

Agenda



Penderfyniad dirprwyedig - Yr Aelod Cabinet dros Addysg a'r Blynyddoedd Cynnar

Dyddiad: Dydd Mawrth, 6 Chwefror 2024

At: Cynghorwyr: D Davies

Eitem

Wardiau Dan Sylw

- 1 Cynnig Ad-drefnu Ysgolion - Cynyddu Capasiti Ysgol Gynradd Parc Tredegar (Tudalennau 3 - 58)

Person cyswllt: ,
Ffôn:
E-bost:
Dyddiad cyhoeddi: Date Not Specified

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn



Report

Deputy Leader / Cabinet Member for Education and Early Years

Part 1

Date: 6 February 2024

Subject School Reorganisation Proposal – Increase in Capacity at Tredegar Park Primary School

Purpose To move to publish a statutory notice on a school reorganisation proposal “to increase the capacity of Tredegar Park Primary School from 420 to 525 pupil places with effect from September 2024”.

Author Assistant Head of Education – Resources

Ward Tredegar Park and Marshfield

Summary Formal consultation has now concluded on the school reorganisation proposal being progressed by the Council “to increase the capacity of Tredegar Park Primary School from 420 to 525 pupil places with effect from September 2024”. The proposal launched in September 2023, with formal consultation running between 25th September 2023 and 12th November 2023.

A consultation report, which describes in detail the consultation process and the feedback received, has been prepared and accompanies this report. It has also been published on the Newport City Council website and shared with stakeholders. This decision report references the findings, the result of which recommends that the Council moves to publish a statutory proposal. Any legal objections lodged during the period of the statutory proposal will be considered in making the final determination.

Proposal To move to publish a statutory notice for a period of 28 days in respect of the proposal to increase the capacity of Tredegar Park Primary School from 420 to 525 pupil places with effect from September 2024.

Action by Chief Education Officer

Timetable Immediate

This report was prepared after consultation with:

- Corporate Management Team
- Education Senior Management Team
- Senior HR and Finance Business Partners
- Headteacher and Governing Body of Tredegar Park Primary School

Signed

Background

All school reorganisation proposals are undertaken in accordance with Welsh Government's statutory School Organisation Code. Accordingly, formal consultation on the proposal to increase the capacity of Tredegar Park Primary School from 420 to 525 pupil places with effect from September 2024 took place between 25th September 2023 and 12th November 2023. Following the conclusion of this process, a consultation report was prepared, published on the Newport City Council website, and shared with stakeholders.

Tredegar Park Primary School currently has a published admission number of 60, with capacity for 420 pupils of statutory school age. However, it is proposed that the published admission number is increased to 75, thus inflating the total overall capacity for pupils of statutory school age to 525. This increase is possible by utilising part of the Forest Family Centre, which is adjacent to the school and has recently been vacated by Duffryn Community Link, and also making some adaptations to the existing space in the main school building.

Under this proposal, the increase in capacity will be applied incrementally over a 7-year period. As a result, from September 2024, 75 places will be available in each new Reception year group at the school, and this arrangement will continue until September 2030 when the new Published Admission Number of 75 will be realised across all year groups, and the proposal will become fully implemented.

The January 2023 Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) identified that the school is currently operating at 89% of total available capacity. However, the demand for pupil places at the school is expected to increase as a result of housing developments in the areas around the school including at the Panasonic, Mon Bank and Whiteheads sites. The scale of development in the wider area will result in a significant pressure on the availability of school places in The John Frost School cluster. Indeed, the October 2023 census count confirmed that there were only 5 spaces available in the current Reception year group across the whole cluster area, equivalent to 1.47% of the overall capacity.

All primary schools in the cluster were considered for expansion; however other schools are either not suitable, are too far away or are already being considered for expansion under alternative projects. The capital costs associated with this proposal are being funded via a Welsh Government grant.

The Consultation Report concludes that the proposal represents the best and most achievable contribution to increase the number of English-medium primary school places in the Duffryn area. The potential impact of the proposal on the Welsh language has been considered in detail and the measures being employed as part of the Council's Welsh language promotion strategy and WESP implementation plan are deemed sufficient to mitigate any perceived negative impact.

Accordingly, the Council is now required to move to the next stage in this reorganisation process, which is the publication of a statutory proposal. During this stage, any stakeholder can lodge a legal objection to the proposal. Any legal objections will be considered before a final determination takes place. A copy of the Consultation Report accompanies this report, but there now follows a synopsis of the feedback received.

Stakeholder Engagement

An invitation to take part in the statutory consultation went to an extensive list of stakeholders, by email, with hard copies of all consultation documentation available on request. All documentation was made available bilingually in Welsh and English, and in other languages on request.

Two face-to-face drop-in events were arranged to support this consultation on 3rd October 2023 and 9th October 2023. Both drop-in events were held at Tredegar Park Primary School. No stakeholders attended the first session, and two stakeholders attended the second session. The stakeholders attending the second session took the opportunity to ask the officers present two questions about the proposal. These questions and the Council's response are outlined on page 5 of the accompanying Consultation Report.

Learner Voice

The Council is committed to gaining the views of learners. To support this, officers from the Education Service met with a group of 10 learners identified by the school on 9th October 2023, and used this session to share information about the proposal and gather their views. Further information about this session, including the questions raised and feedback received from these pupils, is included on pages 3 and 4 of the accompanying Consultation Report. The Council is grateful to the pupils who took part in this session and would like to thank them for their valuable contributions to the consultation process.

Consultation Responses

Overall, a total of 27 responses were received during the consultation period from a variety of stakeholders; 24 via the response pro-forma, and 3 written responses from a Trade Union, Estyn, and the Welsh Language Commissioner.

Of the 24 pro-formas received, 11 (46%) supported the proposal, with a further 4 (17%) supporting the proposal in-part. The remaining 9 responses (38%) were not in support of the proposal. Further information on the feedback received, and the responses from the Council in relation to the issues raised, is referred to in detail across pages 6-8 of the accompanying Consultation Report.

Trade Union

The response received from a School Trade Union was partly supportive of the proposal and is included at Appendix B of the accompanying Consultation Report. The response from the Council to the comments raised is included on pages 8 and 9 of the Consultation Report.

Estyn

The full response from Estyn is included at Appendix C of the accompanying Consultation Report. However, in summary, the response states that the proposal is likely to, at least, maintain the standard of provision in the school. The Estyn response also suggested that further clarification was required on some elements of the proposal. The points have been addressed by the Council, with relevant responses included on pages 9 and 10 of the Consultation Report.

Welsh Language Commissioner

The full response from the Welsh Language Commissioner is included at Appendix D of the accompanying Consultation Report. However, in summary, the response noted that the Council had not evidenced due consideration of the effects of the proposal on the Welsh language and on Welsh-medium education. This has been acknowledged, and as a result the original Fairness and Equality Impact Assessment (FEIA) was revised and updated, and now provides further detail around the potential impact of this proposal on the Welsh language. The Council's response to the specific comments made by the Welsh Language Commissioner is included on pages 11 and 12 of the Consultation Report.

Financial Summary

Capital

The Council has been awarded Welsh Government grant funding of £1m to support the capital works associated with this project. Officers are confident that this is sufficient to undertake the required works; therefore, this project will not impact on the capital headroom.

Revenue

The proposed increase to the PAN will be incremental, growing at 15 places per year over 7 academic years. The total funding required for the additional places is outlined in the table below. Once fully established, the 105 additional places will cost c. £360k per annum. As a maintained setting, these places will be funded through the school's Individual School Budget (ISB), distributed by the Council according to the prescribed funding formula.

School Name	24/25 £,000	25/26 £,000	26/27 £,000	27/28 £,000	28/29 £,000	29/30 £,000	30/31 £,000	31/32 £,000
Tredegar Park Primary	60	108	151	195	236	278	319	360

The expansion proposal is currently included in the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP). Funding of c.£29k was first approved in 2021/2022; however due to the delay in progressing the proposal, the MTFP will be revised to reflect the incremental funding requirements each financial year from 2024/2025 onwards as per the table below:

2024/25 £,000	2025/26 £,000	2026/27 £,000	2027/28 £,000	2028/29 £,000	2029/30 £,000	2030/31 £,000	2031/32 £,000	2032/33 £,000
6	53	45	44	42	42	41	41	17

It is important to note that as the additional places are required due to an increase in demand for primary sector places, if this proposal is unfunded, the ISB funding available for all other schools will be diluted.

