

**Bridgend County Borough Council**

Proposal to make a regulated alteration to Afon y Felin Primary in the form of an enlargement

Consultation document

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**Tel**: (01656) 642 617

**Email**: Ellen.Franks@bridgend.gov.uk

**Web:** www.bridgend.gov.uk/consultation



**www.bridgend.gov.uk**

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## Overview

This consultation is to invite your views on the proposal to make a regulated alteration to Afon y Felin Primary in the form of an enlargement.

Those consulted will include staff, governors, pupils and parents of the school, members of the local community and any other interested parties.

## How to respond

This consultation period will begin on the **22 November 2016** and close the **6 January 2017.**

You can respond or ask further questions in the following ways;

Tel:(01656) 642 617

Email: Ellen.Franks@bridgend.gov.uk

Online: [www.bridgend.gov.uk/consultation](http://www.bridgend.gov.uk/consultation)

Post: Education and Family Support, BridgendCounty Borough Council, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB.

This document is available in Welsh.

Alternative formats are also available upon request.

## Data protection

How we use the views and information you share with us

All responses received by Bridgend County Borough Council will be seen in full by its staff members involved in the consultation process. The information may also be seen by other departments within the council or local service board members to help improve upon the services provided.

The council may also use the information gathered to publish subsequent documents both directly and indirectly linked to this consultation, however the Council will never disclose any personal information such as names or addresses that could identify an individual.

If you do not wish for your opinions to be publicised, please state so in your response.

## The proposal

It is proposed to make a regulated alteration to Afon y Felin Primary in the form of a permanent enlargement - from the existing school capacity of 117 pupils aged 4-11 (plus a 39 place nursery) to a school capacity of 131 pupils (plus a 23 place nursery), effective from 1st April 2017.

In order to take this forward, it is necessary to carry out a consultation exercise with staff, parents, pupils, interested parties and the governing body as the first step in the statutory process.

## What the proposal means in practice

This proposal would see Afon y Felin Primary enlarged to a 131 pupil capacity school effective from 1st April 2017.

## Why has this proposal been brought forward?

In March 2015, the Council approved 5 key principles within a policy and planning framework which would inform the organisation and modernisation of our schools:

1. Commitment to high standards and excellence in provision
2. Equality of opportunity, so that all pupils can access quality learning opportunities, regardless of which school they attend
3. Inclusive schools, which cater for the learning needs of all their pupils
4. Community focused schools, where the school actively engages with its local community
5. Value for money

The policy and planning framework set out 17 areas where these principles should apply, particularly relevant in the context of this proposal is the size of primary schools (to ensure that “all Bridgend’s primary schools are large enough to make the full range of necessary provision”).

As at January 2016, Afon Y Felin Primary School had 22 nursery pupils and 95 pupils aged 4-11 on roll. In the academic year 2015/16, the capacity of the School was calculated as 117 in respect of pupils aged 4-11. Currently the published admission number in respect of pupils admitted to reception is 15.

Prior to the commencement of this academic year, it became apparent that there would be a significant increase in pupil numbers for 2016/17. As at September 2016 there were 110 pupils aged 4-11 and 23 nursery aged pupils on roll at the School.

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.

It is considered that there is a need to formalise this temporary arrangement in order to meet potential future demand from the area.

The capacity of the school five years prior to the date of the proposed implementation i.e. 2011/12 was 96. The re-designation of spaces at the school will result in the capacity increasing to 131 which is greater than 25% of the capacity as at 2011/12. As a result, the published admission number in respect of pupils admitted into reception will increase to 18. In order to formalize this increase in capacity it is necessary to undertake a regulated alteration to enlarge the school under the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013, as set out in the School Organisation Code (the Code).

