



RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

20TH SEPTEMBER 2018

PROPOSALS TO ESTABLISH PRIMARY EDUCATION PROVISION FOR THE LLANILID HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND INCLUSION SERVICES IN DISCUSSION WITH THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, COUNCILLOR J ROSSER.

Authors: Andrea Richards, Head of 21st Century Schools and Julie Hadley, School Organisation Manager.

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Members approval to begin the relevant and required statutory consultation for the proposal to establish new Primary education provision to serve the new housing development at Llanilid, Llanharan. This will be achieved, in the first instance, by treating the new building that will be provided by the housing developers as an extension to the dual-language provision at the existing Dolau Primary School.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that Members note the information contained within this report;
- 2.2 Give formal approval to commence consultation on the specific proposal to establish new Primary education provision to serve the new housing development at Llanilid, Llanharan.

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 To progress the proposals in accordance with the process outlined in Welsh Government legislative guidance (the School Organisation Code).

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Outline planning consent for the construction of up to 1,850 homes at the former Llanillid Opencast Site, Llanharan, was granted by the Council's Development Control Committee in January 2016, following over six years of discussion and consideration of the proposals between Council officers and agents representing the landowners. The delay in applying for and granting planning consent was mainly due to the complex nature and large scale of the proposals, and the fact that the original agents responsible for the planning application went in to administration.
- 4.2 As part of the planning process, the Council will collect a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) on each dwelling constructed, which will be utilised to provide the essential infrastructure that is required to support a housing development of this size. It has already been agreed that a new Primary school, of 540 places in total (including Nursery provision) will form part of the essential infrastructure. The housing developers have requested that they be allowed to construct the school building and hand it over to the Council at an agreed point in time; the Council has agreed to this request. A further planning application for full permission to commence the first phase of house construction has been received and is due to be considered by the Council's Planning and Development Committee in September 2018; if permission is granted, house construction will commence before the end of the year.
- 4.3 The Council currently maintains, within close proximity of the development site, an established dual language school, namely Dolau Primary School. This school offers education provision in either Welsh Medium or English Medium, subject to parental preference. Our proposal in respect of the establishment of new Primary education for the adjacent Llanilid development is to open the new school building as an extension to Dolau Primary in the first instance.
- 4.4 When establishing a new school, the first part of the process is to appoint a temporary governing body, who are then responsible for appointing a new Headteacher for the new school. The next stage of the process is for the Headteacher and temporary governing body to agree an outline staffing structure for the new school and once approved, to make the necessary appointments to the posts agreed on this structure.
- 4.5 In order to agree a staffing structure, the governors must firstly be provided with a draft budget for the new school, of which 80% is provided based on the estimated number of pupils that will attend the new school when it opens. This work is usually undertaken during the

year preceding the school opening. Estimating the number of children who may attend a brand new school that is being constructed to serve housing development, that is still in its relatively early stages of construction is extremely difficult, which makes this essential preparatory work problematic to say the least.

- 4.6 Dolau Primary School is a successful, high performing school, as evidenced by the data and other information included within the consultation document for this proposal, which is attached as Appendix 1. The last Estyn inspection of the school, undertaken in July 2015 made the following statement in respect of the standards of leadership and management of the school 'Members of the senior management team contribute effectively to the school's shared vision, and work successfully together. The headteacher has established a robust three-tiered management and leadership structure. This provides inexperienced leaders with worthwhile opportunities to lead curriculum based initiatives when senior members of staff receive promotion to other posts in different schools. This very well-organised leadership framework develops future leaders successfully'.
- 4.7 It is considered, therefore, that to open a new school provision for Llanilid, as an extension of Dolau Primary School, in the first instance, rather than establishing a brand new school, is in the best interests of the pupils who will attend and the staff who will work there. The existing leadership team of Dolau, recognised by Estyn as being extremely successful will be able to establish the new provision to the same high standards currently achieved at this school. It will also remove the need to appoint a new Headteacher and the uncertainty connected with creating a staffing structure with unknown pupil numbers; as the school grows in size more staff will be appointed to cater for the increasing numbers of pupils who will attend as more houses are constructed and occupied. The Headteacher will be able to utilise the new school accommodation and transfer some of the existing classes of Dolau to the new building, as he sees fit.
- 4.8 The Council will undertake appropriate traffic impact assessments to improve the 'Safe Routes' in the community which will involve additional on- site drop off areas for parents to improve traffic and road safety management in and around the curtilage of the new building and the existing school. A safe access pathway to link the two buildings will also be created. The Council will also work with parents and the community to promote and encourage sustainable travel such as promoting walking and cycling to reduce the impact of traffic around the school at key times of the day.
- 4.9 Dolau Primary School will continue to offer dual language provision, which will give parents the freedom to choose which language

medium they wish for their child to be educated in, either English, or Welsh.

