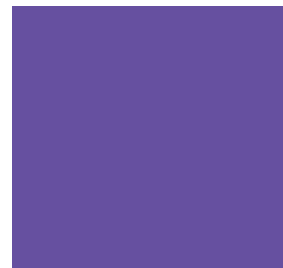
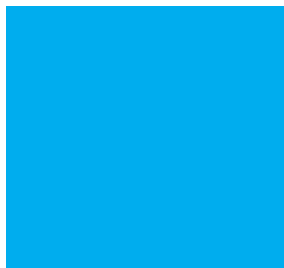


21ST CENTURY SCHOOLS**CONSULTATION REPORT**

CONSULTATION ON A PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A NEW WELSH MEDIUM PRIMARY SCHOOL FOR 3 TO 11 YEAR OLDS AS PART OF THE LLANILID HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AND THE PROPOSED CHANGE OF LANGUAGE MEDIUM OF DOLAU PRIMARY SCHOOL FROM DUAL LANGUAGE TO ENGLISH MEDIUM.

The Consultation Report and Appendices are also available on the 'Get Involved' page on Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council's website.

Mae'r ddogfen yma ar gael yn y Gymraeg/This document is available in Welsh.

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1. Proposal

Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council (RCTCBC) wishes to seek the views of stakeholders on the proposal to establish a new Welsh medium primary school for 3 to 11 year olds as part of the Llanilid housing development and the proposed change of language medium of Dolau Primary School from dual language to English medium. It is proposed that the new Welsh medium primary school will open no later than the 2027 academic year with a capacity of 480 for statutory school (reception to year six) age pupils plus a capacity for 60 nursery age pupils. Dolau Primary School will become an English medium primary school at this time with an increased capacity of 488 for statutory school (reception to year six) age pupils plus a capacity for 63 for nursery age pupils.

The proposal is made in accordance with the Welsh Government's (WG's) School Organisation Code (2nd Edition) (011/2018). Section 2.1 of the WG's School Organisation Code (2nd Edition) (011/2018) refers to elements of school organisation that require the publication of proposals, including:

- The opening of a maintained school.
- To make a regulated alteration to a maintained school.

Details of the proposal and the rationale behind it are fully outlined in the Consultation Document and Impact Assessments that were circulated to all the stakeholders. The link to these documents is below:

[New Welsh Medium Primary School Consultation | Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council \(rctcbc.gov.uk\)](https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk)

2. Purpose of the Consultation Report

This Consultation Report is prepared in accordance with the WG's School Organisation Code (2nd Edition) (011/2018). Its purpose is to inform the stakeholders listed below of the outcome of the consultation held between Monday 9th September 2024 and 17:00 on Friday 25th October 2024.

3. Who have we consulted with?

A copy of the Consultation Document, which fully outlined and explained the proposal, was sent to the following stakeholders. The Consultation Document was also published on RCTCBC's website.

- The Governing Body of Dolau Primary School.
- Parents/carers and staff members of Dolau Primary School.
- Pupils of Dolau Primary School.
- Central South Consortium Joint Education Service.
- Childcare providers.
- Children and Young People's Partnership.
- Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board.
- Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.
- Estyn.
- Llanharan Community Council.
- Members of Parliament for the area
- Members of the Senedd and Regional Members of the Senedd for the area.

- Menter Iaith.
- Mudiad Meithrin.
- Neighbouring Councils.
- Police and Crime Commissioner for the area.
- RCTCBC's Education and Inclusion Scrutiny Committee.
- Rhag.
- Teaching and staff trade unions.
- The Church in Wales and Roman Catholic Diocesan Authorities.
- Welsh Language Commissioner.
- Welsh Ministers.

4. **Consultation Process**

All stakeholders identified in section 3 were sent a link to electronic copies of the Consultation Document and Impact Assessments. The table that follows also outlines the meetings that were convened with the Governing Body and staff members and School Council of Dolau Primary School, as well as the drop in session that was held to provide an opportunity for parents/cares and the local community to also engage in the consultation process.