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **School** | **Jan-16** | | | **Jan-24 Projected** | | |
|  | **Capacity** | **NOR 4-11** | **+/-** | **Capacity** | **NOR  4-11** | **+/-** |
| Afon y Felin | 117 | 95 | +22 | 131 | 134 | -3 |
| Corneli Primary | 261 | 268 | -7 | 261  192 | 271  195 | -10  -3 |
| Pil Primary | 192 | 191 | +1 |

*\*NB Pupil projections do not include for additional pupils each year from new housing developments*

As an alternative to the proposal, the Council could elect to ‘do nothing’ and not pursue a permanent enlargement of Afon y Felin Primary. However, given that the school has *already* been utilising existing space for teaching purposes for some time in order to accommodate increased pupil numbers – the proposed formal permanent enlargement is the logical choice.

The Authority would struggle to meet anticipated future demand in a cost effective manner, if the proposed permanent enlargement of Afon y Felin Primary is not pursued.

## Governing Body

The result of the proposal, should it go ahead, would be that the Governing body arrangements would remain as at present.

## Staffing Issues

The result of the proposal, should it go ahead, would mean that the staffing complement would likely remain as at present.

**What are the advantages if the proposal goes ahead?**

**Quality and standards in education**

**Outcomes (standards and wellbeing);**

Standards in Afon y Felin Primary School are good. There is an improving trend in performance at the expected and higher than expected outcomes in the foundation phase and at key stage 2. The school is in Welsh Government standards group 2 (there are 4 groups with group 1 being the highest achieving and group 4 the lowest). If the proposal goes ahead the additional capacity is likely to result in continued trends of improvement.

**Provision (learning experiences, teaching, staffing, care support and guidance, and learning environment);**

The quality of teaching in Afon y Felin Primary School is good and is unlikely to be detrimentally effected by the proposal, given that the school has already been successfully utilising existing space for teaching purposes for some time in order to accommodate increased pupil numbers.

**Leadership and management (leadership, improving quality, partnership working and resource management);**

The leadership of the school is good and the school has good capacity to improve ( graded ‘B’ in the national categorisation process). The leadership and management of the school would be unlikely to be affected in any negative way by the proposal, given that the school has already been successfully utilising existing space for teaching purposes for some time in order to accommodate increased pupil numbers.

The proposal will improve the capacity of Afon Y Felin to deliver the full curriculum at the foundation phase and at key stage 2.

The proposed changes are not likely to affect the quality and standards of education in any other schools in the area.

## Finance

The area being utilised for teaching purposes to accommodate the increased pupil numbers which would be incorporated into the capacity calculation is within the school building and is already fully funded via the school’s funding formula allocation. Should additional pupils be admitted to the school additional funding for staff may be required. This will either be funded through the school funding formula or the school retrospective adjustment once the pupil numbers have been confirmed.

## What are the potential disadvantages if the proposal goes ahead?

There is a risk that some parents may prefer to have their children educated at a smaller school site.

## Details of the affected school(s)

The following schools have been identified as being directly affected or likely to be affected by the proposal:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Afon y Felin Primary  Heol-y-Parc  North Cornelly  Bridgend  CF33 4PA | Corneli Primary  Greenfield Terrace  North Cornelly  Bridgend,  CF33 4LW  Pil Primary  Pyle Inn Way  Pyle  Bridgend  Cf33 6AB |

The table below provides details of the January 2016 numbers on roll at each of the schools and the figures recorded for the previous four annual censuses.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Jan-2012** | | **Jan-2013** | | **Jan-2014** | | **Jan-2015** | | **Jan-2016** | |
|  | F/T | P/T | F/T | P/T | F/T | P/T | F/T | P/F | F/T | P/T |
| Afon y Felin | 97 | 5 | 103 | 0 | 95 | 0 | 107 | 0 | 112 | 5 |
| Corneli Primary  Pil Primary | 287  232 | 0  7 | 291  238 | 0  6 | 312  229 | 0  11 | 312  227 | 0  0 | 302  221 | 0  11 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

The table below provides a 5 Year projection of pupil population for Afon y Felin English Medium Primary School. Capacity of Afon y Felin is 117 with an admission number of 15 and buildings rated Condition grade B. Latest Estyn inspection judgement – Adequate.

