

All Consultees

Gofynnwch Am: School Organisation
Please Ask For and Planning
Rhif Est: 744227
Ext No:

Fy Nghyf:
My Ref:

Eich Cyf:
Your Ref:

Dyddiad: 11th November, 2016
Date:

Dear Sir/Madam,

PROPOSAL TO CLOSE CWMAMAN INFANTS' AND GLYNHAFOD JUNIOR SCHOOL
AND OPEN A NEW COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL FOR CWMAMAN

Further to my letter dated 2nd September 2016, I would confirm that, following the publication of a statutory notice on 2nd September and a 28 day notice period, **no** objections to the above proposal were received. The Council's Cabinet, at their meeting held on 2nd November 2016 has therefore resolved to implement the proposal, with effect from 1st September 2018.

The reasons for, and rationale behind the proposals and the reasons for this decision to implement them were fully outlined and explained in the consultation document that was widely circulated in March of this year. Cabinet also fully considered all comments received following the consultation process that ended in April of this year. As indicated, no objections were received following the publication of the statutory notice, hence the decision taken to implement the proposal as outlined. A summary of the reasons for the decision to implement these proposals is given below:

- It is the Council's view that creating a new Primary school for the community of Cwmaman will improve educational outcomes and provision for the following reasons;
 - A single school vision and ethos, with a single governing body and management team providing leadership across the full primary age range, using consistent policies and practices;
 - Improved transition from the Foundation Phase to Key Stage 2 (Yr 2 to Yr 3) and overall progression;
 - Greater consistency of teaching and learning for pupils across the key stages including:
 - Seamless curriculum planning and co-ordination;
 - Shared schemes of work, assessment and tracking of pupil progress;
 - Greater continuity in terms of expectations, behaviour, partnerships

with parents and

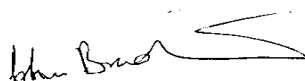
- Day to day organisation;
 - Less change for parents and pupils;
 - Greater continuity of support for vulnerable groups of pupils;
 - Opportunities for staff to move between key stages and further develop expertise;
 - Potential for financial savings in terms of staffing structures and purchase of services, which accrue to the single school; and
 - The future capital investment benefits that would arise from the modernisation of one institution rather than two, in a new, purpose built school building.
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- An 'all-through' Primary school for Cwmaman could offer:
 - A larger school with a bigger role;
 - A more flexible organisation;
 - Improved career prospects;
 - Improved curriculum co-ordination;
 - The opportunity to teach across a wider age range;
 - An increased range of expertise;
 - Improved opportunities for staff interaction /co-ordination

The evidence and rationale to support these statements is all contained within the consultation document that was circulated widely to all consultees in March of this year. This document is still available on the Council website for any person to view at <http://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/EN/GetInvolved/Consultations/Schoolconsultations.aspx>.

The conclusion therefore reached by Cabinet when making their final decision is that the benefits that can be achieved in respect of improved educational outcomes and provision for school pupils in this area are the prime reasons for implementing these proposals.

Cwmaman Infants' and Glynhafod Junior Schools will therefore officially close on 31st August 2018, to be replaced by the new Primary School on 1st September 2018. It is proposed that the school will be accommodated in a new building to be specially constructed for this purpose, subject to the satisfactory outcome of statutory investigations and the relevant planning consents.

Yours faithfully



Chris Bradshaw
Chief Executive