School(s) Affected	Group	Time/Date	Venue
School Council			
Dolau Primary School.	School Council.	13:30 on Thursday October 10 th 2024	Dolau School. Primary
Governing Body and Staff			
Dolau Primary School.	Governing Body and Staff.	15:45 on Monday September 30 th 2024	Dolau School. Primary
Public Drop in Session			
Parents/carers and members of the local community.		15:00 to 18:00 on Thursday October 10 th 2024	Dolau School. Primary

All meetings outlined in the previous table were held face-to-face.

Notes of the meeting with the Governing Body and staff members of Dolau Primary School were taken and are attached at *Appendix 1 – Minutes of Meeting with Governing Body and Staff Members of Dolau Primary School.* These notes record questions raised, comments and statements made during the meeting along with the responses provided where appropriate.

Notes of the meeting with the School Council of Dolau Primary School were taken and are attached at *Appendix 2 – Minutes of Meeting with School Council of Dolau Primary School.* These notes record questions raised, comments and statements made during the meeting along with the responses provided where appropriate.

A drop in session was also arranged so that members of the public could discuss the proposal with officers from RCTCBC's Directorate of Education and Inclusion Services and provide any feedback at the session. At the drop in session all attendees were requested to sign in so that the level of attendance could be recorded. The attendance register indicates that a total of six people attended. Where appropriate, visitors were asked to complete and submit a Consultation Response Form.

5. Summary of Consultation Responses

Responses to the questions raised at the Governing Body and Staff meeting and School Council meeting are summarised in the minutes attached at Appendix 1 and 2, respectively.

In total, 99 written responses were received, 4 in writing/or via email and 95 via online survey. 50 (50.5%) were in favour of the proposal, 37 (37.4%) were against the proposal, 10 (10.1 %) was unsure and 2 (2.1%) did not provide an answer. This is summarised in the table that follows.

Summary of Consultation Responses		
Determination	Number	%
In Favour	50	50.5
Against	37	37.4
Unsure	10	10.1
Not Answered	2	2.0
Total	99	100.0

In compliance with the WG's School Organisation Code (2nd Edition) (011/2018), a summary of the written responses received during the consultation period are detailed in the table that follows along with clarification (where required).

To confirm, all responses received during this consultation have been made available to RCTCBC's Cabinet Members.

Summary of Written Responses	
Theme/Comments	Clarification where required
Additional primary school capacity is desperately needed to keep up with the housing development.	<p>All Local Authorities have a statutory duty placed upon them to appropriate plan for school places to ensure the right schools are in the right locations. This has been one of the drivers for developing this proposal.</p> <p>As such, in order to ensure that the demand for school places can be met in future years, it is proposed to establish a new Welsh medium primary school for 3 to 11 year olds as part of the Llanilid housing development and the proposed change of language medium of Dolau Primary School from dual language to English medium.</p>
Additional Welsh medium education provision will help increase opportunities for	It is generally agreed that bilingualism increases choice and opportunities for young people in their future careers.

pupils in Wales once they leave school.	<p>The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 (the 2011 Measure), which is a legal framework regarding the use of the Welsh language in public services, means that many workplaces in Wales must offer services to the public bilingually. Until recently, only public bodies were required to comply with the 2011 Measure, however, more recently organisations that are not considered public bodies also now fall under the provisions of the 2011 Measure. As such, an increase in Welsh medium education provision, not only in Rhondda Cynon Taf (RCT) but across Wales, will result in an increase in the number of Welsh speakers leaving school/completing further educational studies and entering the world of work here in Wales.</p> <p>An increase in the number of Welsh speakers as a result of increasing Welsh medium education provision will also contribute to achieving the vision of one million people in Wales being Welsh speakers by 2050, as set out in Cymraeg 2050.</p>
Changing the language medium of Dolau Primary School to English medium would create more English medium primary school capacity and would not help RCTCBC to meet its targets set out within the WESP target and in turn the WG to meet their targets set out within Cymraeg 2050.	Every Council in Wales must produce a Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP). The WESP is a long-term language planning tool which sets the direction for the strategic planning, delivery and growth in Welsh medium and Welsh language education. Through the WESP, and effective strategic planning and investment, RCTCBC aims to contribute significantly to achieving the vision of one million people in Wales being Welsh speakers by 2050, as set out in Cymraeg 2050.
Concerns were raised about capacity for English medium secondary education provision.	There is a statutory duty placed on Councils to effectively manage their school places. All school places, capacities, admissions and projections are kept under constant scrutiny. This a statutory responsibility and will continue to be reviewed on a regular basis.
Concerns were raised about Dolau Primary School's history being forgotten.	<p>Dolau Primary School will remain. This proposal is to establish a new Welsh medium primary school for 3 to 11 year olds as part of the Llanilid housing development and the proposed change of language medium of Dolau Primary School from dual language to English medium.</p> <p>Should the proposal proceed, Dolau Primary School and the new Welsh medium primary school could work in partnership to ensure the history of Dolau Primary School is not forgotten.</p> <p>This is an excellent idea for a school and community project and this will be fed back to the staff at the school.</p>
It could mean that for families with multiple children, some children could go to the new Welsh medium primary	Choosing a school is parent/carers choice. Applications will be dealt with in accordance with the WG's School Admissions Code 2013 (005/2013), and if this was something that