Risks

It is important to identify and manage any project or scheme's exposure to risk and have in place controls to deal with those risks.

Risk Title / Description	Risk Impact score of Risk if it occurs* (H/M/L)	Risk Probability of risk occurring (H/M/L)	Risk Mitigation Action(s) What is the Council doing or what has it done to avoid the risk or reduce its effect?	Risk Owner Officer(s) responsible for dealing with the risk?
Failure to move to statutory notice	H	L	There has been a full consultation process in accordance with the statutory School Organisation Code. The proposal cannot be progressed without publishing a statutory notice.	Chief Education Officer
Proposed expansion is insufficient to demand the demand for pupil places in the area	M	L	Pupil projections will continue to be monitored by the Council's Planning of School Places group, with mitigating action taken as required to support oversubscription.	Chief Education Officer
Demand for pupil places in the area diminishes leading to an increase in the number of surplus places	M	L	Pupil projections will continue to be monitored by the Council's Planning of School Places group; however, this risk is considered unlikely due to latest pupil projections and considering the impact of housing developments in the local area.	Chief Education Officer
The increase in the number of primary school places causes greater pressure on secondary school places in the area	M	L	Pupil projections will continue to be monitored by the Council's Planning of School Places group; however, as there are no proposed changes to catchment boundaries, this risk is considered unlikely.	Chief Education Officer
Insufficient capital funding to support the project	H	L	Officers are confident that the grant funding of £1m awarded for this project is sufficient to	Chief Education Officer

			support the required capital works.	
--	--	--	-------------------------------------	--

* Taking account of proposed mitigation measures

Links to Council Policies and Priorities

Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
 Corporate Plan
 Education Service Plan

Options Available and considered

Option 1: To move to the next stage in this school reorganisation process, which is the publication of a statutory proposal (notice) for a period of 28 days, and is an opportunity for stakeholders to lodge any legal objections against the proposal.

Option 2: To withdraw the proposal following consideration of the feedback received during the formal consultation period and outlined in detail within the attached Consultation Report.

Preferred Option and Why

The preferred option is Option 1. The publication of a statutory notice is the next stage in this school reorganisation proposal. This 28-day period will provide all consultees and stakeholders with an opportunity to further consider, and if necessary lodge legal objections to, the proposal.

Comments of Chief Financial Officer

Capital

The Welsh Government has awarded £1m to undertake the required expansion works, however there remains significant volatility in relation to inflationary price increases and, therefore, the capital expenditure will need to be monitored closely to ensure the project remains within the available funding, as it will not be possible to absorb any overspending from existing local authority capital funding headroom.

Revenue

The proposal will create capacity within the John Frost Cluster in response to an increased demand for places, following several housing developments in the surrounding area. The growth of the school is planned to be incremental to mitigate migration from other surrounding schools, however, there remains a risk that pupil numbers at those existing schools may reduce over time if primary numbers remain static overall, which could lead to a loss of funding to those schools and consequentially create budget pressures.

If approved, this revenue funding requirement will become a pre commitment to fund the growth from the ISB. As noted in the financial summary, the expansion proposal is currently included in the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) and the MTFP has been revised to reflect the incremental funding requirements from 2024/25 onwards. However, if it is deemed not possible to fund this pressure from within the overall Council budget, and the provision is implemented, it will dilute the funding available to all other schools, many of whom are already facing significant financial challenges.

Comments of Monitoring Officer

The proposed action is in accordance with the statutory school reorganisation procedures set out in the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the School Organisation Code. The proposal to increase the pupil capacity of Tredegar Park Primary School incrementally from 420 to 525 pupil places over a 7-year period, commencing in September 2024, is a regulated alteration under the Code and, therefore has to be the subject of formal statutory consultation. In accordance with the statutory procedures, a detailed consultation document was prepared; setting out the educational reasons for the proposals, and meaningful consultation has been carried out with key stakeholders, including children and young people, who are likely to be affected by the changes.

The response to the consultation process was that 46% supported the proposal in full, 17% supported the proposal in part and 38% supported were not in support. The Estyn response expressed the view

that standards would be maintained under the proposals, but that further clarification would be required. All of the consultation responses are set out in the Appendices to the Report.

The Cabinet Member is now required to consider these feedback received during the consultation process, alongside the Council's responses to that feedback, and decide whether or not to proceed with the necessary statutory notices, having regard to the educational impact of the proposals. If the Cabinet Member decides to proceed with the statutory notices, the proposal will need to be published by way of formal statutory notice, on the Council's website and by public notices, and a period of 28 days (including, at least, 15 school days) will need to be allowed for statutory objections. If no objections are received during the statutory proposal stage, the final decision can be made by the Cabinet Member. However, if there are any unresolved objections, then the final determination must be referred to full Cabinet, acting as the Local Determination Panel.

Comments of Head of People, Policy, and Transformation

The report sets out the proposal to increase the capacity of Tredegar Park Primary School and use Welsh Government funding to create additional primary school places, to help meet demand for places in the local area.

Following Welsh Government's School Organisation Code, the period of formal consultation and stakeholder engagement has completed. The publication of the statutory notice would include further opportunity for stakeholders to consider the proposals for establishment of this new provision. The Fairness and Equality Impact Assessment and Welsh Language Assessment have been updated following the consultation period to inform the Cabinet Member and subsequent consultees.

There are no direct human resources implications at this stage, however there may be a requirement to consider the workforce arrangements and structure should the proposal be approved.

Scrutiny Committees

None

Fairness and Equality Impact Assessment:

- **Wellbeing of Future Generation (Wales) Act**
- **Equality Act 2010**
- **Socio-economic Duty**
- **Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011**

The Council has a number of legislative responsibilities to assess the impact of any strategic decision, proposal or policy on people that may experience disadvantage or inequality. A Fairness and Equality Impact Assessment (FEIA) was completed to support the decision to launch this proposal and was later revised to provide further detail around the potential impact on the Welsh language. The FEIA has now been updated again to reflect the feedback received during the consultation period and will be reviewed again to support the final determination of the proposal.

This school reorganisation proposal was undertaken in accordance with the legislation outlined in the statutory School Organisation Code. This Code outlines the key stakeholders that should be consulted with as part of the process, but this is not exclusive, and the Council extended this list because of feedback received in relation to previous proposals. An invitation to engage in the consultation process was emailed to identified stakeholders. The proposal was also published on the Newport City website, and on social media platforms such as Twitter and Facebook. The consultation documents contained a consultation response pro-forma, and there was an opportunity for any questions or concerns to be submitted. All consultation documents were available bilingually in Welsh and English. The consultation involved 2 drop-in sessions with those affected by the proposal, and a Pupil Voice session was arranged for a group of learners from the school. A Consultation Report has now been prepared and published

and will be used to support the Cabinet Member for Education & Early Years in deciding whether or not to proceed with the proposal.

The FEIA has identified positive impacts of the proposal in relation to *Age and Pregnancy or Maternity*. The proposal will increase the capacity of Tredegar Park Primary School by 105 pupil places, and this will increase the likelihood of local children securing places in a local primary school. Whilst the additional places will be available to all applicants, in accordance with the Council's School Admissions Policy, priority will be afforded to children living within the school catchment area. The increase in pupil places will also have a positive impact on families with, or planning to have, children within the Tredegar Park & Marshfield area. Whilst no negative impacts have been identified, it is acknowledged that the proposal has no bearing on the Council's plans to develop and promote Welsh-medium language provision across the City and will not contribute to the Council's targets in relation to Cymraeg 2050. Having considered the response to the consultation submitted by the Welsh Language Commissioner, and following other comments received from a member of the Newport Welsh in Education Forum suggesting that the Welsh Language Impact Assessment contained within the original FEIA had not evidenced due consideration of the effects of the proposal on the Welsh language and on Welsh-medium education, the document was revised and now provides further detail around the potential impact of this proposal on the Welsh language. The measures being employed as part of the Council's Welsh Language Promotion Strategy and the WESP Implementation Plan are deemed sufficient to mitigate any perceived negative impact.