*NB Pupil projections do not include for additional pupils each year from new housing developments:*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Nursery 1** | **Nursery 2** | **Reception** | **Year 1** | **Year 2** | **Year 3** | **Year 4** | **Year 5** | **Year 6** | **Total** |
|  | 2-3 | 3-4 | 4 - 5 | 5 - 6 | 6 - 7 | 7 - 8 | 8 - 9 | 9 - 10 | 10 - 11 | 2-11 |
| 2017 | 0 | 18 | 23 | 20 | 17 | 23 | 9 | 11 | 10 | 131 |
| 2018 | 0 | 18 | 18 | 23 | 22 | 18 | 22 | 8 | 12 | 141 |
| 2019 | 0 | 18 | 18 | 18 | 25 | 22 | 18 | 21 | 9 | 149 |
| 2020 | 0 | 18 | 18 | 18 | 20 | 26 | 22 | 17 | 22 | 161 |
| 2021 | 0 | 18 | 18 | 18 | 20 | 20 | 25 | 21 | 17 | 157 |

The table below provides a 5 year projection of pupil population for Corneli English Medium Primary School. Capacity of Corneli Primary is 261 with an admission number of 37and buildings rated Condition grade B. Latest Estyn inspection judgement – Adequate.

*NB Pupil projections do not include for additional pupils each year from new housing developments:*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Nursery 1** | **Nursery 2** | **Reception** | **Year 1** | **Year 2** | **Year 3** | **Year 4** | **Year 5** | **Year 6** | **Total** |
|  | 2-3 | 3-4 | 4 - 5 | 5 - 6 | 6 - 7 | 7 - 8 | 8 - 9 | 9 - 10 | 10 - 11 | 2-11 |
| 2017 | 0 | 37 | 43 | 37 | 34 | 41 | 31 | 29 | 50 | 302 |
| 2018 | 0 | 39 | 37 | 43 | 35 | 35 | 32 | 42 | 28 | 291 |
| 2019 | 0 | 39 | 41 | 37 | 40 | 36 | 36 | 33 | 41 | 303 |
| 2020 | 0 | 39 | 40 | 39 | 35 | 42 | 37 | 37 | 32 | 301 |
| 2021 | 0 | 39 | 40 | 39 | 37 | 36 | 43 | 38 | 37 | 309 |

The table below provides a 5 year projection of pupil population for Pil English Medium Primary School. Capacity of Pi Primary is 192 with an admission number of 27and buildings rated Condition grade B. Latest Estyn inspection judgement – Adequate.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Nursery 1** | **Nursery 2** | **Reception** | **Year 1** | **Year 2** | **Year 3** | **Year 4** | **Year 5** | **Year 6** | **Total** |
|  | 2-3 | 3-4 | 4 - 5 | 5 - 6 | 6 - 7 | 7 - 8 | 8 - 9 | 9 - 10 | 10 - 11 | 2-11 |
| 2017 | 10 | 30 | 30 | 29 | 23 | 25 | 28 | 24 | 26 | 225 |
| 2018 | 11 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 29 | 22 | 23 | 28 | 22 | 225 |
| 2019 | 11 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 28 | 20 | 23 | 26 | 228 |
| 2020 | 11 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 29 | 26 | 20 | 21 | 227 |
| 2021 | 11 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 29 | 26 | 26 | 18 | 230 |

## 

## ****Land and buildings****

The capacities of schools are calculated based on the Welsh Government Circular No 21/2011 ‘Measuring the Capacity of Schools in Wales’. The capacity Afon y Felin Primary School is currently 117 (4-11 years).  
  
The quality of accommodation at Afon y Felin is graded ‘B’ (performing as intended

but exhibiting minor deterioration) with an estimated £357,000 backlog of repairs and maintenance.

## Other considerations

The current premises and site would continue to operate where it is as a 131 pupil place capacity school under the proposal.

The admissions authority for the proposed enlarged Afon y Felin Primary School would be Bridgend County Borough Council. Admission arrangements would be as detailed within the Council’s ‘Starting School booklet – A Guide to Bridgend Council’s Policy & Admission Arrangements for Schools’. Admission number for the enlarged school would be 18.

