**BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**DECISION NOTICE**

**SCHOOL STANDARDS AND ORGANISATION (WALES) ACT 2013**

On 10th February 2017, after a period of consultation, Bridgend County Borough Council published a statutory notice of its proposal to make a regulated alteration to Afon y Felin Primary School of Heol-y-Parc, North Cornelly, Bridgend, CF33 4PA by enlarging the school. No objections to the proposal were received during the public notice period. On 28th March 2017 Cabinet carefully considered the published proposal, in accordance with the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013. Cabinet determined to approve the proposal.

As a result, Afon y Felin Primary School will permanently enlarge. The school’s capacity once the proposal is implemented will be 131 pupils (plus a 23 place nursery). The admission number for the age group 4-5 at the school in the first school year in which the proposals have been implemented will be 18. The date of implementation will be 1st April 2017.

In determining the proposal, Cabinet were satisfied that this proposal is sound in education, financial and strategic terms.

**Summary**

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| In summary, Cabinet have approved the proposal as they believe that it will:   * Maintain the standard of education provision * Ensure pupil places are suitably located * Lead to a greater efficiency in the resourcing of education  |  | | --- | |  | |

The reasons for the decision in respect to the factors outlined in the School Organisation Code are as follows:

**Quality and Standards of Education**

It is Estyn’s (Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales) opinion that a move to a new school building is likely to at least maintain the quality of the outcomes and provision in the area.

The proposal has clearly explained that pupil numbers have significantly increased for the 2016-2017 academic year. As a result, the school has made use of an existing space within its accommodation for teaching purposes. This is a temporary arrangement that the proposer reasonably wants to formalise in order to meet future demand for school places in the area.

The council proposes to make a permanent enlargement of the school’s capacity from its current number of 117 pupils aged 4-11 to 131 pupils. The standard admission number for reception pupils will increase from 15 to 18. Nursery admission number capacity of 23 pupil places is proposed.

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| **Need for places and the impact on the accessibility of schools**  This proposal will meet the demand for future pupil places within the area. |

**Resourcing of education and other financial implications**

In order to accommodate the increased pupil numbers and avoid overcrowding it has become necessary for the School to utilise a space within the existing accommodation for teaching purposes. This has resulted in an increase to the capacity and this change has already been implemented on a temporary basis this academic year (the proposal formalises this temporary arrangement) .The area which would be incorporated into the capacity calculation is within the school building and is already fully funded via the funding formula allocation. Should additional pupils be admitted to the school, additional funding for staff may be required which will met from within the overall schools’ delegated budget and funded through the schools’ funding formula.

*This decision is subject to the call in procedures as set out in the Council’s constitution which allows decisions taken by Cabinet but yet to be implemented to be reviewed. Should a call in of the decision take place, all stakeholders would be informed.*