- 4.10 The Llanilid housing development is expected to yield a total of 1,850 housing units; when all are constructed it is expected that the total available capacity of the new school building and that of the existing Dolau Primary building will be utilised. It is also likely that further housing development, possibly of over 3,000 units may be constructed in this part of the County Borough in future years. This number of houses will require the construction of more education facilities, both for Primary and Secondary aged pupils, to serve the growing community. There will therefore be a need for further reorganisation of education provision in the future, which will include the consideration of establishing the new school building at Llanilid as a separate school in its own right; the language medium of this school will also need to be determined at this point in time.

5 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Welsh Language, Equality and Community Impact Assessments are being prepared in respect of this proposal and will be published on the Council's website together with the consultation document that outlines the proposal in detail. Copies of these documents will be prepared in readiness for the commencement of the consultation process and will be published as outlined above.

6 CONSULTATION

- 6.1 The consultation process in respect of this proposal will be undertaken under the arrangements outlined in the Welsh Government's School Organisation Code. These arrangements stipulate that consultation must be undertaken when the proposals are at a formative stage and that consultation documents must be prepared and circulated to prescribed consultees, as well as being published on the Council website.
- 6.2 A consultation document for the proposal outlined in this report is attached as Appendix 1; the proposed consultation period for the proposal, if it is agreed to progress this matter will run from 1st October to 31st December 2018. Details of meetings that will be organised will be added to the document once they have been confirmed.

7. THE STATUTORY PROCESS

- 7.1 The process for making a regulated alteration to a school is set out in the Welsh Government statutory code document 006/2013 – the School Organisation Code. The Code sets out the policy context and general principles for reviewing the supply of school places and sets

out the factors that need to be taken into account by those bringing forward proposals. It also outlines the format of the consultation process and identifies the key stakeholders that must be consulted.

7.2 The Welsh Government has recently conducted consultation on revisions to the above Code and it is expected that a new statutory document will be put in place by 1st November 2018. The attached consultation document and the consultation process will therefore be conducted in accordance with the provisions of this revised Code.

7.3 The initial consultation on the proposal outlined in this report will involve all key stakeholders as outlined in the revised Code. This consultation will take place over a 12-week period (not including school holidays) and the proposed timetable for the whole process is as follows:

- Consultation period 1st October 2018 – 31st December 2018
- Report back to Cabinet on outcome of consultation – January 2019
- Statutory Notice published (if approved by Cabinet) for a 28 day period – February 2019
- Report back to Cabinet on outcome of statutory notice period and details of objections received, with appropriate recommendations – March 2019.

7.4 The School Organisation Code now makes provision for local authorities to determine their own statutory proposals; under the former arrangements, if just one objection was received following publication of the statutory notice, the proposals had to be forwarded to the Welsh Ministers, who would make the final decision as to whether the proposal could be implemented or not. This only now occurs when specific circumstances exist, e.g. if the proposal involves the removal of 6th form provision from a school. This specific proposal will therefore be determined by the Council's Cabinet at the conclusion of the consultation process outlined in the timetable above.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 The capital cost of constructing the new school will be met by the housing developers (Persimmon Homes) as part of their Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) responsibilities. It has already been agreed that the developers will construct the new school building, to a design specification and accommodation schedule agreed by the Council; on completion, the developers will hand the building over to the Council.

9 LINKS TO THE COUNCIL'S CORPORATE PLAN / OTHER CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND THE WELL BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT

- 9.1 The Council's Corporate Plan commits to "Continue to invest in improving school buildings, to ensure the County Borough's pupils have the learning environment fit for the 21st Century." The proposals considered in the report have taken into account the seven well-being goals and the five ways of working.

10 CONCLUSION

- 10.1 Members are asked to consider the attached consultation document, to agree to its publication and to give officers approval to commence the required statutory consultation process to progress this proposal.

