We undertook a set of options to maximise Welsh-medium provision in the area. We don’t currently have any school bigger than a 2.5 form entry school in Bridgend. This proposal will be the biggest school we have in Bridgend. A 3 form entry school would be very large and considered too big. There are further plans to increase Welsh-medium provision in the area, as detailed in the WESP.</p>

Will there be lifts to the upper floor and disability access?	The building will be fully compliant, including lifts and ramps.
We want you to raise questions and to share advice. If you see things that you believe will not work, we need to be informed. If there are any additional questions following this meeting, please send them through to the team.	

APPENDIX 5



**Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr
Consultation Meeting
School Council
Tuesday 15 March 2022
2pm-3pm**

Present: BCBC staff x4
Headteacher x1
Welsh Language Translator x1
Members of the school council / learners x 12

The Headteacher of YG Bro Ogwr introduced the consultation session and welcomed the learners from the School Council. The Project Manager provided an overview of the learners consultation document and outlined the proposal. The Principal Architectural Assistant provided an overview of the site layout and access points and explained that we are working to achieve a Net Zero Carbon school.

Questions/Issues	Answer/Comments
Will there be solar panels on the new school?	Yes the school will have solar panels. We will also provide energy to the school building with air source and ground source heat pumps. We will avoid the use of fossil fuels.
What are the plans for recycling facilities and water saving facilities?	We have to specify certain fixtures and fittings to save water within the school. For example, when you flush a toilet; the cistern will be a certain size to reduce the amount of water used. We are also investigating options to collect and harvest rainwater to reuse for flushing toilets.
Will there be charging points for electric cars?	There are ongoing discussions with our electrical engineer. There may be a possibility to include two, or three charging points. We will future proof the option, so that we can add charging points for electric cars, if required.
Will there be a new name for the school?	The name of the school is a matter for the school governing body to decide.
Will there be meeting rooms at the new school?	Yes, there will be meeting rooms and group rooms. There will be plenty of multi-purpose spaces within the school.
Can we take things with us that we have already created, such as the murals on the walls?	We will ask the school if there are any legacy items which you would like to transfer to the new school. If there are murals, our architect will look at the best way to incorporate that into the new school building. You may have legacy items such

	as a school bell, or a date stone and we will ensure that your important items are brought to the new school.
Will there be a wellbeing room or an Emotional Literacy Support Assistants room?	We will work with your headteacher and school staff to understand what specific rooms you require at your new school. We will also include you, the learners, to find out what you would like to include in the school.
How many halls will there be, and will there be a separate hall and gym?	There will be two halls, one large and one small. They can be used as one big space, or they can be separated by a sliding, folding wall.
Will there be toilets for every year group?	Yes, for every pair of classrooms, there will be toilet and cloak rooms facilities in between.
Will there be a wild area so that we can grow things and will there be a wooded area?	Yes, it's important to include a wild area to grow things and to encourage wildlife to live there. We will have to plant trees to create a wooded area.
Will the learners have lockers?	There will be some lockers. We have to satisfy a standard called BREEAM (that is the Building Research Establishment's Environmental Assessment Method) and as part of this, we have to provide cycling facilities. This means we will have to provide a certain number of lockers, showers and changing facilities. It might be unlikely that every learner gets a locker, but we will work to fit in as many as we can.
Will there be an IT room?	There is a big area called the learning plaza on both the ground floor and first floor. This area can be used for ICT and libraries. There will also be ICT facilities within classrooms.
Will the audio system cover the whole school?	I will need to check this, but on the last school that we built, the audio system did cover the whole school. The main control panel was located in the reception office and there was a control panel in the hall. The learning plaza was covered with the audio, not the classrooms.
Will the wi-fi work outside?	I'm not sure if it will work outside of the building. There will be an outdoor learning space, so if we can extend the wi-fi outside, we will definitely look at doing this.
We have a lot of ICT equipment here, will we have the same at the new school?	Technology is always improving, so you will probably have even better equipment at the new school.
Will there be a climbing frame and monkey bars?	We will need to speak to your headteacher and consider any health and safety risks,

	but if we can include some larger play equipment as part of the build, we will incorporate them into the design.
Will the equipment be brand new?	Yes, the majority of equipment will be brand new. We will work with your headteacher to make a list of what items you want to bring to the new school, such as a piano, books and nursery items. There will be lots of new furniture, equipment and IT at the new school.
If there are any additional questions following this meeting, learners can still send them through to the team, via their headteacher, or class teacher.	
The group were asked for a show of hands if they think the new school is a good idea and all twelve learners agreed they think it's a good idea.	
Thanked everyone for their questions. The School Council will provide feedback to their friends.	
Xx thanked everyone for their contribution today.	

APPENDIX 6



**Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr
Consultation Meeting
Open Event
Tuesday 15 March 2022
4pm-5pm**

Present: BCBC staff x4
Headteachers x2
Welsh Language Translator x1
Members of the public x5

The Corporate Director, Education and Family Support welcomed everyone to the meeting and team introduced themselves. The Schools Programme Manager introduced the consultation session and set out the purpose of the meeting, nature and process of the consultation and outlined the proposal. The Principal Architectural Assistant provided an overview of the site layout and access points. The school will be designed to achieve Net Zero Carbon.

Questions/Issues	Answer/Comments
There are no catchment areas for Welsh-medium schools in the county. Are you considering putting catchment areas forward and if not, why not? Considering the disadvantage experienced in some areas of the county not being able to access Welsh-medium schools and the huge and growth of housing developments in areas such as Parc Derwen and Shepherds Vets area.	<p>The Group Manager for Business Support is responsible for catchment areas. I can refer this query to him. We are looking to increase Welsh-medium provision in and around Bridgend and this is something we may need to consider.</p> <p>We are looking to significantly increase Welsh-medium places and this could be something that we need to look at for the new schools. We welcome feedback from parents.</p>
When is the English-medium school proposed to replace Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr due to open? We are concerned of the impact it will have on Brackla Primary School.	We are working on developing the catchment area with the Group Manager for Business Support. When a catchment area has been identified, we will consult with all of the schools that may be affected by the new catchment area. It will possibly be a 1 FE school. Further work is being undertaken on the wider plans. The scheme will be subject to a separate proposal and we would not proceed with that until we conclude the process for YG Bro Ogwr. We will engage with all stakeholders regarding the proposal.
It is very exciting and I hope the proposal is successful. If it is successful, are you	

<p>thinking that the English-medium school would open in Autumn 2025?</p>	<p>As soon as the Welsh school opens, ideally so would the English school. The school has a backlog maintenance of £750k. YG Bro Ogwr will need to have some work undertaken now, as they will be occupying the building until 2025, we want to ensure any immediate repairs and maintenance are addressed. We will have further discussions on whether the school will open incrementally.</p>
<p>Why not consider a fifth Welsh-medium school for growth in the area? The south-east of the county is under-serviced at the moment.</p>	<p>We need to address the over-crowding issue at YG Bro Ogwr and we need to increase places in this particular area. There is a long-term plan to increase Welsh-medium education provision across the county borough as part of the Bridgend WESP. Although this is the first phase, there are plans to increase provision in the south-east and the Bridgend area. There is a proposal for a dual-stream school at Parc Afon Ewenni (1 FE Welsh-medium and 1 FE English-medium), a 1 FE school in Porthcawl and an all through Welsh-medium school to cater for ages 3 to 18 years, located centrally in Bridgend county. We will be working on these plans to align to housing developments and budget.</p>
<p>The demand for places is here now. In the interim between now and when the school is built, a lot of people will miss out on Welsh-medium education because of the unavailability. Is there a short-term plan until YG Bro Ogwr is ready?</p>	<p>We have an intermediate plan. There is funding for the provision of temporary classrooms which we intend to install at YG Bro Ogwr. On St David's Day, the Minister announced the Welsh-medium capital grant funding, and we will submit a bid for this funding by 31 March.</p>
<p>Who are the classrooms aimed at and will the PAN be increased?</p>	<p>We will work with the school to understand the impact of the additional numbers and which year groups we would need to expand. There is a timeline associated with building works, we are hopefully targeting the autumn term. This will generate an additional 60 places.</p>
<p>The nursery PAN is 90 full-time equivalent places, but capacity at reception is 75, what happens to the other 15 places?</p>	<p>There is part-time and full-time provision for the nursery. There will be 75 full-time places for ages 3 to 4 years and part-time provision will make-up the other 15 (full-time equivalent) places (30 in total). In addition, there is an 8 place observation and assessment class for children with additional learning needs.</p>

<p>I live in Pencoed and I attended YGG Penybont, while in year 4 or 5, I was moved to YG Bro Ogwr. When it was built, the school had a porta-cabin as it didn't have enough capacity. Between 1994 and now, how have no new Welsh schools been built, there have been countless English schools built during this time. Why is it only now we are thinking of building a replacement school? The school in Broadlands should have been a Welsh school to provide equal coverage across the county. Why is the Welsh school in such dis-repair? I went there a few months back and thought 'where is all the investment?' I couldn't believe there was a porta-cabin around the back, why isn't the school big enough. I would save the money, fix the school and create another school further west.</p>	<p>We have built a Welsh school in Betws, Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Calon Y Cymoedd, which replaced Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Garw. I can't comment if past newly built English-medium schools, should have been Welsh-medium. The future ambition of the local authority is to create more Welsh-medium schools. We have received Welsh Government approval in principle to create a Welsh-medium seedling school in Porthcawl. We have ambitions to create provision in the southeast and centrally in Bridgend town, along with potential plans to relocate Ysgol Gymraeg Llangynwyd to a more central location.</p> <p>The local authority's draft 2022-2032 WESP can be viewed via the following link: https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/media/11820/welsh-in-education-strategic-plan-2022-2032.docx</p> <p>It sets out our ambitions for the next 10 years. The policy is broken down into two separate parts. The WESP has determined that the best way forward is with more schools, but there is an urgent need to build bigger schools in certain areas. There has been significant consultation with Welsh Government. We are firmly committed to promoting and growing Welsh-medium education.</p> <p>If anyone would like a copy of the WESP, please email EDSU.</p> <p>We are taking forward two projects for Welsh-medium childcare settings; construction is underway at Bettws and Ogmores Valley. There will be one in Porthcawl and potentially one at the new YG Bro Ogwr, subject to Cabinet approval.</p>
<p>How have you evaluated that the size of the proposed site is sufficient, given that the census data in the document is ten years old. There has been no further consultation with the public to understand what the Welsh language demands are. You don't want to be placing a portacabin at the school within the next five to ten years to increase capacity.</p>	<p>The draft WESP was consulted on prior to Christmas and was reported to Cabinet in January. The site is large enough to accommodate a 2.5 form entry school, plus a four-classroom extension if needed in the future. This would bring the school to 3 form entry. This project is the first phase of the wider plan to build more schools locally in Bridgend and the southeast.</p>