The sustainable development principle and 5 ways of working set out in the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act have been considered as outlined below:

- Long term: the importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs. **The proposal seeks to increase the capacity of Tredegar Park Primary School by 105 pupil places, starting in September 2024. Over the past 5 years the number of pupils attending the school has fluctuated, with a high of 398 in 2021/22, however, the current Reception year group is fully subscribed. Most other English-medium schools in The John Frost School cluster are almost at capacity. There is a need to increase capacity within the area, and whilst all schools within the cluster were considered for expansion, Tredegar Park Primary School was identified as being the most suitable.**
- Prevention: How acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help us meet our objectives. **Welsh Government guidance recommends a 10% surplus of places across schools. As of January 2023, there were 11% surplus places at Tredegar Park Primary School, predominantly due to an unusually small Reception intake in September 2022, although the current Reception year group is fully subscribed. The increase in housing developments in the local area and the fact that many of the primary schools in the cluster are already full means that additional school places are required. The Newport One ward profiles show that the Tredegar Park & Marshfield ward population has constantly grown over the past 10 years in all age groups. Tredegar Park Primary School has been identified as the school most suitable to accommodate a small scale expansion to 2.5 form entry.**
- Integration: Consider how the proposals will impact on our wellbeing objectives, our wellbeing goals, other objectives, or those of other public bodies. **A formal statutory consultation was carried out and the proposal is being supported at each stage by a FEIA to consider impact. This proposal supports the "A prosperous Wales", "A more equal Wales" and "A Wales of cohesive communities" Well-being Goals and has no adverse effect on any of the other Well-being Goals.**
- Collaboration: have you considered how acting in collaboration with any other person, or any other part of our organisation could help meet our wellbeing objectives. **A formal consultation has been carried out with the opportunity for engagement with all stakeholders and is being supported at each stage by a FEIA to consider impact. This FEIA was revised whilst the formal consultation was ongoing following comments received from the Welsh Language Commissioner and a member of Newport's Welsh in Education Forum in**

relation to the impact the proposal could have on the Welsh Language and the growth of Welsh-medium education. If approved, the Education Service will work with the Governing Body of Tredegar Park Primary School to successfully deliver this proposal and achieve the required expansion.

- **Involvement: The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the wellbeing goals and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the City we serve. The Council has engaged with stakeholders affected by the proposal by issuing an invitation to participate in the consultation and supporting access to consultation documents. Public drop in sessions were also held where Council officers were on hand to explain the proposal and answer questions. Pupil Voice sessions were held at the school to gain the pupils' thoughts on the proposal. A Children and Young Person's consultation document was made available and distributed to pupils at the school. Discussions were also held with a member of Newport's Welsh in Education Forum regarding the potential impact of the proposal on the Welsh language.**

Crime and Disorder Act 1998

Not applicable

Consultation

Stakeholder consultation has taken place as outlined in the attached consultation report.

Background Papers

Consultation Report and Updated FEIA

Dated: 23 January 2024



Newport City Council

School Reorganisation Proposal

Consultation Report

Proposal to increase the Capacity of Tredegar Park Primary School

Formal Consultation Period:

25 September 2023 – 12 November 2023

Purpose

This report is published in line with the requirements of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the School Organisation Code, November 2018.

This consultation report includes the following sections:

- The Proposal
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Learner Voice
- Drop-in Sessions
- Consultation Responses
- Estyn's Response
- Welsh Language Commissioner's Response
- Impact on the Welsh language
- Assessment of the Proposal
- Recommendations
- Appendices

The Proposal

This consultation report concerns a proposal to increase the capacity of Tredegar Park Primary School with effect from September 2024.

Stakeholder Engagement

An invitation to take part in the statutory consultation was issued to the stakeholders outlined below, with a link to the consultation pack on the Council's website sent by e-mail:

- The Headteacher, teachers, staff, and the governing body of Tredegar Park Primary School;
- Pupils at Tredegar Park Primary School;
- Parents, carers, and guardians of pupils attending Tredegar Park Primary School;
- The Headteachers and Governing Bodies of all Newport schools;
- All Newport City Council elected members;
- All Newport Community Councils;
- The Welsh Ministers;
- Assembly Members (AMs) and Members of Parliament (MPs) representing the area served by the school subject to the proposal;
- Other Local Authorities across the South East Wales Consortium region, including relevant Transport departments;
- The South East Wales Education Achievement Service;
- The Church in Wales, Diocese of Monmouth;
- Roman Catholic Archdiocese;
- Estyn;
- Teaching and staff trade unions representing teachers and staff at all Newport schools;
- The Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership
- All non-maintained registered nursery education providers in the local area
- The Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent;
- Gwent Police;
- South Wales Fire and Rescue Service;
- Aneurin Bevan University Health Board;
- Public Health Wales;
- Newport Serennu Centre;
- SNAP Cymru;
- Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations;
- Preventative Services.

Affected Schools

The school directly affected by this proposal is **Tredegar Park Primary School**.

Distribution of Information

In addition to the formal (main) consultation document, a Children & Young People's Everyday Summary version was also produced. All documents were available bilingually in Welsh and English.

Hard copies of the full consultation document and the Children and Young People's Everyday Summary version were provided to Tredegar Park Primary School.

Hard copies could also be requested by emailing school.reorg@newport.gov.uk or telephoning 01633 656656 and these were available bilingually in Welsh and English. The document was also offered in other languages on request, although no such requests were received.

The consultation information has been shared on the Newport City Council's Facebook and X (Formerly Twitter) accounts, and via Tredegar Park Primary School's website.

Learner Voice

The Council is keen to gain the views of learners, and this was facilitated through a session held with pupils from various year groups at Tredegar Park Primary School on Monday 9th October 2023.

The following attendees were present:

- 10 pupils representing different year groups
- Headteacher
- Education Transformation Manager
- Education Information and Development Officer

The Council officers attending the session introduced themselves to the pupils, and the session was led by the Education Transformation Manager. To start, the Education Transformation Manager explained the proposal to the pupils. The pupils were then given the opportunity to ask questions, which are outlined in the table below.

Question/Comment	Council's Response
Where in the school will the extra classrooms be located?	The private nursery operated by Duffryn Community Link has moved to the front of the Forest Family Centre building. This means that the area of the Forest Family Centre that used to be the private nursery will be used to create additional classrooms which will be used by the younger year groups in the school. The current Year 5 and Year 6 classroom areas will also be remodelled to create an additional classroom.

With the additional pupils, could there be too many pupils on the playground at break times?	The school has a lot of outdoor space for the pupils to use, but timetables could also be put in place so different classes would have different break times, which will reduce the number of pupils being on the playground at the same time.
If there is a fire, would it get too busy?	All classrooms will have an evacuation plan and a planned fire exit, just as they do now.
Could more classrooms/areas be created for extra pupils after this expansion?	No, this will probably be the maximum number of pupils that will be able to attend school on this site.
Will the school days be longer?	No, the proposal won't change the length of the school day.
What if there is no extra space in classrooms for more pupils?	We are not planning on adding extra pupils into the current classrooms. There will be new classrooms for the extra pupils.
What if there are more than 75 pupils each year?	75 pupils per year group would be the maximum that can fit in the school. If more applications are received, unfortunately some will have to be refused and offered places at another school.

The pupils were invited to give their views on the benefits that would come from the proposal. The potential benefits included:

- Opportunities to make new friends;
- More children to play with;
- Opportunities to possibly learn new languages if the new pupils speak other languages;
- More pupils could mean more funding for the school;
- More opportunity for siblings to attend the same school with more spaces available;
- More job opportunities.

The pupils were given the opportunity to complete hard copies of the Consultation Response Pro-forma during the session.

The Council is very grateful to the staff and pupils who took part in this session and would like to thank them for their valuable contributions to this consultation process.

Drop-in Sessions

The Council facilitated two drop-in sessions as outlined overleaf, and these were publicised via the Council's website and within all correspondence and documentation relating to the proposal. The drop-in sessions were an opportunity for attendees to ask questions and for Council officers to explain the proposal in greater detail.

Table 1: Drop-in Sessions

Location	Date & Time	Session
Tredegar Park Primary School – Infant Hall	Tuesday 3 October 2023 08:45 – 09:45	Drop-in
Tredegar Park Primary School – Infant Hall	Monday 9 October 2023 14:45 – 15:45	Drop-in

Drop-in Session 1 – Tuesday 3rd October 2023

The first drop-in session, held at Tredegar Park Primary School was supported by the Headteacher of the school and two Council officers from the Central Education Service. Hard copies of the main consultation document, the Children and Young People’s Everyday Summary version and response forms were available at the session in both Welsh and English.