Other Information:-

Relevant Scrutiny Committee: Children and Young People

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

AS AMENDED BY

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET

20TH SEPTEMBER 2018

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND INCLUSION SERVICES IN DISCUSSION WITH THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION & LIFELONG LEARNING, COUNCILLOR J ROSSER.

Item:

PROPOSALS TO ESTABLISH PRIMARY EDUCATION PROVISION FOR THE LLANILID HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

Background Papers

The background papers included as appendices to the report are:

- **Consultation Document**
(various Impact Assessments are being prepared and will be completed prior to consultation commencing)

Contact Officer

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RHONDDA CYNON TAF

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

**CONSULTATION ON A PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH
NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL PROVISION FOR THE
LLANILID HOUSING DEVELOPMENT, BY EXTENDING
THE PROVISION OF DOLAU PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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Introduction to the Proposal

Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council wishes to seek the views of a wide range of stakeholders on a proposal to establish new Primary Education provision to serve the new housing development at Llanilid, Llanharan.

Outline planning consent for the construction of up to 1,850 homes at the former Llanilid Opencast Site, Llanharan, was granted by the Council's Development Control Committee in January 2016, following over six years of discussion and consideration of the proposals between Council officers and agents representing the landowners. The delay in applying for and granting planning consent was mainly due to the complex nature and large scale of the proposals, and the fact that the original agents responsible for the planning application went in to administration.

As part of the planning process, the Council will collect a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) on each dwelling constructed, which will be utilised to provide the essential infrastructure that is required to support a housing development of this size. It has already been agreed that a new Primary school building, of 540 places in total (including Nursery provision) will form part of the essential infrastructure. The housing developers have requested that they be allowed to construct the school building and hand it over to the Council at an agreed point in time, as 'part payment' of their CIL obligation; the Council has accepted and agreed to this request. A further planning application for full permission to commence the first phase of house construction has been received and is due to be considered by our Planning and Development Committee in September 2018; if permission is granted, house construction will commence before the end of the year.

The Council has undertaken a full assessment of the potential impact of this large development on existing school provision in this area and has also calculated the numbers of children that are likely to reside on this development. This calculation is outlined and explained in a document entitled 'Supplementary Planning Guidance', which is available to view and download from the Council website at www.rctcbc.gov.uk. The relevant section of this document is 'Planning Obligations'.

To ensure that the demand for school places can be met in future years, through the preferred language medium of the parents' choice, it is proposed that the new school building be established, in the first instance, as an **extension to the dual language school provision of Dolau Primary School**. As part of the Welsh Government initiative to increase the number of people in Wales who can speak the Welsh Language to at least 1 million by 2050, the Council is aiming to increase capacity in the Welsh Language school sector, to encourage more parents to choose this medium of education for their children. Dolau offers provision in both languages, with parents given the freedom to choose which language they wish for their child to be educated in.

The developers are proposing to construct the new school building in a single phase, so when it opens in 2021 it will initially have considerable surplus capacity. This capacity will be filled as and when the new homes are constructed and become occupied, but in order

to avoid the unacceptable scenario of a new school opening with very few pupils on day 1, we have instead decided to treat the new building as an extension to an already well established school in the first instance. Dolau Primary is a very successful school, as is evidenced by the data and information provided in this document and is located a very short distance (approx. 400m) from the site of the new building. Having the new school provision as an extension to this successful school, rather than as a separate entity will allow the senior leadership and governors of Dolau to work with the Council to establish new school provision under their expert guidance. This will also remove the need to appoint a new Headteacher and produce a staffing structure for a new school, which could open with very few pupils in attendance. The Headteacher of Dolau will be able to utilise the new building to accommodate classes between the two buildings as he sees fit, to make the best use of all available resources. The school will then 'grow' as more houses are constructed.

The construction of 1,850 dwellings is considered to be the first phase of what is likely to be a much larger development in forthcoming years. There is sufficient land available in this area to be able to construct a further 3000+ homes and should this be realised, there will be a need to consider the establishment of further education provision, both in the Primary and Secondary school sectors, to serve this expanding community. The new school building will form part of the education provision that will serve this wider area and by this time, its provision will be firmly established under the management and guidance of Dolau Primary School. At this point in time, the Council will make an assessment of the requirements and demand for school places, including the likely language medium choices being expressed by parents, and will consider establishing the Llanilid primary school building as a new school in its own right.