<p>The opportunities that Bridgend Council are providing are welcomed. I am concerned there are huge pockets of the county missing out on Welsh-medium education in the short-term. Your efforts are concentrated in the west of the county and you are not giving enough focus on Welsh language provision in all areas of the county.</p> <p>Specifically, Pencoed and the east of the county is very much lacking. There are plans to develop 700 new houses in Pencoed. Pencoed Primary School is only three years old, why wasn't a Welsh-medium 1 form entry class considered as part of that build to enhance Welsh language in this area?</p>	<p>Can you confirm which area you are concerned about?</p> <p>There are plans for a 1 form entry Welsh-medium provision in the southeast and we will progress the scheme as soon as we can. We need to be mindful of the budget available to us, this is the first phase of our WESP. The southeast provision is detailed within the WESP. When the new Local Development Plan comes online, there will be further housing developments which will increase education provision and we will consider Welsh-medium requirements. We have been liaising with planners.</p>
<p>I take that back, the ceiling had leaks – I think why hasn't it been maintained. The nursery looks like it needs work, why haven't we put any money in to make it bigger or build more of them. Its frustrating seeing so many English-medium schools being built and the one Welsh school that I attended has not seen any investment since 1994. YG Bro Ogwr used to feed in to Ysgol Gyfun Llanhari, until Bridgend Council re-purposed Maesteg School into Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd. Bridgend didn't have a Welsh-medium secondary school before this. There should be more Welsh schools in Bridgend. Is it that nothing has been done and now we're at a point where you have to build a new school?</p>	<p>Referring to XX's comment. I would like to apologise that you think the school is in a poor condition. The portacabin is 25 years old. We have made a lot of improvements at the school both indoors and outdoors. We are constantly improving our school.</p> <p>I can assure you the local authority would have invested in the building out of the repairs and maintenance budget. I am sure you will appreciate that the repairs and maintenance budget held by the local authority and by individual schools are not sufficient to address all of the backlog maintenance that is required. Some schools have considerably more backlog maintenance. It is an issue across the county, not just in terms of YG Bro Ogwr. Their budget is stretched between many things from resources to staff. There is not enough funding for everything that we would like, and we have to prioritise projects.</p> <p>Thank you XX for retracting your comment and for apologising. We sense your</p>

	<p>passion for the Welsh language, and we all support you with that. YG Bro Ogwr is an excellent school, providing outstanding education. Its not the building that we want, we would like a better building, but I am grateful to you for retracting your comment.</p> <p>As a fellow headteacher, I would like to extend my support to XX. YG Bro Ogwr has changed many times over the years and I have visited many schools. The quality of education is very high and the leadership is excellent. The building may not be where we want, but funds are spent where they should be. We appreciate everything that you do for the children at YG Bro Ogwr.</p>
<p>Thanked everyone for their contribution today. We will look at the catchment areas and welcome your feedback when we explore this further. We are committed to our ambition plan for both Welsh-medium and English-medium education in the future. If there are any additional questions following this meeting, please send them through to the team.</p>	

APPENDIX 7

Direct correspondence received:

Just a quick comment from me. I'm not a local member so will leave it them to comment on the strategic planning aspects of the proposal but from a policy perspective, the expansion is a welcome development to accommodate the needs of Welsh language learners from Autumn 2025 onwards.

However, one immediate comment (to reflect the concerns of some of my constituents from whom the local authority has recently received appeals) is what is the local authority doing between now and 2025 to address the shortage of places and provide for those parents/carers in Pencoed who have a preference for their children to study in the Welsh language?

Local authority response:

Thank you for your email regarding the proposed enlargement of YG Bro Ogwr and in particular, the local authority's strategy to provide additional Welsh-medium places for those parents/carers in the Pencoed area who have a preference for their children to study the Welsh language.

As you will be aware, the consultation process is underway in respect of the proposed enlargement of YG Bro Ogwr to a 2.5 form-entry school, a 90-place nursery and an 8-place observation and assessment class which, if approved, will come into effect from September 2025. However, as the local authority is aware of the need to increase provision in the interim period in order to meet the demand for places, an expression of interest was submitted to Welsh Government for Welsh-medium capital grant funding for a double-mobile classroom to be installed at the school until the proposed enlargement of YG Bro Ogwr comes into effect.

The Minister has recently announced that Bridgend has been successful in terms of the expression of interest. The business justification case is being drafted for consideration by Welsh Government and local authority technical officers have already commenced work on this scheme so that it can be delivered as a matter of urgency, subject to Welsh Government funding approval.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Direct correspondence received:

My name is XX and i am currently an LSO at Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr in my 32nd year of service . Following the online meeting i wish to pose some questions which i have had time to think about.

1 . Would there be adequate space in dining halls to accommodate all children at meal times?

2 . Adequate sports halls provision for infant and junior - considering age and physical development

3.Enough shaded areas on the yard ,especially in hot weather. Currently we are struggling!

4. Visitor parking

5.Front office security - currently school is far too open and accessible to visitors as our office is situated in the middle of the school. Parents ,children and visitors have to walk though play areas. SAFETY is PARAMOUNT !!!!

Thank you for your time

Local authority response:

Good afternoon XX,

Thank you for your email. We can assure you that all of the issues raised will be considered during the design and development stage and we will fully engage with the school throughout the process to seek your needs and ideas.

Please see below, a response to the questions you asked:

1 . Would there be adequate space in dining halls to accommodate all children at meal times?

- Welsh Government are introducing an initiative for all primary school children to receive free school meals. Learners lunch breaks will probably be arranged over a number of sittings.

2 . Adequate sports halls provision for infant and junior - considering age and physical development

- There will be a main hall and a smaller studio hall. During design stage, we will consult with the school to ascertain what equipment, apparatus etc that you want to be included.

3. Enough shaded areas on the yard ,especially in hot weather. Currently we are struggling!

- We will provide sheltered spaces and/or canopies in the yard.

4. Visitor parking

- Visitor parking will be provided in line with the Supplementary Planning Guidelines. Visitor parking will be located at the front of the school. We will

need to hold a separate workshop to discuss highways and parking as part of the design development.

5. Front office security - currently school is far too open and accessible to visitors as our office is situated in the middle of the school. Parents ,children and visitors have to walk through play areas. SAFETY is PARAMOUNT !!!!

- Safety is at the forefront of the design. There are many options to explore at design stage, including a key fob entrance, a comms system etc.

We will ensure that your comments are incorporated into the cabinet report.

Direct correspondence received:

This is the Mudiad Meithrin response to the proposal to make a regulated change to expand Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr to a 2.5 form-entry (FE) school, with a 90-place full time equivalent nursery together with an 8-place observation and assessment class on land off Cadfan Road, to take place from the beginning of the autumn term of 2025.

Mudiad Meithrin

Mudiad Meithrin was established in 1971 in order to maintain a rich landscape of play and learning experiences through the medium of Welsh for children from birth to school age.

As a volunteer movement that is passionate about encouraging and celebrating the use of the Welsh language, we have grown substantially over the years and continue to have a positive effect on the lives of children in Wales.

The passion, stimulation and care that is so much in evidence in our organization continues to inspire, encourage and nurture the youngest generations of Wales; generations that will thrive because of their sense of belonging, their confidence and pride in their abilities and their heritage.

Our vision as a movement is that every child in Wales ought to have the opportunity to play, learn and grow through the medium of Welsh.

Response to the Plan

Mudiad Meithrin supports plans which increase the number of Welsh-medium settings for children in every county across Wales, including Bridgend. We also support the intention to open an observation and assessment class for children with Additional Learning Needs. However, see comments and concerns:

1. We oppose the proposal to turn the current YGG Bro Ogwr setting ultimately into an English school. The effect of this would be entirely contrary to the Welsh Government target to see GROWTH in Welsh education in the county. We must have confidence in the work of promoting and facilitating to influence parents' choices concerning Welsh education as well as work together with partners to raise awareness of the advantages of Welsh medium care and education. We understand that the county has received finance from the Welsh Government to increase Bro Ogwr's capacity in the short term.

Ultimately, if you continue with the idea of creating an English school, you are increasing the English medium capacity in the county!

2. It is disappointing the county does not see the value of community schools. We have encouraged the county (in response to the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan) to consider the '15 minute communities' principles. How many English schools in Bridgend serve specific neighbourhoods? It is not acceptable that the county's response to the aim of seeing growth in Welsh education is to create huge schools or 'Super Schools'. The county must consider opening seedling schools to stimulate the demand and realize significant growth in response to the Welsh Government targets.
3. Pencoed Area – opening the new school does not respond to the challenge that exists **now**, with parents facing sending their children a long way from their communities or choosing an English education for the sake of convenience. It is not acceptable for the county to wait until the opening of the new school as a response to the emergency. The county needs to consider different options that are timely and enable children to receive their education in Welsh. Please consider seedling schools and cabins.
4. Catchment areas – there is a need to look at the catchment areas of Welsh medium schools. They are enormous and too great a challenge for parents in terms of transport and convenience.

Local authority response:

Growth of Welsh-medium education

This proposal to replace the current site of YG Bro Ogwr with an English-medium school is subject to a separate scheme which will not proceed until the process for YG Bro Ogwr is concluded.

There is an increasing need for additional capacity at YG Bro Ogwr. The Ffordd Cadfan site is large enough to accommodate a 2.5 form entry school. The school will be designed to allow for a four-classroom extension if needed in the future, taking the school to 3 form entry. This project is the first phase of a long-term plan to increase Welsh-medium education provision across the county borough as part of the Bridgend Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP). There are plans to increase provision in the south-east and central Bridgend area, which includes a proposal for a dual-stream school at Parc Afon Ewenny (1 form entry Welsh-medium and 1 form entry English-medium), a 1 form entry school in Porthcawl and an all through Welsh-medium school to cater for ages 3 to 18 years, located centrally in Bridgend county. These plans will align to planned housing developments and available budget.

YG Bro Ogwr currently has a backlog maintenance of £750k. Some immediate work will be undertaken to make improvements, as the school will be fully occupied until 2025.

Community schools

Welsh Government has given approval in principle to create a Welsh-medium seedling school in Porthcawl and we have plans to create provision in the southeast and centrally in Bridgend town, along with potential plans to relocate Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd to a more central location. The local authority's draft 2022-

2032 WESP sets out our ambitions for the next ten years and we are firmly committed to promoting and growing Welsh-medium education.

The local authority's draft 2022-2032 WESP can be viewed via the following link: <https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/media/11820/welsh-in-education-strategic-plan-2022-2032.docx>

Pencoed area

The local authority is aware of the need to increase provision in the interim period in order to meet the demand for places. An expression of interest was submitted to Welsh Government for Welsh-medium capital grant funding for a double-mobile classroom to be installed at Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr until the proposed enlargement of Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr comes into effect.

The Minister has recently announced that Bridgend has been successful in terms of the expression of interest. The business justification case is being drafted for consideration by Welsh Government and local authority technical officers have already commenced work on this scheme so that it can be delivered as a matter of urgency, subject to Welsh Government funding approval.

Catchment areas

Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr serves Bridgend town, Valleys Gateway and Pencoed areas. The proposed school would be situated on land off Ffordd Cadfan which is regarded as the most suitable location for the replacement school in terms of its size, geographical position within the areas it serves and proximity to the existing school.