No stakeholders attended this session.

Drop-in Session 2 – Monday 9th October 2023

The second drop-in session, also held at Tredegar Park Primary School was supported by two Council officers from the Central Education service. Hard copies of the main consultation document, the Children and Young People’s Everyday Summary version and response forms were available at the session in both Welsh and English.

Two stakeholders attended this session and took the opportunity to ask questions, which are outlined below:

Question: *“Could the increase affect my child who could be attending Nursery from September 2024 by putting them in a large class?”*

Council’s Response: *“The proposal would not affect class sizes. Infant Class Size legislation means that Foundation Phase classes must not contain more than 30 pupils. In Key Stage 2, a maximum of 30 children per class is a target that all schools should be working towards”. (The table in the consultation document was used to illustrate the proposed class structure.)*

Question: *“Will the proposed increase in the number of places be enough to accommodate the new housing developments being built in the area?”*

Council’s Response: *“This proposal is one of three affecting schools in the area, all providing additional places, as the new Welsh-medium primary (Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli) will move to its permanent location in Pillgwenlly shortly, and Pillgwenlly Primary School will be relocating to the Whiteheads site. Following these moves, both of these schools will increase in size to provide additional school places.”*

Consultation Responses

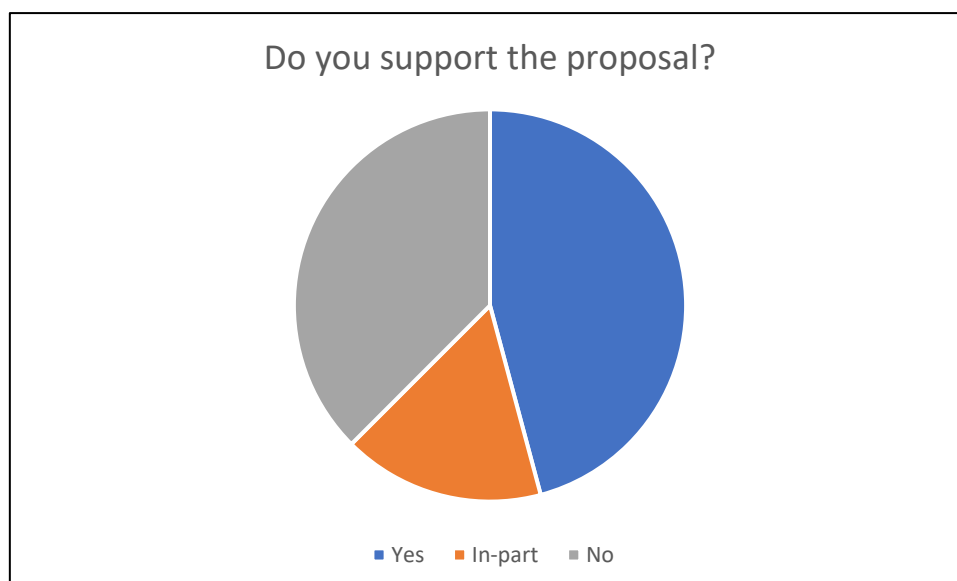
Overall, a total of 27 were received during the consultation period. 24 responses were received via the response pro-forma (see Appendix A) online and via hard copies, by a variety of stakeholders including:

- Parents/Carers
- Local residents
- Pupils

There were also 3 written responses received by email from a Teachers' Trade Union, Estyn (His Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales) and the Welsh Language Commissioner. During the consultation, the Head of Infrastructure also contacted the Education Service to make enquiries around whether the proposal might have a potential impact on home to school transport costs and arrangements. However, the Chief Education Officer confirmed that as the proposal would increase the availability of local school places for local children, this would likely help reduce the number of pupils requiring funded home to school transport assistance.

The response pro-forma offered the opportunity for respondents to answer a direct question in relation to the proposal, as follows:

'Do you support the proposal to increase the capacity of Tredegar Park Primary School to 2.5 form entry with effect from September 2024?'



11 out of 24 respondents (46%) supported the proposal, with one response noting that the community has grown hugely in the past few years.

4 out of 24 respondents (17%) supported the proposal in part. The comments raised via these responses have been summarised, together with a response from the Council as follows:

Comment / Question	Number of Similar Comments	Council's Response
It would be beneficial for the Duffryn area to have a new primary school built due to the current school being near capacity.	2	The Council does not possess a suitable plot of land in the area for another school. Pupil forecasts indicate that the current planned expansions would be sufficient to cope with the expected demand from the area and the new housing developments.
The provision of additional places is supported, but I have concerns about the traffic levels in the area and how any expansion would have a negative effect on traffic and parking.	2	The school site can be accessed from both Kestrel Way/Duffryn Drive and Partridge Way/Lighthouse Road. Most homes within the catchment area are within walking distance, and the school is actively working with Sustrans and the Council's Highways Team to encourage parents and carers not to drive to school.
I have concerns about class sizes and that the learning environments are too full for children to learn in a calm environment.	1	It is not proposed that any class will have more than 30 pupils. However, the proposed expansion will ultimately require the school to run a small number of mixed-age classes where the number of pupils in a year group exceeds 60 pupils, as is normal in 2.5 form-entry schools. Following the conclusion of the consultation period, the Headteacher has confirmed that all Foundation Phase classes are arranged to have 30 pupils or less.

9 out of 24 respondents (38%) did not support the proposal; some of these respondents put forward additional views and questions, which have been outlined below:

Comment / Question	Number of Similar Comments	Council's Response
The school is already loud and noisy. If more children attend this will only increase.	1	There is a possibility of timetables being put in place so that different classes would have different break times, therefore reducing the number of pupils on the playground at onetime, and this could negate any increase in noise levels.
The classrooms are too full for adequate concentration and support.	1	The proposed expansion will ultimately require the school to run a small number of mixed-age classes where the number of pupils in a year group exceeds 60 pupils, as is normal in 2.5 form-entry schools. It is not proposed that any single class will have more than 30 pupils. Following the conclusion of the consultation period, the Headteacher has confirmed that all Foundation Phase classes are arranged to have 30 pupils or less.

<p>Adding additional pupils will add further pressure onto walkways going into the school which are narrow and constantly flooded, meaning children and parents have to walk on grass and muddy areas. Traffic and parking issues will also be made worse if the number of pupils is increased.</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>Newport City Homes is working to address the drainage and flooding issues in this area. This will allow the paths to be used without the need to walk on the grass and muddy areas. Most homes within the catchment area are within walking distance, and the school is actively working with Sustrans and the Council's Highways Team to encourage parents and carers not to drive to school.</p>
<p>Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli is due to move to its permanent location in Pillgwenlly in 2024. This should be promoted to encourage local children to enrol their children there.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>Newport City Council recognises the need to promote Welsh-medium education and there is a specific multi agency group in place which has a strong focus on the promotion of Welsh-medium education. These promotion activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates to Newport's 'Becoming Bilingual' campaign; • Promotion at Flying Start run information sessions for expectant parents in the city; • Collaboration with the Regional Welsh-medium Education Promotion Champion; • Sharing of promotional information with colleagues in Aneurin Bevan University Health Board; • Promotion work undertaken in the Pillgwenlly area to promote the new school to local residents, coordinated and planned by Menter Iaith Casnewydd and key partners; • Promotional video projects; • Communication with Early Years groups.

The response received from a Teacher's Trade Union was **partly supportive** of the proposal. The full response is included at Appendix B but includes the following:

The NASUWT is pleased that no negative impact on staffing features in the proposal. Additional staff will need to be appointed at Tredegar Park Primary School to accommodate the additional pupil numbers. The Headteacher and the Governing Body will manage this in line with agreed recruitment processes. In order to support the proposal, however, we would be seeking an explicit reassurance that this proposal would have no indirect impact upon staffing requirements at other schools. This includes both primary and secondary schools within and outside the catchment. In order to maintain a high quality of teaching and learning, it is essential that class sizes do not increase. We are also concerned that the increase in PAN needs to be appropriately funded.

The response also referenced data obtained from the *My Local Schools* website in support of these comments by stating that:

There has consistently been a pupil teacher ratio (PTR) at this school that is less favourable than both the local authority and Wales averages in the five years from 2018. The data

shows that the amount of funding provided on average, per pupil, was lower than that of other primary schools in Newport in four out of the last six years.