school, and some could go to Dolau Primary School meaning multiple drops offs and collections at the start and end of the school day.	parents/carers wanted for their children then yes this could be the case. However, to note the schools will be in close proximity to each other so any impact should be minimal.												
Could Ysgol Llanhari be improved.	Ysgol Llanhari is included within RCTCBC's Strategic Outline Programme to receive a significant level of investment via WG's Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme in the forthcoming years. A commitment to invest in the school has already been made by RCTCBC's Cabinet.												
Good to have separate English and Welsh medium education provision.	Noted. Opening a new dedicated Welsh medium primary school will not only increase the Welsh medium primary edcuation offer in the area but will also protect Welsh medium primary education pupil places, which is not the case in a dual langauge school where English medium numbers can grow to the detriment of the Welsh medium capacity.												
Good to see investment in Welsh medium education provision.	Noted.												
Good – the new school should be Welsh medium.	Noted.												
Is there surplus capacity in other primary schools (both English and Welsh medium) that could accommodate the pupils created as a result of the Llanilid housing development.	<p>There is capacity in other neighbouring schools although these schools are not in the catchment area for the new development.</p> <p>There is a statutory duty placed on Councils to effectively manage their school places. All school places, capacities, admissions and projections are kept under constant scrutiny.</p> <p>Information on the capacity of all schools affected by proposals must be included within all consultation documents in compliance with the WG's <u>School Organisation Code (2nd Edition) (011/2018)</u>.</p> <p>Information on the capacity of all Welsh medium primary schools affected by the proposal is included within the Consultation Document. Whist information on the capacity of the neighbouring English medium primary schools is shown below:</p> <table><tr><th><u>2024 - PLASC</u></th><th><u>Capacity Comp School Age</u></th><th><u>Pupils</u></th><th><u>Surplus</u></th><th><u>Nursery Capacity</u></th><th><u>Nursery Pupils</u></th></tr><tr><td>Brynnau Primary School</td><td>235</td><td>222</td><td>13</td><td>33</td><td>29</td></tr></table>	<u>2024 - PLASC</u>	<u>Capacity Comp School Age</u>	<u>Pupils</u>	<u>Surplus</u>	<u>Nursery Capacity</u>	<u>Nursery Pupils</u>	Brynnau Primary School	235	222	13	33	29
<u>2024 - PLASC</u>	<u>Capacity Comp School Age</u>	<u>Pupils</u>	<u>Surplus</u>	<u>Nursery Capacity</u>	<u>Nursery Pupils</u>								
Brynnau Primary School	235	222	13	33	29								