There are no designated catchment areas for Welsh-medium schools in Bridgend county. However, approximately half of the learners attending Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr qualify for school transport catchment areas and travel to school by transport provision. Around 80% of learners attend from outside of Brackla area.

The council's plan is to increase Welsh-medium education places within the county and we will undertake a review of catchment areas. Further work is ongoing on a wider plan, including identifying the catchment area and the local authority would welcome feedback from parents to help inform decisions.

Direct correspondence received:

RhAG wishes to express its thanks for the opportunity to respond to this consultation conducted by Bridgend County Borough Council on the **Proposal to make a regulated change to expand Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr into a 2.5 form entry (FE) school, with a 90-place full time equivalent nursery together with an 8 place observation and assessment class on land off Cadfan Road, to take place from the beginning of the autumn term of 2025.**

Firstly, once again, we wish to note that we realize the amount of work involved in the reorganization of schools in the 21st Century. RhAG has cooperated in a positive manner over recent years with the county officers and has contributed ideas and strategies in order to ensure fairness for the development of Welsh education provision across the county. With the advent of the 10 year plans there is a genuine

opportunity once again to make a difference to the accessibility of Welsh Education in Bridgend County.

Our intention remains to offer challenge and support to the County in order to secure the strongest plans, so that the county's learners receive the best possible opportunities in terms of Welsh Education from the early years through to work.

- Of course, this plan is not a recent plan. And it is important to draw attention to the first beginnings of this plan as this has not been included in the consultation but is in our view worth including in order to note the effect this early action has had on the remainder of this plan.
- Our attention was drawn to a letter sent to the parents and carers of Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr by the Chief Education Officer, on the 11th of February 2020. The letter explained the intentions of the Council for Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr as part of the Welsh Government 21st Century Schools Plan Band B programme. We wish to ask on what logical and strategic basis was the decision made to send this letter at this time.
- The contents of the letter indicated an intention to consider further developments for Ysgol Bro Ogwr but we are of the opinion that communicating with parents and carers in this way, so early in the process, without a definite site identified and without an obvious intention either or opportunity to raise a question or respond to any questionnaire concerning the plan, was unwise and has raised the expectations of the school community and indeed the wider community. In the end, the site mentioned in the letter was not suitable after all – which raises serious questions about the checks carried out by the Council before sending the letter to parents and carers on the 11th of February 2020 in the first place.
- The other disappointing element in sending the letter at that time, so early in the process, was that Bridgend County Council commissioned Cefin Campbell to conduct research around the same time, to look at options for the development of Welsh education in the county, in readiness for the development of the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan.
- Members of the Bridgend Welsh Education Forum received a report from Cefin Campbell that indicated at the time that there was obvious support for keeping Ysgol Bro Ogwr on its current site and the development of a new Welsh medium primary school somewhere in the centre of Bridgend. These two schools could then provide for a growing population and an increasing demand for Welsh medium education which was a result of thorough marketing of the advantages of bilingualism and active promotion by the local authority through the activity of the promotion sub-group.
- And therefore, the county did not wait to hear the findings of this important report before setting about planning the next steps and making them public.
- It is very difficult for us as an organization to oppose any development in Welsh education. But in this context, it is essential to consider a proposal to move and expand Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr as part of the offer of the whole County in the face of increasing numbers. The members of the Welsh Education Forum, and

RhAG amongst them, have noted the need to expand the provision, not move it from Ysgol Bro Ogwr's present site.

- What happens when a plan such as this receives public attention is that it is also a direct and indirect promotional instrument, which is a good thing, of course. But we have seen that the County has not been able to respond adequately to the increasing demand since 2020 and this is a great cause of concern for us and we must have swift answers for September 2022.
- You note, on page 6: "Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr catchment area includes the districts of Bridgend town, Valleys Gateway and Pencoed". This is a constant topic of conversation between ourselves and county officers who say there are no catchment areas for Welsh education. Why state this therefore in a consultation document? It is misleading to the public and skews the understanding of the public. Some pupils from the Pencoed area have been refused entry to the school on the basis of distance since 2020 and the number of pupils from the Bracla area who have failed to get a place at the school this year has risen to 3.
- On page 7 it says that Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr's condition had been graded C in 2019 and that the school had a maintenance backlog of £750,700. What will be the purpose of the site following the move of Bro Ogwr if that is the intention? Some members of the Welsh Education Forum have informed us that an English medium school will come on to the site. How will this align with the aims of Bridgend County to increase the percentage of pupils in Welsh education over the next 5 to 10 years? It would be good to see the data.
- While the proposed new school will increase the current school's capacity, the numbers of applications to the school have increased already over the last two years. A way to respond to this increase is needed as soon as possible so that we may make the most of this increase. Otherwise, failure to satisfy the demand for Welsh education poses a serious risk of losing learners and losing momentum and community credibility.
- The Bridgend County Welsh Education Forum has not had the opportunity to express its view on this plan as the plan has been drawn up. This is disappointing as the forum has extensive expertise that could have informed the officers about these possible effects to be included in this consultation.
- A number of counties across Wales by now include feedback from members of the Welsh Education Forum in any planning work. When proposals for substantial developments in local schools occur that could impact Welsh education, input from the Welsh Education Forum can be valuable, particularly to ensure that any plan is resilient in terms of the Welsh language. To have had the opportunity to contribute feedback to this plan in order to include a strong element of assistance with the work of promoting Welsh education in the area, would have been beneficial while the planning was taking place rather than at the end of the process.
- On page 9 the document notes that the nursery provision does not satisfy the demand at present. This is an issue that RhAG has raised with the county very recently, but has not hitherto received any details how the demand will be met

in the short term. There are 3 years to go before 2005 and therefore what will happen to these new learners in this area in the meantime? What are the interim plans?

- On page 14 it notes:

“It is envisaged that the number who take advantage of a Welsh medium education in the area will increase as a result of the proposal, and thus support the authority’s CSCA targets, promote the Welsh language and increase the number of non-maintained nursery children who transfer to Welsh medium primary education.”

The Welsh in Education Strategic Plan requires local authorities to stimulate the demand that is to increase provision. We agree this will increase the provision, but it is not sufficient in this area. The Council also has a responsibility, under this plan to be promoting **Welsh education** specifically and we are keen to assist the County in doing this as soon as possible. If there is no capacity to expand in the short term it is very difficult to promote provision that is not available.

- Is it possible to explain why the current finance for each learner in Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr is £505 less than the average finance for other Primary school learners in the County?

Annex B – Welsh Language Impact Assessment

- It is necessary to point out that communities that are wider than Coety and Bracla are affected by this plan and that learners come from other areas as well and therefore the impact assessment should reflect the actual community of the school.
- Thank you for acknowledging that this plan affects our parents in this area. It would have been good to see mitigating steps to assist parents as they fail to get places for their children between 2022 and 2025.
- While the risk assessment has identified a number of positive steps, the plan has not recognized the following risks:
 - 1 What will happen to the site following the departure of Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr? Is there an intention to establish an English school on the site? If so, will parents be likely to stay on the site for the sake of convenience? How will the increase in the English offer affect the percentage of the County’s Welsh education?
 - 2 The risk to residents of geographical areas who face the possibility of being unable to get a place in Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr needs to be recognized. It is important to ensure local education for learners. The use of transport policy to do this is not acceptable as it avoids planning in new geographical areas. Pencoed is an example of such an area but has not been identified as a risk in this plan.

Substantial housing developments are being planned in this area and therefore has the county considered two Welsh schools? Would exchanging a school building nearer to the communities of Coety and Pencoed to be made a Welsh school be a means of developing Welsh education in this area? Welsh education has to be a core

part of the Bridgend County education offer if the county is genuinely serious about contributing to the million. This is the opportunity!

We therefore ask Bridgend Council to rethink the plan carefully, taking our comments and those of other stakeholders of the Welsh Education Forum into consideration.

We shall be ready to discuss our response with the officers and councillors of Bridgend County Borough Council at any convenient time as usual.

Local authority response:

Thank you for your observation regarding the above proposal. I have set out the local authority's response to each of your concerns below.

The letter of 11 February 2020 was sent to parents/carers of Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr to inform them that the local authority had received Cabinet approval to undertake a feasibility study on land at Brackla Hill. Feasibility studies, by their very nature, require a number of surveys/assessments to be undertaken on candidate sites.

In order to understand the developability of the site, it was necessary to undertake a site investigation which included bore hole drilling and trial pits. This work is noisy and consequently, it was considered appropriate to notify the adjacent school (that is, Archdeacon John Lewis Church in Wales Primary School) and the local residents, as they could have been impacted by the survey work.

The letter to parents/carers clearly indicated that its purpose was to inform them of the feasibility work and in no way gave a future commitment to developing a scheme at this location. The primary reason for sharing this information at this time was that there was a requirement to undertake a transport assessment, which meant that surveyors would be visible at schools within the area and on the highway network undertaking traffic counts. Therefore, in order to ensure that inappropriate expectations were not raised in relation to the development at Brackla Hill, the letter was carefully framed to emphasise this was purely feasibility work. Clearly, the letter had to be sent prior to the surveys taking place.

As already explained, a feasibility study is not a plan or a policy and its purpose is to determine whether a site can be developed. Many sites can be subject to feasibility studies and the completion of a study does not necessarily result in a scheme being proposed for a particular site, as there may be issues in developing which can only be established once the outcome of the study is known. This was articulated within the letter in order not to raise expectation.

As you will be aware, being a named consultee in Cefin Campbell's report yourself, the report offered three options in relation to Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr:

Option 1

There is clear support for retaining Ysgol Bro Ogwr on its present site and develop a new Welsh-medium primary school somewhere in the centre of Bridgend. These two schools would then be able to cater for a growing population and an increased

demand for Welsh-medium education brought about by rigorous marketing around the benefits of bilingualism and by active promotion by the local authority.

Option 2

As above but instead of establishing a Welsh-medium primary school in the town centre, that the education authority considers establishing a 3 to 19 age school which would allow for the growth of secondary Welsh-medium education in the Bridgend area. With the target growth in the next ten years being an additional 170 pupils per school year receiving Welsh-medium education there is a strong case for centralising the provision in Bridgend, as the strong feeling is that the current location of Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd is prohibitive for many pupils living in the south or east of the local authority area.

The new Welsh-medium secondary school could also include a language immersion centre which would enable latecomers into Welsh-medium education to become fully immersed in the language. In addition it could house a Welsh language centre which could provide office space for a number of Welsh language organisations like the Urdd, Menter Iaith, Mudiad Meithrin, and Welsh for Adults. By including a multi-purpose language hub as part of the school, it would allow the local authority and language organisations to collaborate on the provision of out-of-school activities in the Welsh language which would provide young people with social opportunities to use the language, thus increasing their fluency and confidence.

Option 3

Based on a commitment to establish a new Welsh-medium primary school or 3 to 19 age school in the centre of Bridgend, there would then be an option to close Ysgol Bro Ogwr on condition that a new Welsh-medium primary school is opened in the wider vicinity, possibly around the Brackla/Coity area.

As you will be aware, the local authority has considered the findings of the report and is progressing Options 2 and 3 in the proposed 10-year Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP). The proposal in respect of Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr, is as per Cefin Campbell's Option 3 above. The strategic approach for this proposal has been considered in respect of the existing and future provision for the whole county borough.

