

**RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
Education Directorate, Ty Trevithick, Abercynon CF45 4UQ

Notice is given in accordance with sections 41 and 43 of the School Standards and Organisation Act 2013 and the School Organisation Code that Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council (RCTCBC), having consulted such persons as required, propose to:

1. discontinue the following schools currently maintained by RCTCBC:
  - Ysgol Gyfun Garth Olwg, Main Road, Church Village, Pontypridd CF38 1DX
  - Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Garth Olwg, St Illtyds Road, Church Village, Pontypridd CF38 1RQ
2. establish a new Welsh Medium Community Middle School, to be maintained by RCTCBC at Main Road, Church Village, on the site of the Garth Olwg Community Campus, for boys and girls aged 3 to 19 years.

RCTCBC undertook a period of consultation before deciding to publish this proposal. A consultation report containing a summary of the issues raised by consultees, the proposer's responses and the views of Estyn is available on the Council's website at <http://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/EN/GetInvolved/Consultations/Schoolconsultations.aspx>.

It is proposed to implement the proposals on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019.

It is proposed that pupils currently attending the two schools listed above should transfer to the new Garth Olwg Middle School, on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019, subject to parental preference. This school is proposed to be a Welsh Medium Community Middle School. The new 'all through' 3 – 19 Middle school will be accommodated in the existing buildings of the current schools, which form part of the larger Garth Olwg Community Campus.

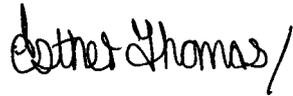
RCTCBC will be the admission authority for the new school which will make no provision for pupil banding.

The proposed capacity of the Primary Department of the new Middle School shall be 350 pupils, plus Nursery provision for at least 50 children. The admission number will be 50 at age 4 (Reception Class). The proposed capacity for the Secondary Department for pupils aged 11-16 will be 900 pupils and the admission number will be 180 age 11 (Year 7) so that each year group from 7-11 will accommodate up to 180 pupils. There will be up to 170 places available for post-16 students, the admission number will be 85 age 17 (Year 12).

Pupils will be provided with transport in accordance with the Council's Transport Policy. At present, the Council provides free transport for pupils who attend their relevant Primary, Infant or Junior School, if they reside beyond 1 ½ miles walking distance to that school; this distance is 2 miles for pupils attending Secondary schools. The relevant school is the catchment school or the nearest school.

Within a period of 28 days after the publication of these proposals, that is to say by 29<sup>th</sup> March 2018 any person may object to the proposals. Objections should be sent to the Director of Education and Lifelong Learning, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Team, Ty Trevithick, Abercynon, Mountain Ash CF45 4UQ, e-mail [schoolplanning@rctcbc.gov.uk](mailto:schoolplanning@rctcbc.gov.uk). RCTCBC will publish a summary of any such objections made (and not withdrawn in writing) within the objection period, together with their observations thereon, within the period of 7 days after determination of the proposal.

Signed:



Esther Thomas  
Director of Education and Lifelong Learning  
For Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council  
Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2018

### **Explanatory Note of the Proposals**

RCTCBC has recently undertaken a comprehensive consultation exercise in respect of the proposal to create a new 3 – 19 ‘all through’ school at the Garth Olwg Community Campus. The new school will be created by closing the existing Primary and Secondary schools that are currently located at this Campus, namely YG Garth Olwg (Secondary school) and YGG Garth Olwg (Primary school) and opening a new ‘all through’ 3 – 19 school provision, utilising the existing buildings of the two schools. If agreed, the current schools will close on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019 and will be replaced by the new school on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019.

The Community Campus also accommodates a Lifelong Learning Centre, public Library, Youth Centre and a day care nursery, as well as outdoor sports pitches. No changes to these facilities are being proposed at this time.