	<table><tr><td>Llanharan Primary School</td><td>131</td><td>133</td><td>-2</td><td>18</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>Llanhari Primary School</td><td>203</td><td>151</td><td>52</td><td>29</td><td>18</td></tr><tr><td>Pontyclun Primary School</td><td>480</td><td>372</td><td>108</td><td>68</td><td>44</td></tr><tr><td>Tonysguboriau Primary School</td><td>223</td><td>225</td><td>-2</td><td>31</td><td>23</td></tr></table>	Llanharan Primary School	131	133	-2	18	20	Llanhari Primary School	203	151	52	29	18	Pontyclun Primary School	480	372	108	68	44	Tonysguboriau Primary School	223	225	-2	31	23
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The determination to secure funding and meet the targets set out within RCTCBC's WESP and in turn met targets set out within the WG's Cymraeg 2050 seem to be a significant driver for the proposal.	The rationale for the proposal is included within the consultation documentation however it is acknowledged that this proposal will support the successful delivery of many several strategic objectives – some of which relate to the targets set out within RCTCBC's WESP and the WG's Cymraeg 2050.																								
There is a considerable cost of the proposal to build a new Welsh medium primary school.	<p>Yes, but RCTCBC regard the continued investment in education as a positive outcome.</p> <p>RCTCBC will utilise Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding to contribute to the majority of the cost of the new school, which, together with funding from the WG via the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme, will fund this project. The WG's Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme will fund up to 65.0% of project costs, and up to 100.0% of costs directly associated with making the new Welsh medium primary school Net Zero Carbon in operation.</p> <p>Detailed costs to deliver both the new Welsh medium primary school plus some small-scale adaptations to increase the capacity at Dolau Primary School will be developed should the proposal progress.</p>																								
This proposal makes sense. Dolau Primary School desperately needs additional capacity to keep up with the demand of the Llanilid housing development.	The proposal will ensure that the increased demand for both Welsh and English primary school pupil places, as a result of the Llanilid housing development, will be met.																								
Parents/carers should be offered a choice about the new school.	<p>The purpose of the consultation is to seek the views of stakeholders on the proposal to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to have their say and engage in the consultation process.</p> <p>Choosing a school is parent/carer choice. Applications will be dealt with in accordance with the Welsh Government's School Admissions Code 2013 (005/2013/8).</p>																								
Pupils who chose to be educated through the medium of Welsh would have to move	It is anticipated that the proposed changes will not have a long term, adverse impact on pupils, this information is included within the consultation documentation.																								

to a new school and this could disrupt their education.	<p>Understandably, some pupils may initially be daunted at the prospect of moving to a new school on a new site. However, should the proposal proceed, there will be targeted support for all pupils from Dolau Primary School. Meaningful and positive transition is an integral part of ensuring that pupils settle into their new school setting with little disruption to their wellbeing and education. This is supported by providing effective pastoral and academic support and structured opportunities for pupils to become familiar with the new school environment and staff.</p> <p>Advice and support will be provided by RCTCBC to staff from Dolau Primary School to ensure that the transition process is as smooth and seamless as possible.</p> <p>RCTCBC's Welsh Language Immersion Team provides support for pupils who choose to move to Welsh medium education from English medium education. This support will be available for any pupils that wish to utilise it and RCTCBC will ensure that there is sufficient resource within the team to support all pupils that wish to transfer.</p>
The catchment area for the new Welsh medium primary school should include children living in Bridgend County Borough Council.	Admissions to the new school, as with all schools, will be undertaken in accordance with the statutory School Admissions Code; and in accordance with this legislation, where there is space 'out of county' pupils are able to attend schools within RCT.
<p>The new school should be dual language.</p> <p>Would like Dolau Primary School to remain dual language.</p> <p>Would prefer for the proposal to be an extension to Dolau Primary School – as per the initial statutory school organisation consultation.</p>	<p>Opening a new dedicated Welsh medium primary school will not only increase the Welsh medium primary education offer in the area but will also protect those Welsh medium primary education pupil places, which is not the case in a dual language school.</p> <p>In addition, should the new school be a dual language primary school, RCTCBC would not meet its targets set out within the WESP or contribute significantly to achieving the vision of one million people in Wales being Welsh speakers by 2050, as set out by the WG in Cymraeg 2050.</p>
The new school should be English medium.	Growth in Welsh medium education is a strategic target for both the Welsh Government and RCTCBC. Should the new school be an English medium primary school, RCTCBC would not meet its targets set out within the WESP or contribute significantly to achieving the vision of one million people in Wales being Welsh speakers by 2050, as set out in Cymraeg 2050.
There is not equal weighting given to the proportion of English and Welsh medium education streams in dual language schools.	To accommodate parent/carers choice and to comply with the WG's School Admissions Code 2013(005/2013), the numbers of pupils accessing English medium education may result in diminished Welsh medium capacity which cannot be protected under the above mentioned Code in dual language schools.