As a publicly accessible consultation document, the language used tries to ensure that the wider public understands the broad thrust of the proposal. Although it is acknowledged there are currently no 'catchment boundaries' for Welsh-medium schools in Bridgend, it is considered important that the public (particularly parents/carers) understand the context of the proposal. Catchment areas are generally understood within the wider perspective of school admissions as a 'geographic areas served by a particular school'. Therefore, to change the language to for example, 'the nearest suitable Welsh-medium school serving the wider community of Pencoed' would potentially mean that some members of the public would not understand the proposal as they would not be familiar with that alternative language and might not possibly respond.

The future use of the site will be determined in due course following a review of the options appraisal in respect of the existing Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr site. The local

authority has set out the strategy for increasing the percentage of pupils in Welsh education within the WESP.

The local authority has submitted an expression of interest for Welsh-medium capital grant funding to Welsh Government, which has been approved in principle, for a double mobile classroom to be installed at Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr to address the immediate demand for places, including nursery provision.

The entire purpose of the consultation is to solicit views as widely as possible regarding the proposal. Therefore, the Welsh in Education Forum, Rhieni dros Addysg Gymraeg and other stakeholders are all welcome to respond to the consultation process. The delegated budgets of all schools (English and Welsh-medium) are formula funded. The delegated budget formula accounts for a great many variables (for example, floor area, pupil numbers, grounds areas and so on). Consequently, the funding received at each school is dependent on that school's unique circumstances.

Should this proposal be taken forward, and as previously detailed, the local authority will be reviewing an options appraisal regarding the future use of the existing Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr. The policy is to provide choice for parents in terms of preferred schools.

The proposed strategy regarding the future provision of Welsh-medium education is set out in the draft WESP which is currently being considered by Welsh Government. Additional Welsh-medium primary provision is planned for this area and will be delivered as part of a future band of the School Modernisation Programme, as detailed in the draft WESP.

Direct correspondence received after the consultation period closed, but accepted as the original email address was input incorrectly, but was sent during the consultation period.

YES I support the proposal

Comments:

I fully support the proposal outlined in the Pro-Forma and feel the new location is ideal for the proposed new school. The plans represent an excellent opportunity to provide a first class school facility and opportunity to promote Welsh Medium Education.

However, as a School Governor, local Community Councillor and resident of Brackla I have major concerns over the proposed parking arrangements for our new school. In the original Brackla Hill proposal there was car parking for at least 60 staff members and 30 spaces presumably for drop-off use .

Whilst not detailed in the consultation document the plan shared with the School Governors and Head Teacher clearly showed just 30 parking spaces for staff. Whilst I acknowledge the Welsh Governments aspirations to encourage more people to walk and cycle everywhere and a Zero Carbon target by 2030 pragmatically these goals if applied too stringently will have a significant impact upon our new school in my opinion.

Our existing staff numbers and consequential demand for parking already exceeds the proposed new allocation. On the positive side there appears to be sufficient bays for coach access and given that they will access the site from the Industrial Estate is also a plus that perhaps could have been shared in the Consultation document.

Recruiting suitably qualified and experienced Welsh speaking teachers is an ongoing challenge especially when demand from other Welsh Speaking schools are factored in. Without adequate on-site parking attracting these individuals will prove extremely difficult, time-consuming and where Agency Staff are used for back-fill - £ costly on our tight budget. This will have an impact on WESP if not handled correctly from the outset.

Drop-off points are already very contentious with examples of major dissatisfaction in both BrynMenyn and Pencoed as I respond to this consultation. This is not good PR from so many fronts so far as any school let alone a New Welsh Medium school is concerned and the size of the site and experience learned from the foregoing should be used to make this right.

When you meet with the Highways Department to discuss the Transport Impact Assessment I feel the potential impact of the proposed 62 Affordable Homes and possible Retail unit at the Ridgeway location should also be factored into the final proposed parking for the school given the collective impact this is going to have. Not forgetting that when we vacate our existing school site an English medium replacement school will be adding to this traffic flow which is already the subject of congestion and bottlenecks.

Local authority response:

We will hold a separate workshop with our highways and health and safety teams to discuss the traffic impact on the highway, car parking provision and drop-off areas as part of the design development and to understand whether the mitigation measures in place at other schools in the county work effectively.

Our highways team has commissioned and concluded a Transport Impact Assessment (TIA) which has been reported to Cabinet. The TIA will be reviewed and we will make sure we are providing any active travel infrastructure that is needed as part of this scheme. In order to ensure we receive planning approval for the project, we must satisfy highway terms and requirements and we must comply with Supplementary Planning Guidelines set by Welsh Government.

We will need to develop a strong case to present to our highways colleagues to explain the concerns regarding staff recruitment and retention. We will work with the school to develop a school travel plan, gather information on current staffing issues and car parking and the collation of postcode data.

Direct correspondence received:

Thank you for the presentation last night.

There was a blue area mentioned in the presentation and we are looking for land to use as a second allotment garden site and I've been asked to make initial enquiries on whether this is something that you'd consider.

Local authority response:

We note your request and will consider this in due course, subject to the successful outcome of the statutory consultation process.

APPENDIX 8

(Snap Online Survey) Responses

Are you (please tick):

Parent/guardian (29) 63%
Other interested party (please specify) (11) 24%
School staff (4) 9%
School governor (2) 4%
School pupil (-)

Do you support the proposal:

No (15) 33%
Yes (31) 67%

If you do not support the proposal – please state why:

No provision for all the extra traffic this causes. Not safe for children.

The school physically has no time for children with additional needs if they class your child as a issue they will just get rid or them instead of supporting so with the current senior staff at the school it would be a waste of money to put the additional space in a new school

There are schools in much greater need of updated premises. These are constantly overlooked as they are not first language Welsh schools. There are very few green areas left in Bridgend. There should be regeneration of brown spaces rather than development of green space.

Parking and traffic issue potential for residents. This needs to be solved as traffic coming up from the dual carriageway and down to the dual carriageway will be backed up and block entrance to estate. As currently happens outside school gates. If this was solved, i would support the application.

If you do not support the proposal – please state why:

Having successfully led the campaign to Save the open green spaces in Brackla from development at Brackla Hill, I still stand by a major part of our campaign which was backed by over 8,000 residents in that Brackla already has more than its fair share of schools and therefore this build should not take place in the Brackla area. The school, as previously highlighted, will serve pupils from all across the County of Bridgend, and not just Brackla, so the school does not need to be built in one of the most densely populated areas of Bridgend at all. A far better solution, as also confirmed and supported by former First Minister Carwyn Jones, would be to incorporate this school development within the plans for the new housing and development at Waterton as it would be central and more easily accessible for people travelling from all across the borough of Bridgend. The road access would

already be in place, and it would avoid using a space which is home to protected wildlife species.

It is another Welsh medium school that is needed, not a new building for the current school, particularly one that offers space for only half a class each year.

You don't need a new larger school.

As a parent living in the area, I object to the proposal to turn the current site of Ysgol Bro Ogwr into an English school ultimately as this runs contrary to the Welsh Government target of seeing an increase in Welsh education and to produce a million speakers by 2050. There are great challenges already in the county in terms of areas such as Braclla and Pencoed that have affected families who have not been able to get a place. Although a new Welsh School would offer more places, these would fill up quickly. In my opinion, it is necessary to look at the catchment areas of Welsh medium schools in Bridgend County. They are enormous and too much of a challenge for parents in terms of transport and convenience. The language needs to be normalised within communities.

Welsh education needs to be expanded in the Bridgend area but this is not the answer. Moving Bro Ogwr to a slightly larger school within a stone's throw of the current site does not offer sufficient growth. Neither does it offer local children a choice of schools to receive a Welsh education. As a parent of two children in the school, I am happy with the building, the location and the size of the school. There are schools in a much worse condition than Bro Ogwr and I do not feel that adding half a stream and mixed classes would be beneficial.

I do not support this proposal because I am happy with the school as it is.

Because our school is well established and does not need to be re-located.

More Welsh medium schools are needed across the county. It is not good enough to change sites all the time. This is what has happened with Ysgol Calon y Cymoedd - it is not a new school but a change of site.

More Welsh medium schools need to be opened in the county in order to ensure the council reaches the 2050 Welsh targets – the plan under consideration here is just relocation.

Comment/suggestions/requests/questions:

If you would like to suggest any changes or alternatives to the proposals presented please give details:

If there is room for 90 in the nursery, but only 75 through the remainder of the school where is the other half of the nursery class to go? It is necessary to ensure places for the 90 that are in the nursery class.

Although I support the application, there is still the need of a school nearer to the Pencoed district. This is not going to be large enough for the area. Welsh education needs to be developed further in the area.

If there is going to be room for 90 pupils in the nursery (3 classes) and then about 75 in each other year (2.5 classes), where are the 15 children supposed to go after leaving the nursery?! It is very unfair to expect these children to leave and start again in another school after they have settled and made friends and formed important relationships. I am aware that a similar situation has arisen this year much to the shame of the school and the council.

It is disgraceful that Welsh education is being denied to the county's young pupils after they have attended the nursery. It would be cruel to do the same thing to future pupils.

What will be the feeding/catchment area of the school be?

Comment/suggestions/requests/questions:

If you would like to suggest any changes or alternatives to the proposals presented please give details:

Go bigger if possible.

Amazing news ,especially for us parents in Pencoed. Pencoed is desperate for Welsh provision. A new Welsh comp in the east of the county should be planned asap!

As a fluent welsh speaker, I think it is a great idea to allow the space for more children to learn through the medium of Welsh. Which i then believe will have a positive impact on the future of Bridgend.

Get qualified staff in to the new project once completed if it goes ahead to benefit the pupils pupils with additional needs have zero support as the current staff don't know how to deal with them

Clarify if the new schools sports facilities / green spaces will be open to the public?

Brilliant, about time we had a new welsh school, to.I keep the language alive!

Drop of zone for parents/parking areas for parents to be included in the plans to avoid parking issues for residents and back up of traffic to feeder roads.

This proposal Makes sense due to all the new housing in the area and also people moving from outside the area to Bridgend, great to support the Welsh language and history it has brought, the school is needed, shame they couldn't fit a decent doctor surgery around that area to house the extra people !

Bridgend needs another school and not another half a class!!

As highlighted above, this development should (and must) be incorporated as part of the planned development at Waterton.

A 3-stream school where mixed age classes will not be needed or a school in addition to Ysgol Bro Ogwr.

Only half a class more space will be provided in the new building, not much opportunity to increase the numbers. Also, planning a school for mixed age classes is not wise, - the ideal is a one age class in order to offer our pupils the best learning opportunities.

I agree with the new building and expanding on Welsh education, it is much needed in this county and long overdue. However, I feel that a 3 form entry would be better. A new school attracts a huge amount of families to the area and I feel that a lot of children will want to go to the school. Increasing the existing school by half a class is not enough spaces. The plan also stated that there is a 90 capacity nursery, are 15 children not going to have a place in reception? What is the plan to address this? Mixed classes can also be more difficult for teachers and children.