Finally, the impact of the building work upon the day-to-day running of the school needs to be considered if this proposal is approved. Appropriate planning needs to be put into place to ensure that there is a continuity of learning during the building work. The priority must be to minimise disruption for learners and teachers at the school.

Response from Newport City Council:

There is no anticipated impact on other schools. The proposal to incrementally increase the capacity of the school over seven years means the likelihood of pupils transferring from other schools to Tredegar Park Primary is very low. There are no plans to reduce the capacity of any other school within The John Frost School cluster as a result of this proposal.

It is not proposed that any individual classes will have more than 30 pupils. The proposed capacity of 525 pupils would be accommodated across 18 classes, each with 30 pupils or less.

Colleagues in the Council's Finance Team have confirmed that the school budget per pupil figure taken from *My Local School* should not be relied upon for an accurate comparison to other schools as it is a simple calculation of the total school budget divided by the number of pupils on roll and does not consider other factors which affect funding, such as the size and condition of buildings and grounds. The Age Weighted Pupil Unit (AWPU) is the rate the Local Authorities set to allocate basic entitlement funding for pre-16 pupils in mainstream schools. Basic entitlement is a compulsory factor which must be used in the funding formula and the AWPU rate is the same value per year group/category across all Newport schools. In their most recent inspection report (October 2022) Estyn note that the school's leaders "manage the school's budget and pupil development grant well, linking spending appropriately to needs and improvement activities".

The Council entirely agrees that minimising disruption to teachers and learners is essential. For this reason, the Council will work with the school to ensure that any disruptive capital works are completed by arrangement, so that the school is either closed or those areas affected are not occupied.

Estyn's Response

The full response from Estyn is included at Appendix C of this report. However, in summary, the response states that the proposal is likely to, at least, maintain the standard of provision in the school.

The Estyn response states that '*The council has provided a table which outlines the stages and duration for the consultation process but has not included any proposed dates in this table. It has also not referred to whether there would be a need for any interim arrangements necessary for implementation of the proposal*' and that '*The council has identified four risks of the proposal and listed how they would be mitigated against. However, there appears to be insufficient detail as to these mitigations*'.

Response from the Council:

The Council acknowledges that the consultation document did not include proposed dates in the table outlining the process. This was a conscious decision because dates can be affected by a number of factors and are therefore subject to change. However, the Council can confirm that the proposed capacity increase will be implemented in a phased manner and that the school buildings already provide sufficient accommodation to support the first phases of expansion. As such, no interim measures are required to support the implementation.

In relation to risk mitigation, the Council's Planning of School Places group is a cross-departmental group that monitors pupil numbers and projections continually on a local area basis. One of the key purposes of this group is to consider and recommend measures in response to anticipated situations, such as creating additional capacity or proposing to reduce a school's published admission number (PAN).

The Estyn response also states that 'The council has identified the cost of the proposal as being £1m via approved Welsh Government funding. It has further identified that the 105 additional places will cost approximately £360,000 per year and states that the cost increase will be funded through the school's delegated budget. However, the council does not appear to have considered what the impact on the budget would be if the additional places are not taken up. The local authority has not provided a Welsh Language Impact Assessment as part of this proposal. The local authority has not provided a Community Impact Assessment as part of this proposal'.

The final point from Estyn notes that 'The council has provided a 'Fairness and Equalities Impact Assessment' as a separate document. In the school's last inspection report, 19.2% of children were identified as having additional learning needs and 7.5% of pupils were identified as having English as an additional language. These are above national averages yet there is no evaluation of the impact of the proposal on these groups'.

Response from the Council:

The capacity increase will be accommodated by re-purposing existing space within the school, so any budget pressures will relate to staffing costs and learning resources associated with additional pupils.

A summary Welsh language impact assessment was included on page 19 of the consultation document, and the separate FEIA provides further detail on the likely impact on Welsh language, and notes that the proportion of children with English as an additional language (EAL) is significantly below the Newport average. The school's last inspection report noted that pupils with ALN have good support and the Council believes that more pupils will be able to benefit from the school's inclusive ethos and capabilities if the capacity is increased. Following feedback from stakeholders, the Welsh language impact section of the FEIA has been revised to provide further consideration and detail on this element.

Welsh Language Commissioner's Response

The full response from the Welsh Language Commissioner is included at Appendix D of this report.

The Welsh Language Commissioner's response states that *'In the 'Impact on Welsh language provision' section it is noted that the proposal to expand Tredegar Park Primary School will not affect the Council's plans for growing Welsh-medium education provision across Newport. The Equalities and Fairness Impact Assessment explains that there are sufficient places in the Welsh-medium sector in the area and that this is expected to continue when Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli is moved to its permanent location as a growing school. However, we have concerns about this. The catchment area of Tredegar Park Primary School will be within the catchment area of Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli. It is noted that there are currently 75.3% of surplus places at Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli. In the context of the expansion of Tredegar Park Primary School, which starts a year before Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli moves to the catchment area, has the Council considered how it will promote Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli in order to ensure that it reaches its potential in terms of increasing capacity?'*

The response goes on to say that *'As the Council favours expanding Tredegar Park Primary School specifically to deal with future pressures from new housing developments, we ask what consideration has the Council given to the potential of Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli in this context? Does the Council have plans to promote the benefits of Welsh-medium education to the families who will move into those new homes? It should be ensured that Welsh-medium education is presented as a valuable choice for the families that will settle in those housing developments. The Council should consider the extent to which the expansion of Tredegar Park Primary School could affect the WESP target achievement, particularly Outcomes 1 and 2, which are so dependent on the success of Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli. Should the Council decide to implement the proposal, we would strongly recommend that it establishes clear and robust mitigation measures to ensure that the expansion of Tredegar Park Primary school does not have a detrimental effect on the development of Welsh-medium education in the catchment area. As you know, the Welsh language standards require local authorities to give full and conscientious consideration to the potential impact of policy decisions on the Welsh language'*.

Response from the Council:

It is unfortunate that the incremental increase in the capacity of Tredegar Park Primary School will temporarily reduce the percentage of Welsh-medium places offered as a proportion of all places in the area for one academic year. It will not however have any impact on the availability of a sufficient number of Welsh-medium school places to enable continued growth in numbers accessing Welsh-medium education provision, in line with the Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP). Although English-medium provision may increase, the Council is committed to the same incremental increase in the % of uptake across the Welsh-medium sector as per the WESP targets, and the actual number will be proportionate to the cohort size year on year. The WESP target is a percentage of the relevant year's cohort and not percentage of places available.

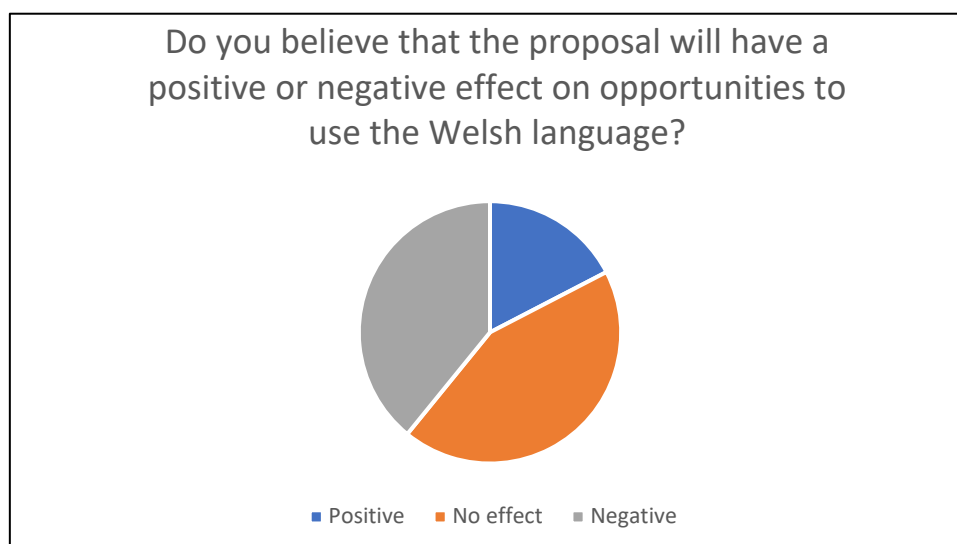
It is acknowledged that some households will live within easy walking distance of an English-medium school but be further from Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli. Some of these will live within 2 miles of the Welsh-medium catchment school and therefore not be eligible for funded school transport. This dis-incentive to choose Welsh-medium education will be countered by our promotion campaign which will highlight to families the various benefits of Welsh-medium education. Newport's Welsh-language promotional activities include:

- Updates to Newport's 'Becoming Bilingual' campaign;
- Promotion at Flying Start run information sessions for expectant parents in the city;
- Collaboration with the Regional Welsh-medium Education Promotion Champion;
- Sharing of promotion information with colleagues in Aneurin Bevan University Health Board;
- Promotion work undertaken in the Pillgwenlly area to promote the new school to local residents, coordinated and planned by Menter Iaith Casnewydd;
- Promotional video projects;
- Communication with Early Years groups.
- Routine distribution of 'Becoming Bilingual' information to parents/carers of children invited to apply for nursery and school places

Impact on the Welsh language

The consultation response pro-forma also asked respondents to give their views on the likely impact of the proposal on the Welsh language.