<p>This could negatively impact staff who chose to teach through the medium of Welsh as they would have to apply for a post in the new school.</p>	<p>Should the proposal proceed, it is our intention to recommend to the temporary Governing Body of the proposed new Welsh medium primary school and the Governing Body of Dolau Primary School, that any additional posts required as a result of the establishment of the new Welsh medium primary school and Dolau Primary School becoming an English medium primary school, below senior leadership level, are ringfenced to the existing staff employed at Dolau Primary School in the first instance. This process means that staff at Dolau Primary School would be given the first opportunity to apply for additional posts, prior to any posts being advertised externally. If they are successful, they would then simply transfer when the proposal is implemented.</p> <p>RCTCBC has well established HR policies and procedures that give reassurance to staff and employers about the management of organisational change. RCTCBC's HR Team will visit all staff in Dolau Primary School and make them are aware of the processes that may follow and the operational and personal support that is on offer.</p>
<p>What shared facilities will there be between the Dolau Primary School and the new Welsh medium primary school?</p>	<p>Should the proposal proceed, the new Welsh medium primary school will be in very close proximity to the existing Dolau Primary School. As such, there will be potential for shared facilities at both schools.</p> <p>Plans for the new school include a multi-use games area, a 3G pitch as well as a large hall. The arrangements for sharing facilities will be the responsibility of both Governing Bodies.</p>
<p>It will create additional job opportunities in the local area.</p>	<p>As both schools grow in numbers as a result of the housing development then yes, more staff will be required to cater for the additional pupils.</p>
<p>The additional Learning Needs (ALN) support provided to children at Dolau Primary School, should be provided to those pupils attending the new Welsh medium primary school.</p>	<p>All pupils with ALN will continue to be supported. The Additional Learning Needs Education Tribunal (ALNET) Act provides detailed guidance on the duties and responsibilities of Councils in meeting the ALN of children and young people. Children and young people have ALN if they have a learning difficulty which calls for an additional learning provision to be made for them.</p> <p>The ALN Code for Wales (2021) recommends that Early Years and school settings adopt a graduated response to meeting ALN. A graduated response means that progressively greater expertise and support can be brought in to address the difficulties a child or young person may be experiencing. Additional or different provision should be made depending on the severity of the child/young person's level of need.</p> <p>There are no Learning Support Classes (LSC's) at Dolau Primary School. Dolau Primary School has 12 pupils with ALN, none of which have physical needs. Should the proposal proceed, support for pupils which is being provided by</p>

	RCTCBC's Access and Inclusion Service Team will continue and will not be affected for all existing and new pupils
Will there be a Cylch Meithrin co-located on the new Welsh medium primary school site.	Should the proposal proceed, RCTCBC will actively seek to establish a new Cylch Meithrin co-located on the site of the new Welsh medium primary school offering pre-school Cylch Meithrin sessions for two- to three-year-olds. It is anticipated that establishing a new Cylch Meithrin co-located on the site of the new Welsh medium primary school will encourage pupil numbers to grow. This will assist in ensuring a language continuum of Welsh medium education for children from the age of two to 11 years, within one Welsh medium primary school site.
The new Welsh medium primary school should offer the provision of a breakfast club and after school clubs to provide wrap-around in order to assist working parents/carers.	<p>Dolau Primary School runs a breakfast club. The breakfast club operating in Dolau Primary School is extremely popular with an average of 84* pupils receiving a breakfast every day. <i>*Figures based data since September 2024.</i></p> <p>Should the proposal proceed, the breakfast club at Dolau Primary School will remain and the new Welsh medium primary school will also run a breakfast club.</p> <p>The provision of breakfast club is the responsibility of the individual school and whilst these provisions are considered to be important, it should be noted that pre-school and after-school activities are not a statutory requirement.</p> <p>Currently Dolau Primary School runs many extra-curricular activities including rugby, cricket, hockey, netball and the Urdd Sports Club. In addition, various committees have been established at the school including a School Council, Eco Council, Digital Leaders at Dolau, Wellbeing Team, Dreigiau Dolau and Sports Council.</p> <p>Should the proposal proceed, extra-curricular activities at Dolau Primary School will remain and the expectation is that the new Welsh medium primary school will also run extra-curricular activities. Likewise, the committees at the school will remain and the new Welsh medium primary school will be encouraged and supported to establish the same.</p>
Will there be demand for additional Welsh medium primary school.	<p>In light of the housing developments in the area and in order to deliver capacity to cater for the demand of pupil places in this area, it is proposed that a new Welsh medium primary school is opened, and Dolau Primary School becomes English medium to enable both English and Welsh medium education in this part of the County Borough to grow and ensure that RCTCBC delivers on its statutory duty to provide sufficiency of school places.</p> <p>This part of the County Borough is likely to be designated as a strategic site in the developing Local Development Plan, and</p>