I support the building of a new, bigger Welsh primary in Bridgend. It is long overdue in the county. However I do have reservations about the 2.5 form entry. I don't feel that a 2.5 form entry is a sufficient expansion on an already 2 form entry. I feel that it should be a 3 form entry, to match the 90 place nursery capacity. 90 places in nursery would equate to 3 classes of 30. What is the council's plan on transitioning from nursery to statutory education? I would like to know whether 15 pupils will be turned away from Reception class as there is no capacity for them? The Welsh government also supports smaller classes, would it not be better to have 3 smaller classes than larger 2.5 classes. I also feel strongly that 2 halls are needed in the school. There is currently a hall and a studio in the current building which is in constant use. I feel strongly that the 2 is needed in order to support and implement the new curriculum. Sufficient parking for all staff is also a priority. Thank you for your time.

You need another school further away, perhaps the school in broadlands near the Tesco express should be converted to Welsh medium. You need to make Welsh medium education more desirable by having more Welsh medium schools that are within walking distance for many parents in the county. We don't need any more English schools, please stop building them.

Comment/suggestions/requests/questions:

If you would like to suggest any changes or alternatives to the proposals presented please give details:

While expanding the school is a great idea for the surrounding communities and the Welsh language there are two things that spring to mind. Firstly, I have two children who already attend the school and my worry is this may cause more disruption to their education. They have already missed so much due to COVID. We need to make sure that this doesn't happen otherwise they will be at further disadvantage compared to other children their age. Secondly, given the recent media coverage of parking problems at primary schools in Bridgend will there be a consideration given for a reasonable amount of parking.

A 2 and a half form entry is never big enough. BCBC need to think ahead. There are a few mums on Coity with newborns. This year Bro Ogwr didn't have enough room so why only half a form.

Keep Ysgol Bro Ogwr as it is. Open a new Welsh school in Bridgend where there will be room for the pupils of Pencoed and growth.

A very good option would be to create a lifelong school in Bridgend in the near future that would be a better location for a Comprehensive school than Llangynwyd in terms of travel for the majority of the area's pupils and in terms of attracting and retaining staff, particularly with the price of petrol! This will at last offer the first new primary Welsh school for decades in the county!

Provide this opportunity somewhere else in the Borough so that other children can have the opportunity to attend Welsh Medium Education

I think it's appalling that you wish to expand this school and re-locate to another site. Offer this opportunity by opening a new Welsh school is what you need to do.

Many of Bridgend County's children still have to travel on the bus or by car to school. This is not fair – compared to peers that attend English schools, most often within walking distance of their homes.

Any other comments:

There is need to ensure room now as well, not wait until 2025. Last year's nursery pupils have not found a place in the reception class, and only 27 children in the class. Disgraceful!!

What is happening in the area in the meantime? Will there be sufficient places for the area's Welsh pupils in years 22/23 23/24 24/25?

It must be ensured that EVERY child in the nursery gets a place in the reception class. It is shameful of Bridgend Council to create an entirely unacceptable and painful situation for families this year. Disgraceful and unfair and entirely contrary to the government's objectives.

What are BCBC's plans to ensure adequate provision for the present until they are able to open the new school? I am concerned that BCBC is ignoring the demand for Welsh education in the area and is very narrow in its vision for Welsh education. Building a 2.5 stream school is great, but this should be open already and at the forefront of our local council's thinking as they plan building works and new homes.

Nice to see Welsh language getting a new school and investment for once!

Was just wondering If any improvements were going to be made to the existing bro Ogwr school before opening as an English medium school

Sad that there is no other plans for shops/gp/dental etc as Brackla currently cannot manage with increase in housing without infrastructure support for residents

Hopefully it will all go ahead.

There needs to be consideration towards parking and traffic flow in the area so it doesn't affect the local residents.

Any other comments:

It is necessary to show that as a county we respond beforehand, planning ahead for the future, responding to the Welsh Government's target. Have the same 4 schools existed in Bridgend since the 70s/80s? Where is Bridgend Council in terms of making decisions? Welsh education is growing in the Vale of Glamorgan and in Cardiff. There is need of preparation, not move Bro Ogwr and replace it with an English school!! Keep Bro Ogwr and build another Welsh school in the town or towards Pencoed!!!

The voices of 8,000 local residents cannot be ignored, and although our campaign was to prevent our last remaining open green spaces in Brackla, it also highlighted the Brackla community would not welcome this development in their already overcrowded community due to the impact on additional traffic and air pollution, so this development must be sited in a far more suitable and central location to serve the entire Bridgend community rather than just adding to the issues with traffic and pollution and over development of the Brackla area already.

There is insufficient parking. While I understand the attempt to encourage the workforce to share vehicles or travel on public transport, there is no consideration of the fact that a Welsh school workforce is different from those of English schools; teaching staff and support staff travel a long way from various areas to reach the site

Thank you for your time

There is a need for additional placements for Welsh primary education in Bridgend.

I am living in pencoed, please tell me why there are no Welsh medium schools near here?

Ysgol Saint Baruc in Barry is having a Mew build which doubles the size of the school. We need another school in Bridgend not just to meet the demand but to attract more into Bilingual education. It's a National trend and Bridgend are so far behind other Counties in the South East. We need a School in Bridgend Town, A school in Porthcawl, A school in Pencoed as well as the schools we already have. Nothing has changed since the 80's. Get with it. Get a move on. Be proactive!!!! There are pupils in Ysgol Iola Morgannwg that should be in Bro Ogwr. Parents don't like Big Classes!!!! Another school not half a class!!!

Is Ysgol Bro Ogwr being moved so that the present school becomes empty and available to be a new English school? How are we to see growth in Welsh education when more new English schools are being opened and only half a Welsh stream? More Welsh language primary schools are needed in the area – far more children would choose a Welsh education if there were schools near to them. It is necessary to have a positive attitude towards the Welsh language and be ambitious in our plans in Bridgend. Adding 90 places is not one of these unfortunately.

When will we see an additional Welsh school? There are only 4 in the County Borough. When will we have equal rights for the use and growth of our language? Open more schools please.

Local authority responses/clarifications to summary issues raised:

Growth of Welsh-medium education

The local authority's draft 2022-2032 WESP sets out our ambitions for the next 10 years and we are firmly committed to promoting and growing Welsh-medium education.

This is the first phase of the programme. There are plans to increase Welsh-medium provision in the south-east and the Bridgend town area. There is a proposal for a dual-stream school at Parc Afon Ewenni (1 FE Welsh-medium and 1 FE English-medium), a 1 FE school in Porthcawl and an all through Welsh-medium school to cater for ages 3 to 18 years, located centrally in Bridgend county. We will be working on these plans to align to housing developments and available budget. Bridgend is one of the biggest recipients of Welsh-medium childcare funding across all local authorities in Wales.

School size / capacity

The current Pupil Admission Number (PAN) is 54 and the new school would have a PAN of 75, thereby creating additional opportunities for more learners to access a Welsh-medium education. The existing capacity of 378 would increase to 525 for learners aged 4-11 under this proposal.

There is an increasing need for additional capacity at YG Bro Ogwr. The option of a 2.5 form entry school was deemed the preferred option for the location of the proposed site at Ffordd Cadfan. A set of options, costs and strategy was established to maximise Welsh-medium education in the area. This proposal will be the largest school that we have in Bridgend.

Nursery provision

The current demand for nursery places outweighs the capacity of the school. The nursery will have both part-time and full-time provision and would increase from 55 to 90 full-time equivalent places. There will be seventy-five full-time places for learners aged 3 to 4 years and part-time provision will make-up the other fifteen full-time equivalent places (thirty in total).

Additional learning needs provision

The proposal would have a positive impact on additional learning needs provision. The proposal includes a dedicated 8-place observation and assessment class which would increase the provision for children through the medium of Welsh, who require a period of observation and assessment in order to meet their individual needs.

Future expansion

The design of the site allows for expansion to build a first floor and second floor extension, to create four additional classrooms to accommodate additional demand for places in the future if needed. This would increase the school to 3 form entry.

Catchment areas

YG Bro Ogwr serves Bridgend town, Valleys Gateway and Pencoed areas. The proposed school would be situated on land off Ffordd Cadfan which is regarded as the most suitable location for the replacement school in terms of its size, geographical position within the areas it serves and proximity to the existing school.

There are no designated catchment areas for Welsh-medium schools in Bridgend county. However, approximately half of the learners attending Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr qualify for school transport catchment areas and travel to school by transport provision. Around 80% of learners attend from outside of Brackla area.

The council's plan is to increase Welsh-medium education places within the county and we will undertake a review of catchment areas. We welcome feedback from parents to help inform decisions.

Parking, traffic concerns, school drop-off

We will hold a separate workshop with our highways and health and safety teams to discuss the traffic impact on the highway, car parking provision and drop-off areas as part of the design development and to understand whether the mitigation measures in place at other schools in the county work effectively.

Our highways team has commissioned and concluded a Transport Impact Assessment (TIA) which has been reported to Cabinet. The TIA will be reviewed and we will make sure we are providing any active travel infrastructure that is needed as part of this scheme. In order to ensure we receive planning approval for the project, we must satisfy highway requirements and we must comply with Supplementary Planning Guidelines set by Welsh Government.

Existing YG Bro Ogwr

YG Bro Ogwr's building condition is grade C and has a backlog maintenance of £750,700. Some immediate work will be undertaken to make improvements as the school will be fully occupied until 2025.

The local authority is aware of the need to increase provision in the interim period of this project in order to meet the demand for places. An expression of interest was submitted to Welsh Government for Welsh-medium capital grant funding for a double-mobile classroom to be installed at the school until the proposed enlargement of Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr comes into effect.

Future plans for an English-medium school at the current YG Bro Ogwr site

The creation of an English-medium school at the existing YG Bro Ogwr site would be subject to a separate statutory consultation process which would be only taken forward if the proposal in respect of the enlargement of YG Bro Ogwr at Ffordd Cadfan proceeds.

Officers will explore the impact this proposal would have on current English-medium schools in the area. Further work is ongoing on a wider plan, including identifying the catchment area.

Sports facilities/green spaces and community use

The school will be designed to facilitate community use. The community use of the school is a decision for the governing body.

There will be two sports pitches; a smaller grass carpet pitch, which is usually used for 5-a-side football and hockey etc and a larger 3G pitch to accommodate community use and training requirements. Two areas have been identified on the plan to accommodate a netball and basketball court. The pitches will be protected with security fencing.

Pitch flood lighting is not included in this scheme, however we will include the infrastructure for floodlighting columns so that they can be included in the future. Community Councils have contributed towards the cost of the floodlighting for past projects.

There will be a hall with a community kitchen toward the front of the building. This will be set away from the classrooms to ensure security.

The school has run adult classes, but it does currently lack space. The new school will provide an opportunity that we will embrace at the new school, working with Menter Bro Ogwr.

To comply with the British Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method, a small provision will be included to accommodate cycling to school facilities with showers and changing rooms.

There will be a significant amount of green space included at the school site. There are plans for a wetland and we will aim to improve the ecology and biodiversity across the site. This will be discussed further during the design stage.