Who will we consult with?

We are seeking the views of the following stakeholders:

- The governing body of Dolau Primary School
- Pupils of Dolau Primary School
- Parents, carers, and staff members of Dolau Primary School
- The governors, pupils, parents, carers and staff members of Ysgol Llanhari and Y Pant Comprehensive School
- Other governing bodies of neighbouring primary schools, including those in adjacent local authority areas
- The governing body of Pencoed Comprehensive School
- The Church in Wales and Roman Catholic Diocesan Authorities
- Members of Parliament for the Rhondda Cynon Taf constituencies
- Estyn
- Teaching and staff trade unions
- Central South Education Consortium
- South East Wales Transport Association
- South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner
- Cwm Taf Local Health Board
- The Early Years and Childcare Partnership
- Llanharan Community Council
- Llanharry Community Council
- The Welsh Language

- Welsh Minister for Education & Skills
- Assembly Members for the Rhondda Cynon Taf constituencies and regional Assembly Members for the area
- Commissioner
- Menter Iaith
- Mudiad Meithrin
- Neighbouring local authorities

What will the consultation process entail?

The consultation will start on the 1st October 2018 and will be completed at 5pm on 31st December 2018. The feedback from the consultation will be collated and summarised, and a report presented to the Council's Cabinet in January 2019. This consultation report will be available for all persons to view on the Council's internet site and copies can be obtained on request from the addresses detailed on Page 6 of this document.

The Council's Cabinet will consider the report and will decide, based on the feedback, whether to proceed with the proposal, make changes to the proposal or not proceed with the proposal. If the Cabinet decides not to proceed, that will be the end of this proposal.

If the Cabinet decides to proceed with the proposal a statutory notice is published providing a 28 day notice period for objections. The School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 requires that anyone wishing to make objections to a school organisation proposal has the opportunity to do so. To be considered as statutory objections, objections **must** be made in writing or by email, and sent to the Council within 28 days of the date on which the proposal was published.

The Council's Cabinet will consider the outcome of the statutory notice at the next available Cabinet meeting and determine whether to implement the proposal.

If there are objections, the Council's Director of Education will publish an objection report providing a summary of the objections and her response to them within 7 days of the day of the determination of the proposal. This report will also be available for all persons to view on the Council's internet site and copies can be obtained on request from the addresses detailed on Page 6 of this document.

If the Council's Cabinet approve the proposal, the proposal will be implemented in accordance with the date given in the statutory notice or any subsequently modified date. In the case of this proposal the implementation date is **1st September 2021** for the extended school provision at Dolau Primary School. This date is dependent on progress made by the housing developer and may be subject to change therefore.

What do you have to consider?

The remainder of the consultation document sets out the rationale for the extension of dual language Primary school provision at Dolau Primary. We would like you to consider

the information contained within this document and to hear your views as to whether or not you support the proposals as described.

How do you make your views known?

Consultation events will be held and you are welcome to attend the appropriate meeting.

School Affected	Group	Time/Date	Venue
Dolau Primary School	Governing Body and Staff Meeting	Thursday, 18 th October 2018, 3.30 – 4.15pm	Dolau Primary School
Dolau Primary School	School Council	Thursday, 18 th October 2018, 2pm	Dolau Primary School
Members of the local community	Parents and public drop in session and exhibition	Thursday, 18 th October 2018, 4.30 – 6pm	Dolau Primary School

A consultation questionnaire is attached, it will also be available at the drop-in session detailed above and on the Council's internet site at

<http://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/EN/GetInvolved/Consultations/Schoolconsultations.aspx>

The questionnaire also enables consultees to register their wish to be notified of the publication of the consultation report to the Council's Cabinet.

You are also welcome to put your views, comments and any questions you may have in writing to:

Director of Education
 21st Century Schools Team
 Ty Trevithick
 Abercynon CF45 4UQ Telephone (01443) 744227 Fax (01443) 744224

E-mail schoolplanning@rctcbc.gov.uk

All correspondence should be received **no later than 5pm Monday, 31st December 2018.**

Please note that responses to the consultation will not be counted as objections to the proposal. Objections can only be forwarded following the publication of the statutory notice.