'Do you believe that the proposal will have a positive or negative effect on opportunities to use the Welsh language?'



4 out of 24 respondents (17%) answered 'Positive'. 10 respondents (42%) answered 'No effect', and 9 respondents (38%) answered 'Negative'. Comments provided from those who answered 'Negative' are summarised below. 1 respondent did not provide an answer to this question.

Comment / Question	Number of Similar Comments	Council's Response
Invest the funding for this proposal to support the refurbishment of the current Pillgwenlly Primary School which will be the permanent home of Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli	2	There is a specific budget set aside for the refurbishment of the current Pillgwenlly Primary School building before Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli moves in. Investment at Tredegar Park Primary School will not affect that budget allocation.
There should be more promotion to attract local families to Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli which can accommodate more pupils than the proposed increase in capacity at Tredegar Park Primary School.	1	<p>Newport City Council recognises the need to promote Welsh-medium education, but also needs to provide sufficient places to accommodate parental choice. There are four sub-groups that monitor the implementation of the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan and the 'Grow' group, covering Outcomes 1 and 2, has a strong focus on promotion of Welsh-medium education. Promotion includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates to Newport's 'Becoming Bilingual' campaign; • Promotion at Flying Start run baby showers for expectant parent in the city; • Collaboration with the Regional Welsh-medium Education Promotion Champion; • Sharing of promotion information with colleagues in Aneurin Bevan University Health Board; • Promotion work was undertaken in the Pillgwenlly area to promote the new school to local residents, coordinated and planned by Menter Iaith Casnewydd; • Promotional video projects; • Communication with Early Years groups. <p>The "Grow" sub-group which meets on a termly basis is chaired by a representative of Cymraeg I Blant.</p>
The proposal is to increase capacity in an English-medium school.	1	The number of surplus places available in The John Frost School cluster in 2023 was at 3.8%. The nearest cluster to The John Frost School is the Bassaleg cluster which in 2023 was at a 0.9% surplus. Welsh Government recommend a 10% surplus. The Council is committed to growing Welsh-medium education provision across Newport as outlined in the 10-year Welsh in Education Strategic Plan. Promotion of Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli, which will eventually provide 420 Welsh-medium education places in the area local to Tredegar Park Primary, is central to the delivery of this plan.

In response to the question 'Do you believe that the proposal will treat the Welsh language less favourably than the English language?' 6 respondents answered 'Yes'. No further comments were received.

During the consultation period, the Council was contacted by a member of Newport's Welsh Education Forum who shared a view that the Welsh Language Impact Assessment contained within the Fairness and Equalities Impact Assessment (FEIA) had not evidenced due consideration of the effects of the proposal on the Welsh language and on Welsh-medium education. The FEIA has been revised and updated following consideration of these comments and now provides further detail around the potential impact of this proposal on the Welsh language.

Assessment of the Proposal

Following the formal consultation period, the Council maintains the view that the proposal represents the best and most achievable contribution to increase the number of English-medium primary school places in the Duffryn area. The potential impact of the proposal on the Welsh language has been considered in detail and the measures being employed as part of the Council's Welsh language promotion strategy and WESP implementation plan are deemed sufficient to mitigate any perceived negative impact. The proposal is still preferred over the alternative options available.

Recommendations

It is recommended that permission be sought to move this proposal forward by publishing a statutory notice. This decision will be referred to the Cabinet Member for Education and Early Years and taken through the Council's agreed democratic process.

In accordance with the School Organisation Code (2018) this report is published electronically on Newport City Council's website at www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation

To request a hard (paper) copy of this document please contact Newport City Council's Education Information and Development Officer on 01633 656656 or email school.reorg@newport.gov.uk

Appendix A - Consultation Response Pro-forma

This response relates to the proposal to increase the capacity of Tredegar Park Primary School to 2.5 form entry with effect from September 2024.

Your views matter. Please tell us what you think about the proposal by completing this questionnaire and returning it to the Education Information and Development Officer, Newport City Council, Room 425W, Civic Centre, Newport NP20 4UR. Alternatively, you can complete this form online at www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation or email your response to school.reorg@newport.gov.uk

The closing date for the submission of responses to this consultation is midnight on 12 November 2023. Please note that negative responses made to this consultation will not be counted as objections to the proposal, they will be recorded as adverse comments. Objections can only be registered following the publication of a statutory notice.

1) Do you support the proposal to:

Increase the capacity of Tredegar Park Primary School to 2.5 form entry with effect from September 2024.

Yes No In part

Please use the box below to provide comments or explain which element of the proposal you do/do not support.

The Council has a duty to consider and identify all the possible effects a policy decision may have on opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language or treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language.

2) Do you believe that the proposal will have a positive or negative effect on opportunities to use the Welsh language?

Positive Negative No effect

3) If you think it will have a negative effect, what steps could we take to lessen or remove this and improve positive effects?

4) Do you believe that the proposal will treat the Welsh language less favourably than the English language?

Yes No

Please indicate who you are (e.g. parent/carer of a child attending a local nursery)

--

Please select your Ethnic group			
White British		Asian-Bangladeshi	
White Irish		Asian-Indian	
Any other White background (please state): _____		Asian-Pakistani	
		Any other Asian background	
Gypsy or Irish Traveller		Black Caribbean	
White and Asian		Black African	
White and Black African		Any other Black background	
White and Black Caribbean		Arab	
Any other Mixed background (please state): _____		Chinese	
		Any other ethnic group (please state): _____	
Asian-Bangladeshi		Prefer not to say	
Asian-Indian			
Asian-Pakistani			

Welsh language			
Do you consider yourself a Welsh speaker?			
Yes		No	Prefer not to say

Caring Responsibilities			
Do you care for children of school age?			
Yes		No	Prefer not to say
Do you care for children of pre-school age?			
Yes		No	Prefer not to say
Do you care for a dependent adult or child above school age?			
Yes		No	Prefer not to say

If you wish to be notified of the publication of the consultation report, please supply your contact details:

E-mail: _____

Postal address: _____

Appendix B – Response from the NASUWT

The NASUWT is pleased that no negative impact on staffing features in the proposal: Additional staff will need to be appointed at Tredegar Park Primary School to accommodate the additional pupil numbers. The Headteacher and the Governing Body will manage this in line with agreed recruitment processes (p.18)

In order to support the proposal, however, we would be seeking an explicit reassurance that this proposal would have no indirect impact upon staffing requirements at other schools. This includes both primary and secondary schools within and outside the catchment.

In order to maintain a high quality of teaching and learning, it is essential that class sizes do not increase. According to MyLocalSchool data, there has consistently been a pupil teacher ratio (PTR) at this school that is less favourable than both the local authority and Wales averages in the five years from 2018. This means that learners here have been disadvantaged by having access to less teachers than the average primary school in Wales. OECD data shows that high teacher: pupil ratios are consistently an indicator of higher pupil performance. Increasing the published admission number needs to ensure that this PTR is not worsened.

We are also concerned that the increase in PAN needs to be appropriately funded. According to MyLocalSchool, data shows that the amount of funding provided on average, per pupil, was lower than that of other primary schools in Newport in four out of the last six years. Increasing the published admission number needs to ensure that this funding situation is not worsened.

Finally, the impact of the building work upon the day-to-day running of the school needs to be considered if this proposal is approved. Appropriate planning needs to be put into place to ensure that there is a continuity of learning during the building work. The priority must be to minimise disruption for learners and teachers at the school.

Appendix C – Estyn’s Response

Introduction

This report has been prepared by His Majesty’s Inspectors of Education and Training in Wales.