APPENDIX 9

Estyn's response to the proposal by Bridgend County Borough Council to make a regulated alteration to enlarge Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr to a 2.5 form-entry (FE) school, with a 90-place full time equivalent nursery plus an 8-place observation and assessment class on land off Ffordd Cadfan, with effect from the beginning of the autumn term 2025.

Introduction

This report has been prepared by Her Majesty's Inspectors of Education and Training in Wales.

Under the terms of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and its associated Code, proposers are required to send consultation documents to Estyn. However, Estyn is not a body which is required to act in accordance with the Code and the Act places no statutory requirements on Estyn in respect of school organisation matters. Therefore, as a body being consulted, Estyn will provide their opinion only on the overall merits of school organisation proposals. Estyn has considered the educational aspects of the proposal and has produced the following response to the information provided by the proposer.

The proposal is to enlarge Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr to increase the number of Welsh-medium places and transfer the school to a new building on a new site.

Summary/Conclusion

Estyn considers that the proposal is likely to, at least, maintain the standard of education provision in the area.

Description and benefits

The local authority has set out a clear rationale for its proposal. It outlines strongly the many advantages of building a new school including identifying that the current building's condition was graded as category C in 2019. In 2019, the reported figure for essential backlog maintenance work was £750,700.

The local authority provides a clear description of the proposal and outlines a provisional timetable for statutory procedures. However, it does not identify a timetable for implementation of the proposals, other than the implementation date of September 2025 for the transfer to the new site.

The proposer identifies clearly and fairly the expected benefits and disadvantages of the new proposal. It notes rightly that there will be an increase in Welsh-medium provision for the Bridgend Northeast area, and that the current demand for nursery places outweighs the capacity of the school. The local authority identifies that increased nursery provision may have a slight impact on the other local day nursery, but as this nursery is an English-medium provision, the impact should not be significant.

The local authority has suitably identified risks associated with the proposal and has identified appropriate counter measures to these risks. The local authority sets out three suitable alternatives to its proposal and provides valid reasons as to why they have discounted them.

The proposer has considered, in part, the impact of the changes on learner travel arrangements. It notes that the distance between the current Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr site and the proposed Ffordd Cadfan site is 0.2 miles. The local authority considers fairly that those currently living in the vicinity of the present site could still walk to the new school. The proposal also outlines that free transport will be provided for primary aged pupils if they live 2 miles or more from the school and full-time nursery learners will be eligible for free transport if they live 1.5 miles or more.

The proposal projects a small drop in roll at the school, with the need for around 366 pupil spaces by January 2026. At the same time, the new build will increase the capacity of the school from 378 to 525 places and to increase nursery provision from 55 to 90 full time places. The local authority has considered appropriately the potential impact of housing developments on projected numbers. They have also identified that improved school buildings could potentially lead to additional pupils accessing Welsh-medium education locally.

The proposal takes good account of the impact of the proposals on Welsh medium provision within the local authority and the extent to which the proposal supports the targets in the local authority's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP). It identifies that improving and enhancing the physical aspect of the Welsh medium provision throughout the authority is an important element of the WESP. The proposal to transfer Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Bro Ogwr to a new 21st century standard school building with an increased capacity will contribute to the authority's goal of increasing the number of pupils accessing Welsh medium education.

The proposal estimates the cost of the new build will be £12.6 million which will be funded by the Welsh Government and the local authority.

Educational aspects of the proposal

The proposer considers appropriately the educational aspects of the proposal. It identifies in useful detail the outcomes of the most recent Estyn inspection and the school's recommendations for improvement.

The local authority considers appropriately the impact of the proposals on the quality and standards in education, including pupil standards, wellbeing and attitudes to learning, teaching and learning experiences, care support and guidance and leadership and management. For example, the proposal identifies fairly that a move to a school that is purposely built around the needs for teaching and learning should greatly improve the ability of the school to deliver the full curriculum at the foundation phase and at key stage 2. It further notes that a better learning environment will also have a positive impact on support and guidance by providing areas suitable for small group teaching for pupils who start to fall behind in their learning.

The proposal considers, to some extent, the impact of the proposal on additional learning needs provision but does not provide sufficient information in this area. It does note that in the new school there will be provision for an 8-place observation

and assessment class. In terms of accessibility, the new school will be designed to be fully compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act which will support all learners, staff, and visitors.

The local authority notes that school reorganisation proposals inevitably cause some disruption and uncertainty. It identifies that experience shows that this can be kept to a minimum by working closely with the head teacher, governors and staff and planning the programme around the needs of the school. Nevertheless, the proposal does not consider the potential specific disruptive factors may be in the context of this new build, or how the local authority will minimise these for learners.

Local authority responses/clarifications to summary issues raised:

The local authority, based on previous successful experience of school reorganisation, is confident that while proposals will cause some disruption these will be handled professionally and in a way that mitigates risks to pupil learning. The local authority operates a comprehensive risk management process in which group managers from all areas from within the local authority (including school leaders) meet regularly to discuss any emerging issues and then subsequently work through appropriate solutions. For example, considering how the curriculum might need to be adapted to operate in a new environment or how the running of the school day might need adapting. As in previous projects where schools move to a new building, there will be regular communications with pupils and parents to provide updates and support the transition, thus removing any uncertainties. Learner voice activities will be an integral part of this work.

Appendix 10 - Community Impact Assessment

Name of proposal:

Proposal to make a regulated alteration to enlarge Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr to a 2.5 form-entry (FE) school, with a 90-place full time equivalent nursery plus an 8-place observation and assessment class on land off Ffordd Cadfan, with effect from the beginning of the autumn term 2025.

Who will make the decision?

Cabinet

Who has been involved in developing the proposal?

Corporate Director – Education and Family Support
Head of Education and Family Support
Schools Programme Manager – Education and Family Support
Group Managers – Education and Family Support Directorate
School Modernisation Strategic Programme Board
Project Manager – School Modernisation
Technical officers of the local authority

Aims and objectives:

Proposal to make a regulated alteration to enlarge Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr to a 2.5 form-entry (FE) school, with a 90-place full time equivalent nursery plus an 8-place observation and assessment class on land off Ffordd Cadfan, with effect from the beginning of the autumn term 2025

Key actions:

Statutory procedure to make a regulated alteration to enlarge Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr

Expected outcomes: Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr will be constructed on the Ffordd Cadfan site, providing a 2.5 form-entry (FE) school (525 places), plus a nursery of 90 full-time equivalent nursery plus an 8-place observation and assessment class, with effect from September 2025.

Who will be affected: Staff, governors, learners, parents and wider the community.

Approximately how many people will be affected: potentially more than 1000 people.

Expected date of decision: July 2022.

Scope/focus of the assessment:

Consideration given to:

- the existing use of the schools by the community

- accessibility to learners, staff, parents and the community
- impact of moving a primary school
- impact on the school building
- impact on the extended community

Relevant data and/or research:

- Out of hours use of school buildings
- 'Strategy, Principles, Policy and Planning Framework' which informs the approach for addressing strategic priorities within the County Borough and the subsequent 2015 'Principles Document'
- learner projections, capacity and building conditions

Findings

Community use:

- The school is not used for community activities during the week.
- Organisations such as Menter Bro Ogwr and the Urdd run holiday clubs during some of the school holidays.
- The school operates a free breakfast club and Menter Bro Ogwr run an after-school club for learners.
- The school run extra-curricular after-school clubs Monday to Thursday.

Primary policy:

- This proposal aligns with the March 2015 'Principles Document'.

Learner projections, capacity, building condition:

- The learner projections affecting primary schools in the cluster show that the learner population is increasing for certain areas within the cluster.
- Building conditions in respect of the existing buildings are outlined below:

School	Quality of Accommodation
Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr	Overall condition rating C (poor; exhibiting major defects and/or not operating as intended)

Impact on extended community

There will likely be a positive impact in terms of modern, accessible, purpose-built community facilities located in the proposed new school.

Impact on other schools

- It is not expected that the new school will have a significant impact on any other school in terms of reducing pupil numbers. As this is a Welsh-medium primary school, it will draw pupils from a much wider catchment area and is unlikely to compete for pupils in nearby schools. Therefore, the number of

pupils who may move from English-medium schools to this new school is likely to be very small.

- Although the rates of retention and transition to the Welsh-medium secondary school are already good at Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr, it is anticipated that the new school may have a positive effect in assisting in these areas and that will be beneficial to the Welsh-medium secondary school as well as assisting with the local authority's commitment to help increase the numbers of learners in Welsh-medium education (in line with Welsh Government policy and the WESP). Added to this, any improvement in one Welsh-medium school is likely to be beneficial to the Welsh-medium cluster of schools in general as the schools work closely to share good practice.

How will the decision affect people with different protected characteristics?

It is not considered likely that the proposal will impact disproportionately on any protected characteristics. If anything, there would potentially be a positive impact given that the new school would be designed to be fully DDA compliant which would support all learners, staff, visitors etc.

Consultation

Has there been specific consultation on this decision (if not, state why not and/or when this may happen):

Consultation commenced on 7 February 2022 and closed on 21 March 2022.

What were the results of the consultation?

The impact of this proposal has been considered and updated. The new school would be designed with community use in mind and will include facilities that could be used by Welsh language groups, the Urdd and sport organisations.

Across the protected characteristics, what difference in views did analysis of the consultation reveal?

The assessment concluded that the proposal is unlikely to impact disproportionately on any protected group. The proposed school would be situated on land off Ffordd Cadfan which is regarded as the most suitable location for the replacement school in terms of its size, proximity to the existing school and geographical position within the area, with good links to Bridgend town, the Valleys Gateway and Pen-coed areas, thereby being suitable for community use.

What conclusions have been drawn from the analysis on how the decision will affect people with different protected characteristics?

It is not considered likely that the proposal will impact disproportionately on any protected characteristics. If anything, there would potentially be a positive impact given that the new school would be designed to be fully compliant in terms of the Equalities Act 2010, which would support all learners, staff, visitors and users of the school building.

Assessment of impact on staff

Please give details of impact on staff, including staffing profile if/as appropriate:

The result of the proposal, should it go ahead, would mean that the staffing structure is likely to increase over a period of time. The staffing structure would align to the increased school population. The governing body would be responsible for the staffing structure which would be determined primarily by the educational needs of the school and the budget available.

Assessment of impact on wider community

Please give details of any impacts to the community as a whole:

The site for the proposed new school is less than 0.2 miles away from the current school site. It is therefore not anticipated to be significant potential for there to be negative impact on the community.

However, there is a possibility that there may be a positive impact on community cohesion as should the proposal go forward, learners would be attending a larger new school building which will incorporate purpose-built community facilities.

Analysis of impact by protected characteristics

Please summarise the results of the analysis:

It is not considered likely that the proposal will impact disproportionately on any protected characteristics.