	<p>should this Welsh medium primary school be built, it will future proof Welsh medium education in the area in the long term and will cater for any new housing developments coming forward.</p>
<p>Will RCTCBC's Welsh Language Immersion Team provides be able to support all pupils who choose to move to Welsh medium education from English medium education?</p>	<p>RCTCBC's Welsh Language Immersion Team provides support for pupils who choose to move to Welsh medium education from English medium education. This support will be available for any pupils that wish to utilise it and RCTCBC will ensure that there is sufficient resource within the team to support all pupils that wish to transfer.</p> <p>Once the new Welsh medium primary school opens and Dolau Primary School becomes an English medium primary school, there will be capacity at the new Welsh medium primary school for any pupils of Dolau Primary School who wish to attend the new Welsh medium primary school instead of continuing with English medium education at Dolau Primary School.</p>
<p>This proposal would help RCTCBC to meet its targets set out within the WESP target and in turn the WG to meet their targets set out within Cymraeg 2050.</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Every Council in Wales must produce a Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP). The WESP is a long-term language planning tool which sets the direction for the strategic planning, delivery and growth in Welsh medium and Welsh language education. Through the WESP, and effective strategic planning and investment, RCTCBC aims to contribute significantly to achieving the vision of one million people in Wales being Welsh speakers by 2050, as set out in Cymraeg 2050.</p>
<p>Would like to see a Traffic Impact Assessment carried out for both schools.</p>	<p>As a part of the detailed design work required to construct the new school, a Traffic Impact Assessment will be undertaken. However, notwithstanding this, a Travel Plan and a Safe Routes in the Community Assessment has already been undertaken by the housing developer for the wider development area that covers the location of the new school. These documents are available on the Planning pages on the RCT website.</p>
<p>Would like to see investment in Dolau Primary School alongside the new Welsh medium primary school.</p>	<p>Some small-scale adaptations to increase the capacity at Dolau Primary School will be developed alongside the consultation process and approvals sought in line with RCTCBC's decision making procedures.</p> <p>Dolau Primary School has received significant investment delivering the extension and halls which has been extremely well received by the school. In addition, a new dual language childcare provision has been established on the school site plus improvements to some existing pupil base provisions utilising funding from Welsh Government's Childcare Capital Grant.</p>

In accordance with the Welsh Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015 and in compliance with RCTCBC's statutory obligations, the consultation included the following questions:

1. Do you think the proposal could impact opportunities for people to use and promote the Welsh Language (Positive or Negative)?
2. Do you think the proposal in any way treats the Welsh Language less favourably than the English Language?
3. How positive effects on the Welsh Language could be increased, or negative effects be decreased?

The table that follows provides a summary of the responses received from those respondents that answered the questions. As a result of the responses received, the Welsh Language Impact Assessment accompanying the proposal will be updated accordingly.