Background to the proposal

The new proposed school provision for the Llanilid housing development

As outlined previously, the new school provision is required to cater for known and planned housing development at the former Llanilid Opencast Site, Llanharan. The site is identified as a strategic housing site in the Rhondda Cynon Taf Local Development Plan (LDP) 2006 – 2021; a new Primary school building to serve the development is detailed in the LDP as a policy requirement for essential infrastructure necessary to support the development.

It is proposed that the new school building will accommodate up to 480 pupils, plus 60 part time Nursery places, for children aged between 3 and 11 years. It will be created and established as an extension to Dolau Primary School in the first instance, and will thus increase the total available capacity of this dual language school to 921, plus 124 part time Nursery places. The admission number will be 131 per year group and the admissions authority will be Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council. The admissions policy of the LA is outlined in a document entitled 'Starting School', this document is updated annually and contains information on how to apply for a school place, and the criteria used to determine admission applications in the case of oversubscription. The current version of the document (for the academic year 2018 - 2019) can be viewed and downloaded from the Council website at:

<https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/EN/Resident/SchoolsandLearning/Applyingforaschoolplace/RelatedDocuments/1819/StartingSchool201819.pdf>.

The site of the new provision that will form the extension will be located at the top right hand sector of the development site, immediately adjacent to the site of the existing Dolau Primary School. An indicative site plan for the housing development, denoting the location of the proposed school building is included in this document for information (see page 15). The school building will comprise 16 general teaching classrooms, a large Nursery unit capable of accommodating 60 children (on a part time basis) and the general ancillary accommodation associated with a primary school, such as a multi-functional assembly hall, kitchen, staff room, offices, toilets, storage and changing rooms. The external areas will include a tarmac playground, car park, MUGA and a sports pitch that will be operated as a joint use facility with the local community. The sports facilities will also be available for use by the existing Dolau Primary School. As the two buildings are located just a short distance from each other, arrangements will be made to create an access between the two sites to ensure a safe and secure walking route between the two buildings that will comprise the extended Dolau Primary School.

The new building will be fully accessible to all and will meet all the requirements and provisions of the Equality Act 2010.

The building will be constructed by Persimmon Homes under the direction and supervision of the local authority and will be handed over to the Council on completion

of construction, which is scheduled to coincide with the construction of the 299th dwelling on the development.

The catchment schools serving the Llanilid housing development will therefore be:

English and Welsh Medium Primary – Dolau Primary School.

The catchment area of Dolau Primary School will therefore be expanded to encompass the new Llanilid housing development for both English and Welsh Medium Primary provision.

The associated Secondary schools to which pupils attending the schools overleaf would ordinarily transfer to (at Year 7), subject to parental preference and a successful application are:

Welsh Medium Secondary – Ysgol Llanhari

English Medium Secondary – Y Pant Comprehensive

Although Y Pant is designated as the catchment school for this development, there is a nearer school that offers Secondary education, namely Pencoed Comprehensive School, which is located in Bridgend County Borough. Any children resident on the Llanilid development who apply for and are successful in obtaining a place at Pencoed will receive free transportation to this school, as it is the nearest school to their home address and is in the main, outside of the two mile 'qualifying distance' operated by RCTCBC for school transport provision. The walking route to Pencoed from Llanilid is also classed as 'unavailable', so any pupils not receiving transport on distance criteria will still qualify for free transport on these grounds.

It must be noted at this point that catchment areas of all schools are subject to regular review and may be changed as part of this review process. It is a fact that there is likely to be further, extensive housing development in this part of the County Borough in future years, with further school provision being constructed as a necessary element to support this expansion. As a result of this the catchment areas will need to be reviewed regularly as development proceeds, in particular those of the Secondary schools detailed above, and changes to the associations between the Primary and Secondary schools will be inevitable should new Secondary school provision be opened in the future.

As indicated in the introduction to this document, once the housing development is well established and the pupil numbers at Dolau increase to fill the spare capacity that will be created by the new building, consideration will be given to making the new building a separate school in its own right. The language medium of the new school will also be determined at this point in time.