A summary of Her Majesty’s Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales (Estyn) most recent inspection reports relating to Afon y Felin Primary are included at appendix A and B for your information. The full inspection reports are available from the Estyn website.

## Impact Assessments

### Community Impact Assessment

The school would continue to at its present location as an enlarged school under the proposal. No negative impact on the community is anticipated as a result of the proposal. The consultation will allow interested parties to state what they see as the likely effects on the respective communities.

Equality Impact Assessment

As part of the overall process, the council has a duty to consider the implications of any proposal on all members of the local community who may be affected unfairly as a result of the proposal being carried out. An initial assessment has been made of the potential for inequality of opportunity arising from these proposals and a full equalities impact assessment will be undertaken in parallel with the consultation process. The outcomes and actions identified by this assessment will be included in and form part of the report to Cabinet on the outcomes of the consultation process. If you have any views on the potential of this proposal to affect any groups or individuals either positively or adversely, then we would welcome your comments as part of this consultation.

## The consultation and statutory process

The consultation process will be completed by 6th January 2017 and the outcomes (which will be incorporated into the proposal where possible) will be reported to a Cabinet meeting on 31st January 2017. If there is a decision not to proceed, that will be the end of this proposal for the foreseeable future and an alternative proposal will need to be sought.

If the decision is to go ahead, a statutory notice outlining the proposals would need to be published for a period of 28 days and any formal written objections would be invited during this time. If there are objections at this Public Notice stage, Cabinet will need to consider the proposal. Cabinet could then accept, reject or modify the proposal. If there are no objections to the proposal, then it will go ahead subject to final approval by Cabinet.

The provisional timetable and procedure are as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Date** |
| Consultation period where we welcome your views and observations on the proposal\*. | 22 November 2016 to  6 January 2017 |
| Consultation Report to Cabinet on the outcomes of the consultation. | 31 January 2017 |
| Publish Consultation Report on BCBC website, hard copies available on request. | 3rd February 2017 |
| If agreed by the Cabinet of Bridgend County Borough Council, a Public Notice will be published and there will be a period of 28 days in which to submit any objections to the proposal in writing. | 3February 2017 |
| End of Public Notice period. If there are no objections Cabinet can immediately decide whether to proceed or not. If there are any objections, an Objections Report will be published and forwarded to Cabinet for their consideration and subsequent determination. | 3 March 2017 |
| Potential implementation. | 1 April 2017 |

\*Please note that responses to consultation will not be counted as objections to the proposal and that objections can only be registered following publication of the Public Notice.

### What do you now have to consider?

You are invited to consider the proposal and submit your views as to whether or not you support the proposal to enlarge Afon y Felin Primary School

### How to make your views known?

There will be consultation meetings held as detailed overleaf for the different interested parties. You are invited to attend the relevant meeting where you can hear an explanation of the proposal, put questions and express any views or concerns you may have.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Venue: Afon y Felin Primary** | **Date** | **Time** |
| Meeting with the staff and the governing body | 5December 2016 | 4.00pm |
| Meeting with the School Council | 12 December 2016 | 10.00am |
| Drop in sessions for parents, carers, members of the local community and all other interested parties (\*Please contact Ellen Franks on 01656 642617 to book a place for the drop in session) | 12 December 2016 | 4.00pm to 6.00pm |

If you have any questions regarding this proposal, wish to put your views in writing, suggest alternative proposals or request a copy of the consultation report when published, please contact (using the attached pro forma):

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Post: Education and Family Support, BridgendCounty Borough Council, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB. | Please mark for the attention of Ellen Franks, or Email: [ellen.franks@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:ellen.franks@bridgend.gov.uk)  Online: [www.bridgend.gov.uk/consultation](http://www.bridgend.gov.uk/consultation) Tel:(01656) 642 617 |

Alternative formats are also available upon request. All views must be received by no later than **6 January 2017**.