Welsh Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015: Summary of Consultation Responses								
Questions	Responses							
	Negatively		Positively		No Impact		Don't Know	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Do you think the proposal could impact opportunities for people to use and promote the Welsh Language?	21	22.6	47	50.5	13	12.9	12	12.9
Do you think the proposal in any way treats the Welsh Language less favourably than the English Language?	No			Yes		Don't Know		
	Number	%		Number	%	Number	%	
	56	64.3		18	20.7	13	14.9	
How positive effects on the Welsh Language could be increased, or negative effects be decreased.	Positive Effects Increased			Negative Effects Decreased		Not Sure		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This will create places for pupils in Welsh and English primary schools to reflect the current and future projections. It would be more positive if Dolau Primary School remained a dual language primary school. Community use of school facilities 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No reasons why Welsh medium education should be disadvantaged. I don't see any negatives, the only thing that may be seen as negative is the separation of English and Welsh pupils. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I do not think that opening a Welsh medium primary school, where there is currently no clear demand, will automatically increase people's interest in the Welsh language. 		

	<p>and after school activities through the medium of Welsh.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More support for non-Welsh speaking parents/carers who wish to send their children to a Welsh medium primary school. 		
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In accordance with the Equality Act 2010 and the Public Sector Equality Duties, RCTCBC has a legal duty to look at how its decisions impact on people because they may have particular characteristics. So as part of seeking views on the proposal, the consultation also included the following question:

1. How would the proposal affect you because of your:

- Sex.
- Age.
- Ethnicity.
- Disability.
- Sexuality.
- Religion/Belief.
- Gender Identity.
- Relationship Status.
- Pregnancy.
- Preferred Language.

Of those respondents that answered this question, the majority, 65.7% said the proposal would have no impact on any of the characteristics listed. Whilst 28.1% commented that the proposal would have an impact on the 'Preferred Language' characteristic, 3.1% commented that the proposal would have an impact on the 'Disability' characteristic and, again, 3.1% commented that the proposal would have an impact on the 'Relationship Status' characteristic.

6. Response from Estyn

In compliance with the WG's School Organisation Code (2nd Edition) (011/2018) the response to the proposal from Estyn has been provided in full at Appendix 3 – Estyn Response. Estyn is not a body which is required to act in accordance with the WG's School Organisation Code 2018 (011/2018) and the School Standards and Organisation Act 2013 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 considered that the proposal is likely to maintain the current standards of education provision in the area.

In accordance with the WG's School Organisation Code (2nd Edition) (011/2018), the areas of the response from Estyn that require clarification are documented in the table that follows.

Response from Estyn	
Estyn Response	Clarification
The proposal considers reasonably well the impact the proposal may have on the quality of provision and outcomes for pupils for both schools. However, it only does this in terms of the impact of a newer, better equipped building.	<p>Dolau primary School is an excellent school as was demonstrated by the outcome of the Estyn inspection undertaken in 2023.</p> <p>The full inspection report providing information on the quality of provision and outcomes for pupils can be found on the Estyn website.</p>
The proposal notes only that detailed costs to deliver both the new school and plus some small-scale adaptations to increase the capacity at Dolau Primary School will be developed alongside the consultation process.	<p>RCTCBC will utilise CIL funding to contribute to the majority of the cost of the new school, which, together with funding from the WG via the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme, will fund this project. The WG's Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme will fund up to 65.0% of project costs, and up to 100.0% of costs directly associated with making the new Welsh medium primary school Net Zero Carbon in operation.</p> <p>Detailed costs for both investment elements i.e., to construct the new Welsh medium primary school plus some small-scale adaptations to increase the capacity at Dolau Primary School, are not yet fully developed, and should the proposal proceed, this work will continue in earnest.</p>

7. Assessment of Consultation

In accordance with WG's School Organisation Code (2nd Edition) (011/2018), a further assessment of the proposal has been undertaken. This involved a review of the same matters assessed in formulating the proposal, in conjunction with giving consideration to the responses received during the consultation period.

After further consideration of the proposal, and consciously considering the responses received to the proposal, the conclusion reached is that the proposal remains to be the most appropriate and as such no amendments to the proposal have been made.

8. Conclusion

No information that has been presented during the consultation is deemed to necessitate a change to the Consultation Document, as such the information contained within it remains unchanged. Therefore, it is considered that the proposal should be wholly implemented with no amendments.

The recommendation of this report is that a Statutory Notice be published, to reflect the proposal as consulted upon with no modifications, in order to progress the implementation of this proposal.