There is a statutory duty placed upon the local authority (LA) to provide learners with free transport to their nearest suitable school if they reside beyond safe "walking distance" to that school. The term suitable school applies to the catchment area English, Welsh or dual language mainstream school or special school/class as appropriate. The law relating to safe "walking distance" is defined as two miles for learners of compulsory

school age receiving primary education and three miles for learners of compulsory school age receiving secondary education.

Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council has exercised the discretionary powers afforded to it under the provisions of the Learner Travel (Wales) Measure 2008 to make a more generous provision to learners as set out below:

- The eligibility criterion for walking distance for learners receiving compulsory primary education at their nearest suitable school has been set at 1½ miles, instead of 2 miles as required by the Measure;
- Free transport to their nearest suitable school, where places are available, is provided to children who meet the 1½ mile eligibility criterion from the start of the Foundation Phase (the start of the school term after their third birthday), rather than from the start of compulsory education (the start of the school term after their fifth birthday) as required by the Measure.
- The eligibility criterion for walking distance for learners receiving compulsory secondary education at their nearest suitable school has been set at 2 miles instead of 3 miles as required by the Measure.
- Free transport is provided to post 16 learners who meet the 2 mile eligibility criterion for two years after the end of compulsory education, rather than until the end of compulsory education as required by the Measure. This provision applies to full time attendance at the nearest school or college to the learner's home at which the approved course of study that they wish to pursue is offered.
- Free transport to their nearest suitable school is provided to learners (as set out above) in accordance with their preferred religious denomination.
- The term suitable school applies to the catchment area English, Welsh, dual language or voluntary aided (faith) mainstream school or special school/class as appropriate.

The Welsh Government and the Council has adopted the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child which is expressed in seven core aims that all children and young people:

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

We consider that this proposal will benefit the children who will attend the new school, and those who will continue to attend Dolau Primary School in accordance with the seven core aims set out above.

Information on Dolau Primary School

Dolau Primary School is a dual language Community Primary School situated at Bridgend Road, Llanharan. The school site comprises a traditional style building, constructed in 1928 (which has Grade II listed building status) and a modern classroom block and hall extension added in 2009. Based on the results of the Welsh Government commissioned building survey of all schools Dolau Primary is graded a B for condition and a B for suitability, where A is the highest and D is the lowest performing building respectively. The current figure for the maintenance work that would be desirable to undertake at this school is £414,000.

The pupil numbers at Dolau Primary over the past four years are shown below and are obtained from the statutory pupil level annual school census (PLASC) which must be undertaken in January each year. All data is split between the respective English (E) and Welsh (W) departments of the school:

School	Age Range	School Capacity (whole school)	Jan 2014	Jan 2015	Jan 2016	Jan 2017	Jan 2018
Dolau Primary (W)	3 - 11	441	188	182	177	176	182
Dolau Primary (E)	3 - 11	441	198	224	235	231	243

Nursery numbers (total numbers of pupils attending)

School	Jan 2014	Jan 2015	Jan 2016	Jan 2017	Jan 2018
Dolau Primary (W)	23	20	24	26	16
Dolau Primary (E)	43	42	38	38	46

Five year forecasts for the school:

School	School capacity (excluding nursery)	Jan 2019	Jan 2020	Jan 2021	Jan 2022	Jan 2023
Dolau Primary (W)	441	163	157	148	146	141
Dolau Primary (E)	441	250	265	262	256	248

Primary School Standards

The tables below set out the performance of the two departments of Dolau Primary School for the key measures of educational performance over the past three years and compare the school to similar schools across Wales based on the numbers of pupils in receipt of free school meals:

Subjects	Foundation Phase Outcomes					
	2015 %		2016 %		2017 %	
	Dolau Primary (W)	Dolau Primary (E)	Dolau Primary (W)	Dolau Primary (E)	Dolau Primary (W)	Dolau Primary (E)
Foundation Phase Indicator	97 (1)	93.1 (2)	96.4 (1)	94.3 (2)	95.2 (2)	92.3 (3)
Personal and social development wellbeing and cultural diversity	100 (1)	96.6 (3)	100 (1)	100 (1)	100 (1)	100 (1)
Language literacy and communication skills English/welsh	97 (2)	93.1 (2)	96.4 (2)	97.1 (1)	95.2 (2)	92.3 (3)
Mathematical development	97.2 (2)	93.1 (2)	96.4 (2)	94.3 (3)	95.2 (2)	92.3 (3)

The figures in brackets in the table above, compare the schools to similar schools across Wales based on free school meals. The performance is compared using benchmarked quartiles, with 1 being the highest and 4 the lowest.