Under the terms of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and its associated Code, proposers are required to send consultation documents to Estyn. However, Estyn is not a body which is required to act in accordance with the Code and the Act 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 has considered the educational aspects of the proposal and has produced the following response to the information provided by the proposer.

Summary / Conclusion

The proposal is by Newport city council. It will allow the school to increase the published admission number from 60 to 75 and increase the total capacity for pupils of statutory school age from 420 to 525. The nursery admission number would not change under the proposal. The capacity increase will be made possible by using an area in the Forest Family Centre recently vacated by Duffryn Community Link. Some changes to the use of existing spaces in the main school building will also be necessary. The school currently has surplus places, and the proposal could significantly increase this number. The council is relying heavily on these surplus places being taken up through future housing developments. They have not provided sufficient information as to how they would address the issue should the surplus places not be taken up.

Overall, Estyn considers that the proposal is likely to maintain the standard of education provision and outcomes for pupils in the school.

Description and benefits

The proposer’s rationale for the proposal is clear. It is to meet expected growing demand for primary school places in the Tredegar Park, Gaer and Pillgwenlly wards of Newport. The increased demand is expected following new housing developments established in the surrounding area of the school.

The council has provided a suitably detailed description of the proposal. The proposal will provide an additional 105 pupil spaces at Tredegar Park Primary School, an additional 15 places per year group (Reception to Year 6). It is proposed that the capacity increase will be made possible by repurposing an area of the Forest Family Centre and parts of the existing Tredegar Park Primary School to create additional teaching space. Much of the facilitating works for this expansion were completed in 2018-2019.

The council has provided a table which outlines the stages and duration for the consultation process but has not included any proposed dates in this table. It has also not referred to whether there would be a need for any interim arrangements necessary for implementation of the proposal.

The council has considered two alternative options. The options are either to do nothing or to expand a different primary school. It has listed the expected advantages and disadvantages of each option. These appear to be valid and reasonable. Following consideration of these options, the council has stated that its preferred option is as per the proposal and has listed the expected benefits of this proposal. The key benefit appears to be the increased number of pupil places at the school. The council has not identified any disadvantages for this proposal.

The council has identified four risks of the proposal and listed how they would be mitigated against. However, there appears to be insufficient detail as to these mitigations. For example, the council has stated for three of the risks that “The Planning of School Places group will continue to monitor projections and act accordingly”. It is not clear exactly what this means or how this will be carried out.

The council has stated appropriately that this proposal will not affect current travel arrangements. Safe walking routes to the existing school sites are already established. Free home to school transport is provided to all primary aged pupils of statutory school age who live 2 miles or more from their catchment school, or nearest available school.

The council has provided tables that show past and projected numbers at the school. It intends to increase capacity at the school year by year until September 2030, when the full capacity of 525 pupils will be realised. However current projections show that there will only be 385 pupils at the school in 2029-2030. This could mean a surplus of 140 pupils or 27% surplus places. The council relies heavily on these surplus places being taken up through future housing developments. They have not provided sufficient information as to how they would address the issue should the surplus places not be taken up.

The council has considered the impact of the proposal on Welsh medium provision and suitably concluded that it has no impact on the council’s plans for growing Welsh-medium education provision across Newport as outlined in their 10-year Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP).

The council has identified the cost of the proposal as being £1m via approved Welsh Government funding. It has further identified that the 105 additional places will cost approximately £360,000 per year and states that the cost increase will be funded through the school’s delegated budget. However, the council does not appear to have considered what the impact on the budget would be if the additional places are not taken up.

The local authority has not provided a Welsh Language Impact Assessment as part of this proposal.

The local authority has not provided a Community Impact Assessment as part of this proposal.

NB. Estyn provides their opinion only on the overall merits of school organisation proposals and does not evaluate the Welsh Language Impact Assessment or the Community Impact Assessment.

Educational aspects of the proposal

The council has referred to the most recent Estyn inspection report for Tredegar Park primary school in October 2022 and appear to have mainly suitably considered the impact of the proposal on quality and standards in education. They have provided sufficient commentary on the impact of the proposal on the separate aspects of learning, wellbeing and attitudes to learning, teaching and learning experiences, care, support and guidance and leadership and management. These appear to be fair and reasonable.

The council has provided a 'Fairness and Equalities Impact Assessment' as a separate document. In the school's last inspection report, 19.2% of children were identified as having additional learning needs and 7.5% of pupils were identified as having English as an additional language. These are above national averages yet there is no evaluation of the impact of the proposal on these groups.

The council has recognised the fact that additional staff will need to be appointed at the school to accommodate the additional pupil numbers. The proposal explains that The Headteacher and the Governing Body will manage this in line with agreed recruitment processes.

Appendix D – Welsh Language Commissioner’s Response

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to the consultation on the expansion of Tredegar Park Primary School from September 2024. We are writing to discuss the proposal for this English-medium school in the context of the Council’s plans for Welsh-medium education in the same catchment area.

It is noted in the consultation document that there is an increasing demand for primary school places in the wards of Tredegar Park, Gaer and Pilgwenlly as a result of major housing developments locally. It is explained that the Council favours expanding Tredegar Park Primary School specifically to deal with future pressures from these developments.

The Council has plans to locate a Welsh-medium primary school, Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli, in the same catchment area in 2025. That school has already been established as a fledgling school on a temporary site since 2021. The original intention, according to the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan for 2022-2023 (WESP), was to move the school to its permanent location in Pilgwenlly in September 2024. This new school is central to the Council's plans for expanding Welsh-medium education, by increasing the number of Welsh-medium primary places available across the city by 54%. It is noted in the consultation document that Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli will move to its permanent location, namely the site of Pilgwenlly Primary School, in 2025. Pilgwenlly Primary School, which is an English-medium school, will move to a new building that will allow that school to also increase its capacity.

In the 'Impact on Welsh language provision' section it is noted that the proposal to expand Tredegar Park Primary School will not affect the Council's plans for growing Welsh-medium education provision across Newport. The Equalities and Fairness Impact Assessment explains that there are sufficient places in the Welsh-medium sector in the area and that this is expected to continue when Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli is moved to its permanent location as a growing school. However, we have concerns about this. The catchment area of Tredegar Park Primary School will be within the catchment area of Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli. It is noted that there are currently 75.3% of surplus places at Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli. In the context of the expansion of Tredegar Park Primary School, which starts a year before Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli moves to the catchment area, has the Council considered how it will promote Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli in order to ensure that it reaches its potential in terms of increasing capacity?

As the Council favours expanding Tredegar Park Primary School specifically to deal with future pressures from new housing developments, we ask what consideration has the Council given to the potential of Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli in this context? Does the Council have plans to promote the benefits of Welsh-medium education to the families who will move into those new homes? It should be ensured that Welsh-medium education is presented as a valuable choice for the families that will settle in those housing developments.

The Council should consider the extent to which the expansion of Tredegar Park Primary School could affect the WESP target achievement, particularly Outcomes 1 and 2, which are so dependent on the success of Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli. Should the Council decide to implement the proposal, we would strongly recommend that it establishes clear and robust mitigation measures to ensure that the expansion of Tredegar Park Primary school does not have a detrimental effect on the development of Welsh-medium education in the catchment area. As you know, the Welsh language standards require local authorities to give full and conscientious consideration to the potential impact of policy decisions on the Welsh language.

We would be pleased to hear from the Council regarding how it will take action to promote Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli and ensure that it succeeds in achieving its potential as a Welsh-medium school and realising the objectives of the WESP.

Fairness and Equalities Impact Assessment (FEIA)

This is an integrated Impact Assessment which aims to ensure Newport City Council makes decisions which are fair, take account of relevant evidence, and seek to secure the best outcomes for our communities. **An FEIA should be used to inform the first steps of decision-making, at concept stage, not when a decision is already made, or at the point when it cannot be influenced.** This impact assessment considers our legislative responsibilities under:

- The Equality Act (2010), including the Socio-economic Duty
- The Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act (2015)
- The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure (2011)

The FEIA process is not intended to prevent decisions being made, but to ensure we have considered their potential impact. An FEIA also helps us to focus on how we can reduce any negative impacts, and provides us with evidence that we have met our legal duties.

For support to complete your FEIA, please contact the [Connected Communities Team](#)

What do we mean by Fairness?