Assess the relevance and impact of the decision to people with different characteristics

Relevance = High/Low/None / Impact = High/Low/Neutral

Characteristic	Relevance	Impact
Age	High	Low
Disability	None	Neutral
Gender reassignment	None	Neutral
Marriage and civil partnership	None	Neutral
Pregnancy and maternity	None	Neutral
Race	None	Neutral
Religion or belief	None	Neutral
Sex	None	Neutral
Sexual orientation	None	Neutral
Other socially excluded groups (include health inequalities)	None	Neutral

Where any negative impact has been identified, please outline the measures taken to mitigate against it:

No negative impact has been identified.

Please advise on the overall equality implications that should be taken into account in the final decision, considering relevance and impact:

The assessment concluded that the proposal is unlikely to impact disproportionately on any protected group.

Signed:

Project Manager, School Modernisation Team, Education and Family Support

Date:

17 May 2022

Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr

Proposal:	Proposed enlargement of Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr
Department:	School Modernisation Team – Education and Family Support Directorate
Completing Officer:	Schools Programme Manager
Date:	2 February 2022
Brief Description:	The proposal is to relocate and enlarge Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr to a new school building which is sized for 2.5 forms of entry, with 90 full-time-equivalent nursery places and an 8-place assessment and observation class.
Who does this proposal affect?	<p>Governing body, staff, learners and parents/carers - Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr.</p> <p>Pupils with Additional Learning Needs (ALN) requiring Welsh-medium specialist provision, their parents/carers and the wider additional learning needs community.</p> <p>The communities of Coity and Brackla.</p> <p>Other Welsh-medium schools within Bridgend County Borough (ie primary and secondary).</p> <p>Schools within the Valley's Gateway, Bridgend and Pencoed areas of the county borough.</p> <p>Stakeholder groups (eg Rhieni Dros Addysg Gymraeg (RHaG) Mudiad Meithrin, Welsh in Education Forum)</p>
What are the aims of the policy and how do they relate to the Welsh language?	<p>Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr is a Welsh-medium community primary school at Princess Way, Brackla, Bridgend. It was built in 1994 and is located on 2.7 acres of land. The school has been extended since its original build and includes two temporary mobile classrooms to the rear. The current pupil admission number (PAN) is 54. Certain areas of the school are overcrowded and the building condition is graded C.</p> <p>The proposal aims to relocate the school to a new 21st Century school building which is fit-for-purpose on the Ffordd Cadfan site which is located 0.2 miles from the existing school site. The new school would have a PAN of 75, thereby creating additional opportunities for more learners to access a Welsh-medium education. The existing capacity of 378 would increase to 525 for learners aged 4-11 under this proposal.</p> <p>Currently Welsh-medium learners with significant additional learning needs are supported by a specialist peripatetic team.</p>

	<p>In line with the requirements of Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal Act (ALNET) 2018, all local authorities must provide bilingual ALN provision. As the aim is to increase the number of Welsh-medium learners, a dedicated Welsh-medium assessment and observation class to support learners with ALN is proposed.</p> <p>The school building will be a flexible and adaptable, modern learning environment. It will have a large hall and studio (ie for assemblies, PE and dining) and a multi-purpose learning plaza/'street'. Internal and external areas will be suitably designed for school and community use. Outdoor spaces will be provided to support the full range of curriculum activities. Improved on-site visitor, staff and school transport parking will be provided. The proposal will also include a review of safe routes to school, and if required, an investment in improvements to highway infrastructure.</p> <p>The school will be funded by Welsh Government's Sustainable Learning Communities Programme and Bridgend County Borough Council's capital resources. The proposed school would open for pupils in September 2025 on land off Ffordd Cadfan in Brackla, Bridgend.</p> <p>Built to Building Bulletin 99, the school would be fully accessible and compliant with all relevant Building Regulations.</p>
<p>Who will benefit / could the policy affect Welsh language groups?</p>	<p>Learners at Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr. Welsh-medium learners with significant additional learning needs. Parents/carers of pupils attending Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr. Staff at Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr. The communities within the vicinity of the school.</p> <p>There should be a positive impact on Welsh language groups as the new building will be accessible to the local community. This could involve Welsh for adult classes, meetings of Welsh language groups etc.</p>
<p>Current linguistic profile of the geographical area(s):</p>	<p>The 2011 Census indicated that of the 134,545 residents living in the County Borough of Bridgend, 9.7% (13,103) were able to speak Welsh, whilst the remaining 90.3% (121,442) were not able to speak Welsh. This can be compared to the all-Wales figures that showed of the 2,955,841 residents living Wales, 19.0% (562,016) were able to speak Welsh, whilst the remaining 81.0% (2,393,825) were not able to speak Welsh.</p> <p>The table that follows illustrates the Welsh language skills of residents living in the Bridgend County Borough compared to the all Wales figure, and is obtained from the 2011 Census: https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Welsh-Language/Census-Welsh-Language/welshspeakers-by-localauthority-gender-detailedagegroups-2011census</p>

	Bridgend	All Wales
Can speak, read and write Welsh	7.3	14.6%
Can speak and read but cannot write Welsh	0.9%	1.5%
Can speak but cannot read or write Welsh	1.5%	2.7%
Can understand spoken Welsh only	4.1%	5.3%
Other combination of skills	3.6%	2.5%
No skills	82.7%	73.3%
Total	100%	100%

The data demonstrates that in the Bridgend County Borough, the Welsh language skills of residents are below the All-Wales Welsh language skills level.

The Annual Population Survey for the year ending June 2021, reported that 17.8% of respondents living in the County Borough of Bridgend said they could speak Welsh, compared to the all-Wales percentage of 29.2% of respondents. This can be further broken down to the data contained in the table that follows.

Welsh Language Skills of Residents (%)		
	Bridgend County Borough	Wales
Can read Welsh	16.9%	25.9%
Can write Welsh	15.9%	23.8%
Can understand spoken Welsh	21.2%	33.7%

The data shows that there is a gap in the Welsh language skills of residents of Bridgend when compared to the whole of Wales.

Welsh Language Skills of Residents (%)		
	Bridgend County Borough	Wales
Speak Welsh daily	6.3%	15.2%
Speak Welsh weekly	3.1%	5.2%

	Use it less often or never	6.9%	7.3%
	<p>The data indicates that in terms of the spoken language, the % of Bridgend residents when compared to the whole of Wales that use the Welsh language is significantly less.</p> <p>The data clearly shows that there is a variance in the Welsh language skills of Bridgend County Borough residents when compared with all-Wales data.</p> <p>It is anticipated that this proposal would significantly improve teaching and learning opportunities and it is likely that uptake of Welsh-medium education in the area will increase as a consequence of provision of a 21st Century school building, thereby supporting the local authority's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) targets, promoting the Welsh language and increasing the number of nursery learners transitioning to a Welsh-medium primary education.</p> <p>Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr is not currently used for community activities during the week. However, organisations such as Menter Bro Ogwr and the Urdd run holiday clubs at the school during some of the school holiday periods. The school operates a free breakfast club and Menter Bro Ogwr run an after-school club for learners. Extra-curricular after school clubs are offered during the week from Monday to Thursday.</p> <p>Menter Bro Ogwr have previously run Welsh for adults for parents and the school is currently looking to set-up a Parents and Toddler group.</p> <p>Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr is categorised as a "green" school with excellent standards achieved at the end of foundation phase and Key Stage 2. No current data or figures for this is available as national data has not been collected for two years.</p>		
Does the proposal have any positive, negative or neutral impacts?	Positive		

<p>Describe why it will have a positive impact on the Welsh language.</p>	<p>The proposal would have a positive impact on the use of the Welsh language as more pupil places would be available for learners seeking a Welsh-medium education.</p> <p>The facilities will provide an opportunity for Welsh language courses to be offered to parents/carers.</p> <p>The proposed school would provide an opportunity for learners seeking a Welsh-medium education to transition from an English-medium school.</p> <p>The excellent Welsh-medium education provided by Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr would be further enhanced with the provision of new fit-for-purpose facilities.</p> <p>Increasing Welsh-medium places supports the local authority's WESP and Welsh Government's Cymraeg 2050 agenda.</p>
<p>What evidence do you have to support this view?</p>	<p>Currently, Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr has 378 places for learners aged 4- 11 and 55 nursery places. The school is regularly over-subscribed. The new school will be sized for 525 places for learners aged 4- 11, with 90 full-time- equivalent nursery places. In addition, there will be an 8-place assessment and observation class.</p>
<p>What action(s) can you take to better contribute to positive impacts?</p>	<p>Promotion of the Welsh language through early engagement activities with parents/carers.</p> <p>Signposting parents/carers to Welsh language classes/courses by the school.</p> <p>The local authority currently does not have a Welsh-language immersion centre. However, funding is provided to support learners when transitioning from English-medium to Welsh-medium schools. This opportunity could be promoted.</p> <p>Continued professional development of school staff and sharing of best practice.</p> <p>Development of a high quality Ti a Fi session within Brackla which will offer parents the opportunity to experience the many benefits of Welsh-medium early years experiences for their child and themselves.</p>
<p>Opportunities for people to use the Welsh language.</p>	<p>Increase participation in the Welsh language by offering the opportunity to parents/carers and other members of the community to attend Welsh classes and/or other opportunities for community engagement through the medium of Welsh. In addition, they will be encouraged to signpost parents/carers to Welsh language classes.</p> <p>The school's facilities could be used for Welsh language activities that will increase participation. There is an</p>

	<p>opportunity to create a partnership with agencies including 'Welsh for Adults', 'Menter Bro Ogwr' (Bro Ogwr Welsh Language Initiative) and Bridgend College for members of the community to learn Welsh and undertake activities through the medium of Welsh. In addition, Welsh language courses are offered by Learn Welsh Glamorgan who deliver courses online and locally in Bridgend, Merthyr Tydfil and Rhondda Cynon Taf on behalf of the National Centre for Learning Welsh. They also offer a range of online taster courses that anyone can access and offer Sadwrn Siarad sessions periodically.</p> <p>Activities through the medium of Welsh are primarily offered by Menter Bro Ogwr although Bridgend Learning Partnership also aims to offer learning activities where they are able to, and where activities prove viable in terms of numbers.</p> <p>Learners will have an opportunity to undertake extra-curricular activities through the medium of Welsh.</p>
<p>Opportunities to promote the Welsh language.</p>	<p>The school could allow the use of facilities by the community for Welsh classes/activities delivered through Welsh, thereby promoting the Welsh language.</p> <p>The school will be designed with community use in mind. It will be fully accessible and compliant with the Equalities Act 2010. There may be opportunities to run community activities during school hours.</p> <p>The school has links with the Urdd and could further develop links with Welsh-medium sporting groups.</p> <p>Given its central location within Bridgend, the school will be very accessible to the immediate and wider community.</p> <p>The Council is committed to promoting the Welsh language, increasing the number of Welsh schools and number of learner places, as detailed in the WESP.</p>
<p>Compliance with the Council's Welsh Language Standards.</p>	<p>Contractual arrangements and processes for the delivery of the project will be undertaken so that they are compliant with the Welsh Language Standards. Consultation meetings will be bi-lingual and the contractor will be advised of this requirement and requested to also adopt this approach in terms of delivering any stakeholder engagements sessions. All signage during and post-construction will be bi-lingual.</p>

Review – Consultation Comments	Date:
<p>The data shows that there is a gap in the Welsh language skills of residents of Bridgend when compared to the whole of Wales. Proposals such as this significantly improve the learning environment and the opportunities available for our learners. The</p>	<p>17 May 2022</p>

<p>headteacher of the new school will be encouraged and supported to consider using these facilities to increase participation in the Welsh language by offering the opportunity to parents/carers and other members of the community to attend Welsh classes and/or other opportunities for community engagement through the medium of Welsh.</p>	
--	--

Monitoring, Evaluation and Reviewing

Should the proposal proceed, the project will be regularly reviewed during the course of design, delivery, and post-occupation by the Project Manager – School Modernisation Team.