## Pro forma

**Pro forma -** Proposal to enlarge Afon y Felin Primary

**Name:**

**Contact details**:

**Are you** (*please tick*)**:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **School governor** |  | **Parent/Guardian** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | **School pupil** |  | **School staff** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | **Other interested party (specify)** | | |

**Comment/suggestions/requests/questions**:

**Do you agree with the proposals?**

**The reasons for your choice?**

## Appendix A

**Summary of Estyn, Her Majesty’s Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales inspection of Afon y Felin (Date of inspection: 2013)**

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**In these evaluations, inspectors use a four-point scale:**

**Judgement What the judgement means**

**Excellent Many strengths, including significant examples of sector-leading practice**

**Good Many strengths and no important areas requiring significant improvement**

**Adequate Strengths outweigh areas for improvement**

**Unsatisfactory Important areas for improvement outweigh strengths**

*This and other Estyn publications are available on the ESTYN website:*[**www.estyn.gov.uk**](http://www.estyn.gov.uk)

## Appendix B

**Her Majesty’s Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales Report Following Monitoring Afon y Felin (Date of visit: 2015)**

**Outcome of monitoring**

Afon Y Felin Primary School is judged to have made sufficient progress in relation to the recommendations following the core inspection in October 2103.

As a result, Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Education and Training in Wales is removing the school from the list of schools requiring significant improvement.

## Appendix C

**Summary of Estyn, Her Majesty’s Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales inspection of Corneli Primary (Date of inspection: 2014)**

**Summary**

**The school’s current performance Adequate**

**The school’s prospects for improvement Adequate**

**Current performance**

The school’s current performance is adequate because:

* many pupils make good progress in reading as they move through the school;
* most pupils speak confidently, listen attentively and adapt their spoken language appropriately to informal and formal situations;
* the behaviour of most pupils is good;
* most pupils feel safe;
* most pupils eligible for free school meals pupils make good progress in relation to their individual targets;
* the school is a fully inclusive community, which treats all pupils equally and with respect; and
* the provision for pupils with additional leaning needs is good.

However:

* many pupils do not write enough extended pieces of work;
* many pupils do not make consistent progress in mathematics across the school;
* provision for the development of skills across the curriculum is not consistent,

particularly for more able pupils; and

* a significant minority of teachers do not always provide challenging and

engaging activities for all pupils.

**Prospects for improvement**

The school’s prospects for improvement are adequate because:

* the headteacher has begun to build a culture of improvement and created a

strong sense of wellbeing for all pupils;

* there are effective systems in place for the performance management of staff;
* the headteacher and a few senior leaders have begun to evaluate standards and the quality of provision more rigorously;
* the governing body provides clear strategic direction for the school;
* productive partnerships with parents and behaviour support specialists make a strong contribution to the wellbeing of pupils; and
* the professional development of staff is having a positive impact on improving

pupils’ reading skills.

However:

* senior leaders do not consistently secure improvementall senior leaders do not use performance data well enough to inform strategic thinking;
* the outcomes of self-evaluation derive from a limited amount of evidence; and
* the development of a suitably rigorous system of monitoring and self-evaluation is at an early stage.

## Appendix D

**Summary of Estyn, Her Majesty’s Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales inspection of Pil Primary (Date of inspection: 2012)**

**Summary**

**The school’s current performance Adequate**

**The school’s prospects for improvement Good**

**Current performance**

The current performance of Pil Primary School is judged as adequate because:

 a majority of pupils make good progress from their starting points;

 most pupils behave very well in classes and around the school;

 the level of care, support and guidance provided to pupils is good; and

 the overall quality of teaching is good.

However:

 pupils’ performance in English, mathematics and science has often not

compared well with that of pupils in other similar schools, in particular, at the

higher levels; and

 standards in pupils’ writing and spelling are still in need of improvement.

**Prospects for improvement**

The prospects for improvement in Pil Primary School are judged as good because:

 the school is well led and leaders have high expectations;

 since his recent appointment the new headteacher has achieved a great deal;

 there is a sound process for self-evaluation; and

 targets for school improvement are focused appropriately on raising standards

and improving quality.