Subjects	Key Stage Two Outcomes					
	2015		2016		2017	
	Dolau Primary (W)	Dolau Primary (E)	Dolau Primary (W)	Dolau Primary (E)	Dolau Primary (W)	Dolau Primary (E)
English	95.8 (2)	92.0 (3)	92.3 (3)	97.2 (2)	100 (1)	100 (1)
Welsh 1 st lang	95.8 (2)	N/A	92.3 (2)	N/A	100 (1)	N/A
Maths	100 (1)	92.0 (3)	100 (1)	94.4 (3)	100 (1)	100 (1)
Science	100 (1)	92.0 (4)	100 (1)	100 (1)	100 (1)	100 (1)
Core Subject Indicator (CSI)	95.8 (2)	92.0 (3)	92.3 (3)	94.4 (2)	100 (1)	100 (1)

The figures in brackets in the table above, compare the schools to similar schools across Wales based on free school meals. The performance is compared using benchmarked quartiles, with 1 being the highest and 4 the lowest.

The attendance of the pupils of the school over the past three years is set out overleaf, please note that this data is for the whole school:

Percentage of half-day sessions attended by pupils of statutory school age during the academic year						
School	2015	2015 Benchmark Quartile	2016	2016 Benchmark Quartile	2017	2017 Benchmark Quartile
Dolau Primary	95.5	2	95.1	3	95.6	2

Dolau Primary School was last inspected by Estyn in July 2015. The school's current performance was deemed to be good, and its prospects for improvement also good.

Estyn also set out that, in order to build upon the progress made to date, the school should:

- Provide more opportunities for pupils to develop their numeracy skills across the curriculum, especially in key stage 2
- Ensure consistency in marking so that pupils have a better understanding of what they need to do to improve their work

The Council's School Improvement Services are provided by the Central South Consortium, a regional school improvement services for the five local authorities of Bridgend, Cardiff, Merthyr Tydfil, Rhondda Cynon Taf and the Vale of Glamorgan. Schools are rated as either Green, Yellow, Amber or Red in respect of their standards. The Consortium categorises the performance of each school in the region and considers that:

Dolau Primary School has been categorised as a 'Green' school, the highest level it can achieve. This rating means that the school has a track record of sustaining a high level of learner outcomes, it demonstrates resilience at all levels and is challenged to move forward towards, or sustaining excellence.

Future Forecasts for the extended Dolau Primary School

It is intended that this proposal be implemented in September 2021. The housing developer has advised us of the number of housing units that are likely to be completed each year from 2019 onwards. We have therefore recalculated our future forecasts from 2021 to 2023 (the end of our current forecasting period), for Dolau Primary with the new building as an extension to its provision, to include the impact of housing development as follows:

School	2021	2022	2023
Dolau Primary	534	566	596

The housing construction works will be on going until the full planned complement of 1,850 houses are completed, pupil numbers at the school will therefore continue to rise

steadily in subsequent years. This is likely to take at least 10 years, based on the estimated rate of completion of houses provided by the developers.

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Governance, Staffing and Admission Arrangements

As this new provision is being created as an extension to Dolau Primary School, rather than a new school in its own right, the current governing body and leadership of Dolau Primary will remain in place. As the pupil numbers rise on completion of the new houses, there will be a need for the governing body to continually review their staffing structure and to appoint more staff as and when they are required. Parents will apply for places as they do at present. The new building, which will be classed as an extension is located just 5 minutes walk from the existing Dolau Primary buildings, so there will be no changes to school journeys, travelling times or transport eligibility.

It will be a matter for the Headteacher and governing body to manage the use of the accommodation that will be provided at the new building, but we would expect them to make full use of the new accommodation and facilities by transferring some of the existing classes at the school to the new building when it opens.

Financial Details

As this is the creation of new school provision, by means of an extension to existing provision, with no other schools closing as a consequence, there will be no financial savings achieved by these proposals. The capital costs of the new building will be met by the housing developers as part of their required contributions to provide the necessary infrastructure to service their development. This will be paid as part of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) that they have an obligation to meet.

The Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP)

All local authorities in Wales now have to produce a Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP). This document indicates how the local authority intends to promote the teaching of the Welsh Language, how it intends working towards increasing the number of children taught through the medium of Welsh and how it can assist achieving the Welsh Government's target of having one million people in Wales speaking Welsh by 2050. The WESP for RCT can be viewed and downloaded from the Council website via this [link](https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/EN/Council/WelshServices/Relateddocs/WelshinEducationStrategicPlan201720.pdf)
<https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/EN/Council/WelshServices/Relateddocs/WelshinEducationStrategicPlan201720.pdf>.

Included among the list of actions and outcomes the Council will undertake to help achieve the targets set out in the WESP, by increasing the number of seven year-old children being taught through the medium of Welsh are the following:

- New and improved school buildings with appropriate capacity levels to fully meet forecasted demand for Welsh Medium provision in their catchment areas

The extension to the dual language provision of Dolau Primary School will make more Welsh Medium school places available, and will give parents the total freedom of choice and flexibility to have their children taught in the language medium of their choice.

What is the statutory process to extend provision at an existing school?

The Code on School Organisation (“The Code”) is made under Sections 38 and 39 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013. The Code came into force on 1 October 2013 and applies in respect of all school proposals published by way of a statutory notice after that date. The current Code is due to be revised on 1st November 2018 and the process we will undertake will follow the guidance contained within this updated document. Proposals to make regulated alterations to schools, by increasing their capacity by more than 25% of their existing levels have to follow the following process:

1. The Council’s Cabinet considers the Code and authorises a consultation process to commence;
2. At the start of the consultation period the Council **must** provide consultees with access to a consultation document and give them at least 42 days in which to respond, with at least 20 of these days being school days. If the Council considers it appropriate meetings are held with stakeholders during the consultation period;
3. Consultation comments are collated and summarised by the Council. This summary together with the Council’s officers own responses is published in a consultation report within 13 weeks of the end of the consultation period, and two weeks prior to the publication of any statutory notice, and presented to the Council’s Cabinet for consideration;
4. The Council’s Cabinet decide whether to proceed with the changes within 26 weeks of the end of the consultation period. If the decision is to proceed, Step 5 is taken. If a new option emerges during the consultation which the Council’s Cabinet wish to consider, then Steps 1-3 are repeated;
5. Statutory notice is published providing a 28 day notice period for objections. The notice **must** be published on a school day and with 15 school days (not including the day of publication) in the notice period;
6. If objections are received, the Council **must** publish an objection report providing a summary of the objections and their responses to them before the end of 7 days beginning with the day of the local authority’s determination as to whether to proceed with the proposals;
7. The Council’s Cabinet must decide to issue its decision on the proposals within 16 weeks of the end of the objection period;
8. If the proposals receive approval they should be implemented in accordance with the date given in the statutory notice, or any subsequent modified date.



Consultation Response Pro-forma

In order to comply with its legal duty under the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and help the Council reach a decision on the proposal below, it would be very helpful if you could answer the following questions. Please note, any personal information given by you will not be shared and only used to provide you with feedback, should you request it. Any comments that could identify you will be anonymised in the consultation report produced. Completed questionnaires should be returned to:

Director of Education

21st Century Schools Team

Ty Trevithick

Abercynon

CF45 4UQ

or by fax to 01443 744224, or e-mail schoolplanning@rctcbc.gov.uk

The proposal

The proposal is to create new, dual language Primary education provision to serve the Llanilid housing development, by constructing a new school building on the development site and then establishing its provision, in the first instance, as an extension to Dolau Primary School.

1. Do you agree with the proposal? Yes No Not sure

Please let us know the reasons for your choice

2. Please state any additional views or points which you would like to be taken into account (attach additional sheets if necessary)

3. Please indicate who you are (eg parent of a pupil at named school, governor at named school, member of the community etc.)

4. Name (optional)

5. Please provide contact details if you wish to be notified of publication of the consultation report

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire

Please forward completed questionnaires to the above address no later than 31st December 2018.

The Council is committed to keeping your personal information safe and secure and keeping you informed about how we use your information. To learn about how your privacy is protected and how and why we use your personal information to provide you with services, please visit our Consultation privacy notice here www.rctcbc.gov.uk/serviceprivacynotice and the Councils **data protection** pages here www.rctcbc.gov.uk/dataprotection.

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