Summary

The proposal is to provide Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr with a new purpose built 21st Century school on a site at Ffordd Cadfan, Brackla, Bridgend. The new school will be 2.5 form entry (ie 525 learner places) for learners aged 4-11, with 90 full-time-equivalent nursery places plus an 8-place observation and assessment class. The school would open in September 2025.

The proposal is considered to have a positive effect on the Welsh language:

- Additional learner Welsh-medium places will be provided.
- The school will be designed to delivery the New Curriculum for Wales.
- The school's facilities could be utilised for community use/adult classes through the Welsh language.
- The site is located centrally to encourage use by the immediate and wider community seeking an opportunity to engage in Welsh classes/courses that could be offered.
- The school will be fully accessible.
- Transitional opportunities from English to a Welsh-medium could be offered.
- The excellent Welsh-medium education received by learners who attend Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr would continue and be further enhanced by the provision of new facilities.

Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening Form

This document is a multi-purpose tool ensuring the appropriate steps are taken to comply with the [Public Sector Equality Duty](#) Equality Impact Assessment legislation and to demonstrate that we have shown due regard to the need to reduce inequalities of outcome resulting from socio-economic disadvantage when taking strategic decisions under the [Socio-economic Duty](#). It also ensures consideration of the [Welsh Language Standards](#).

[Click here to access more information and guidance to help you complete this EIA.](#)

- **This assessment should be carried out during the formation stage of your policy or proposal. Any negative impact identified will support you to devise engagement strategies for further evidence gathering.**
- **If you are undertaking a full public consultation as part of your policy or proposal this form should be completed before the consultation begins and used as a tool to inform your consultation questions and engagement activities.**
- **All sections and all questions require a response and must not be left blank even if they are ‘not applicable’ or ‘subject to further consultation’.**

Name of project, policy, function, service or proposal being assessed:	Bridgend North East – Ysgol Gymraeg (YG) Bro Ogwr replacement
Brief description and aim of policy or proposal:	Proposal to make a regulated alteration to enlarge Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr to a 2.5 form-entry (FE) school, with a 90-place full time equivalent nursery plus an 8-place observation and assessment class on land off Ffordd Cadfan, with effect from the beginning of the autumn term 2025
Who is responsible for delivery of the policy or proposal?	Director – Education and Family Support

Date EIA screening completed:	10/06/21
Does this policy or proposal relate to any other policies? (please state)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Modernisation Programme • Flying Start Programme • Welsh Government Childcare Offer • Infant Class Sizes • Additional Learning Needs • Bridgend Public Services – Well-being Plan • Corporate Plan 2018-2022 • Medium Term Financial Strategy • Taking Wales Forward Strategy 2018-2021 • Wellbeing and Future Generations Act 2015 • Education in Wales: Our national mission - action plan 2017-2021 • Bridgend County Borough Council - Local Development Plan (LDP) • Bridgend County Borough Council - Welsh in Education Strategic Plan • Cymraeg 2050 Welsh Language Strategy
Who is affected by this policy (e.g. Staff, residents, disabled people, women only?)	Learners, parents and staff
Is the policy related to, influenced by, or affected by other policies or areas of work (internal or external)? <i>Note: Consider this in terms of statutory requirements, local policies, regional</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flying Start Programme • Welsh Government Childcare Offer • Infant Class Sizes • Additional Learning Needs

<i>(partnership) decisions, national policies, welfare reforms.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bridgend Public Services – Well-being Plan • Corporate Plan 2018-2022 • Medium Term Financial Strategy • Taking Wales Forward Strategy 2018-2021 • Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 • Education in Wales: Our national mission - action plan 2017-2021 • Bridgend County Borough Council - Local Development Plan (LDP) • Bridgend County Borough Council - Welsh in Education Strategic Plan • Cymraeg 2050 Welsh Language Strategy
If this is a review or amendment of an existing policy, has an EIA been carried out? Please include date of completion:	N/A
If an EIA exists, what new data has been collected since its completion?	N/A

Assessment of Impact

Protected characteristics

Is it possible that any aspect of the policy or proposal will have a positive or negative impact on people from different groups in different ways?

***Please note: If you identify a negative impact for any protected characteristics you will need to undertake further evidence gathering to complete a full EIA.**

	Please place an X in the relevant box			Explanation of impact
	Positive impact(s)	Negative impact(s)	No impact	
Gender	X			Building design will cater for gender neutral users
Disability			X	

Race			X	
Religion and belief			X	
Sexual Orientation			X	
Age	X			Ensure improved school environment for learners
Pregnancy & Maternity			X	
Transgender			X	
Marriage and Civil partnership			X	

Socio-economic impact

Is it possible that any aspect of the policy or proposal will have a positive or negative impact on people or communities experiencing socio-economic disadvantage?

***Please note: If you identify a negative socio-economic impact you will need to undertake further evidence gathering to complete a full EIA.**

	Please place an X in the relevant box			Explanation of impact
	Positive impact(s)	Negative impact(s)	No impact	
Socio-economic disadvantage	X			Improved facilities for learners attending, living with socio-economic disadvantage. Potential for wrap around provision, potentially enabling parents to seek employment or training

Welsh Language

Is it possible that any aspect of the policy or proposal will have a positive or negative impact for persons to use the Welsh language and in treating the Welsh language less favourably than the English language?

***Please note: If you identify a negative impact for persons to use the Welsh language and in treating the Welsh language less favourably than the English language you will need to undertake further evidence gathering to complete a full EIA.**

	Please place an X in the relevant box			Explanation of impact
	Positive impact(s)	Negative impact(s)	No impact	
Will the policy or proposal impact on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language	X			There will be an increase in availability of Welsh-medium primary school places with the enlargement of YG

				Bro Ogwr, as part of the proposal. Potential use of school for Welsh language community groups, eg Ti a Fi, adult Welsh classes
Will the policy or proposal treat the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language	X			There will be an increase in availability of Welsh-medium primary school places with the enlargement of YG Bro Ogwr, as part of the proposal. Potential use of school for Welsh language community groups, eg Ti a Fi, adult Welsh classes

Public Sector Equality Duty

The Public Sector Equality Duty consists of a general equality duty and specific duties, which help authorities to meet the general duty.

The aim of the general equality duty is to integrate considerations of the advancement of equality into the day-to-day business of public authorities. In summary, those subject to the equality duty, must in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct that is prohibited by the Act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a characteristic and those who don't
- Foster good relations between people who share a characteristic and those who don't

How does this policy or proposal demonstrate you have given due regard to the general equality duty?

The scheme would be developed to ensure there is no negative impact on any protected group.

Procurement and partnerships

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) requires all public authorities to consider the needs of protected characteristics when designing and delivering public services, including where this is done in partnership with other organisations or through procurement of services. The Welsh Language Standards also require all public authorities to consider the effects of any policy decision, or change in service delivery, on the Welsh language, which includes any work done in partnership or by third parties. We must also ensure we consider the Socio-economic Duty when planning major procurement and commissioning decisions to consider how such arrangements can reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage.

Will this policy or proposal be carried out wholly or partly by contractors or partners?

	Please place an X in the relevant box:
Yes	X (partly)
No	

If yes what steps will you take to comply with the General Equality Duty, Welsh Language Legislation and the Socio-Economic Duty in regard to procurement and/or partnerships?

	Steps taken to ensure compliance:
General Equality Duty	Robust procurement and contract documentation includes due regard to this
Welsh Language legislation	Robust procurement and contract documentation includes due regard to this
Socio-economic duty	Robust procurement and contract documentation includes due regard to this

What have you decided to do?

Record of decision based on assessment of impact on protected characteristics, socioeconomic impact and Welsh Language. Please place an X in the relevant box.

If you identify negative impact on one, some or all protected characteristics, socioeconomic duty or Welsh Language you will MUST complete a full EIA.


Impact identified	Next steps:	Please place an X in the relevant box:
No negative impact identified	Screen out: carry on with the policy or proposal	X
One or more negative impact identified	Complete full EIA to gather more evidence on potential negative impacts	

Please explain the reasons for this decision. If you have 'screened out' you must include information and evidence to justify your decision.

It has been identified that the proposal is unlikely to negatively impact on any protected group. There have been positive impacts identified, including Welsh language, gender and age as detailed in the table above. As there have been no

negative impacts identified, it will not be necessary to undertake a full equalities impact assessment.

Approval:

Date EIA screening completed:	10/06/21
Approved by (Head of Service):	
Date of approval by HoS:	27/05/22

If this screening has identified that a full EIA is needed, who will carry out the full EIA?	N/A
If this screening has identified that a full EIA is needed when will the Full EIA be completed by (Date):	N/A

Appendix 13

List of stakeholders

- ▶ The Governing Body, parents, staff, carers, guardians and learners of Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Ogwr
- ▶ Other schools within the cluster/area
- ▶ Neighbouring authorities
- ▶ The Church in Wales and Roman Catholic Diocesan Authorities
- ▶ Welsh Ministers
- ▶ Welsh Government
- ▶ Constituency and Regional Assembly Members (AMs) and Members of Parliament (MPs) representing the area served by any school which is subject to the proposals
- ▶ Estyn
- ▶ Teaching and staff trade unions representing teachers and other staff at any school which is subject of the proposals
- ▶ Central South Consortium Joint Education Service
- ▶ South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner
- ▶ Town and Community Councils representing the area served by any school which is subject to the proposals
- ▶ Independent or voluntary nursery providers who may be affected including Mudiad Meithrin
- ▶ BCBC Childcare team/Children and Young People's Partnership and/or Early Years Development and Childcare Partnerships where present
- ▶ Cabinet Members
- ▶ Corporate Management Board
- ▶ Ward Members
- ▶ BCBC Group Manager, Inclusion
- ▶ CAMHS, NHS Wales, Cwm Taff, Local Health Board.
Primary Mental Health Team, NHS Wales, Cwm Taff, Local Health Board.
- ▶ Speech and Language Therapy Service, NHS Wales, Cwm Taff, Local Health Board.

- ▶ Paediatricians, NHS Wales, Cwm Taff, Local Health Board.
- ▶ Occupational Therapy (OT) NHS Wales, Cwm Taff, Local Health Board.
- ▶ Physiotherapy Service: NHS Wales, Cwm Taff, Local Health Board.
- ▶ Educational Psychologists. Educational Psychology Service, Bridgend County Borough Council.
- ▶ Social Services & Wellbeing Directorate, Bridgend County Borough Council
- ▶ SNAP Cymru
- ▶ Barnardo's Cymru
- ▶ Welsh Language Commissioner