The Newport Fairness Commission is an independent body which advises the council on the best use of resources and powers to achieve the fairest outcomes for local people. The Fairness Commission has established four **Principles of Fairness** which should be considered as part of any decisions that the council make – the questions below are useful to reflect on before you start your FEIA.

Equity	Are people being treated in a consistent way, whilst acknowledging their differences (for example, need, barriers to accessing services)?
	Will the gap between those with more, and those with less be reduced?
	Have the interests of different groups affected (including minority or disadvantaged communities) been taken into account?
Priority	Have the needs of the most disadvantaged and vulnerable across the city been given priority?
	Have you considered possible indirect consequences for minority/disadvantaged communities when other priorities are directing decisions?
Inclusion	Will the voices of all those affected by your decision be heard?
	Are people able to participate in and shape a service, as well as receiving it?
	Have you considered the impact of your decision on the relationship between communities, and the spaces they share?
Communication	Are decisions being made transparently and consistently?
	How will decisions be communicated to people who are affected in a clear way, with the opportunity for feedback?

Part 1: Identification

Name of person completing the FEIA	Richard Sexty
Role of person completing the FEIA	Education Transformation Manager
Date of completion	8 November 2023
Head of Service who has approved this FEIA	Sarah Morgan

Tudalen 34

1. What is being assessed? *(Please double click on the relevant box(es) (X) and select 'checked' as appropriate)*

- New or revised policies, practices or procedures (which modify service delivery or employment practices)
 - Service review or re-organisation proposals which affect the community and/or staff
 - Efficiency or saving proposals
 - Setting budget allocations for new financial year and strategic financial planning
 - Decisions affecting service users, employees or the wider community including (de)commissioning or revising services
 - New project proposals affecting staff, communities or access to the built environment
 - Public events
 - Local implementation of National Strategy/Plans/Legislation
 - Strategic directive and intent, including those developed at Regional Partnership Boards and Public Service Boards
 - Medium to long term plans (for example, corporate plans, development plans, service delivery and improvement plans)
 - Setting objectives (for example, well-being objectives, equality objectives, Welsh language strategy)
 - Major procurement and commissioning decisions
- Decisions that affect the ability (including external partners) to offer Welsh language opportunities and services
- Other *please explain in the box below:*

2. Please describe the overall aims, objectives and intended outcomes of your decision

The intended outcome is to take forward a formal consultation concerning a statutory proposal to increase the capacity of Tredegar Park Primary School with effect from September 2024.

The proposal is to incrementally increase the capacity of Tredegar Park Primary School to 2.5 form entry with effect from September 2024.

Tredegar Park Primary School is currently a 2 form entry community maintained English-medium school providing education for pupils between 3 and 11 years of age. The school has a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 60 and a total capacity of 420. In addition, the school features a 40 place Nursery which can accommodate 80 pupils over either a morning or afternoon session.

As of January 2023, the school is operating at 89% of its total available capacity. The demand for pupil places in the area is expected to increase following new housing developments which have been established including 2 large developments completed with over 750 dwellings; another is currently under construction that will include over 500 dwellings. It is anticipated that the scale of development in the area will result in a significant pressure on the availability of school places with only 43 (2.1%) school places available in The John Frost cluster, this is significantly lower than the Welsh Government recommendation of 10% surplus school places.

The number of surplus places available at the school doubled between 2022 and 2023 due to the low Reception class intake in September 2022. The low intake is due to an unusually low birth rate in the corresponding birth year. The average Reception uptake compared to in-catchment births at Tredegar Park Primary School is 51.7%. The birth rates for the catchment area suggest Reception class numbers will return to normal from September 2023, this is supported by school admissions data which shows all Reception places were allocated for September 2023 following the first late admissions round, with a small number of applications refused.

It is proposed to allow Tredegar Park Primary to increase its PAN from 60 to 75 per year group and increase its total capacity from 420 to 525. The Nursery capacity would not change under the proposal. There is sufficient space on the school site to accommodate the expansion and the proposal will have no detrimental impact on the rest of the school.

By bringing forward this consultation the Council intends to obtain views of the key stakeholders and wider public regarding the proposal.

A full public consultation is being undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the statutory School Organisation Code.

3. Who are the main stakeholders who may be impacted by your decision and what data do you hold on them? Consider communities of place (people who live in the same geographic area) and communities of interest (people who share particular characteristics but may live in different geographic areas). Stakeholders may include residents, local businesses, community groups, staff or partners.

The key stakeholders are:

- Parents and families of pupils currently attending Tredegar Park Primary School;
- Teachers and staff at Tredegar Park Primary School;
- Families with pre-school aged children in the Tredegar Park & Marshfield area.
- Families with children moving into the Tredegar Park & Marshfield area.

The Statutory Code outlines key stakeholders, however, this list is not exclusive, and the Council has identified and added to this because of feedback received in relation to previous proposals. An invitation to engage with the consultation process will be sent to the following stakeholder groups:

- Parents, carers and guardians of pupils attending all schools affected or potentially affected by this proposal;
- Pupils attending all schools affected or potentially affected by this proposal;
- Members of staff currently employed at all schools affected or potentially affected by this proposal;
- Neighbouring Local Authorities across the South East Wales Consortium area;
- The Headteacher and Governing Bodies of all Newport schools;
- All Newport City Council elected members;
- All Newport Community Councils;
- The Welsh Ministers;
- Assembly Members (AMs) and Members of Parliament (MPs) representing the area served by the school subject to the proposal;
- Other Local Authorities across the South East Wales Consortium region, including relevant Transport departments;
- The South East Wales Education Achievement Service;
- The Church in Wales, Diocese of Monmouth;
- Roman Catholic Archdiocese;
- Estyn;
- Teaching and staff trade unions representing teachers and staff at Tredegar Park Primary;
- The Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership
- The Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent;

- Gwent Police;
- South Wales Fire and Rescue Service;
- Aneurin Bevan University Health Board;
- Public Health Wales;
- Newport Serennu Centre;
- SNAP Cymru;
- Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations;
- Preventative Services;

Consultation with stakeholder groups will also include pupils of affected and potentially affected schools, by arrangement with school leadership teams.

The key stakeholders most likely live or access services in the Tredegar Park & Marshfield area of Newport. The proposal is to increase the capacity at Tredegar Park Primary School. The school is listed as an affected school. Tredegar Park Primary School is located within the Tredegar Park & Marshfield ward.

The information provided below is based on information from the Newport community well-being profiles. There were six local community well-being profiles produced for 2021 which were published on 5th May 2022 prior to the ward changes implemented at local council elections in 2022.

The Tredegar Park ward represents approximately 3.16% of Newport's total population. The table below shows the makeup of the Tredegar Park ward population against the all-Newport population using the mid-year population estimates 2020 data from the One Newport ward profiles. The data shows that the area has a higher proportion of residents aged 0 to 15 and 16 to 64 than the Newport-wide figure. The Tredegar Park ward has an area of 1.79 km², the population density within the ward is 2,763 people per km² which is ranked 10th most densely populated of the 20 Newport wards.

Population (Mid-year population estimates 2020)				
	Total	Aged 0 to 15	Aged 16 to 64	Aged 65+
Tredegar Park	4,945	1,208 (24%)	3,066 (62%)	671 (14%)
Newport	156,447	32,050 (21%)	97,743 (62%)	26,654 (17%)

The population in the Tredegar Park ward and surrounding wards in the South-West of Newport (Marshfield and Gaer) has consistently grown over the past 20 years. The whole Newport population has also grown significantly in the past 20 years.

	2001	2011	2020
Gaer	8,568	8,721	9,133
Marshfield	4,245	6,270	6,449
Tredegar Park	3,387	4,421	4,945
Newport	137,011	145,736	156,447

Approximately 5% of the primary cohort within Newport currently attend Welsh-medium primary schools. 10.5% of the primary cohort within Newport attend Faith-based primary schools. We would expect to see similar percentages of families opting for these mediums of education from the Tredegar Park and Marshfield ward. Newport City Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) has recently been approved by Welsh Government and proposes to establish more Welsh-medium provision in Newport between 2022-2032 and aims to increase the percentage of primary age pupils in Welsh-medium education to 12%.

The table below shows that over the last 5 years there has been a slight decrease of pupils eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) in Tredegar Park Primary School. The Tredegar Park Primary FSM figures are significantly higher than the Newport and Wales average.

Free School Meals (FSM)					
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Tredegar Park Primary	31.0%	30.4%	29.4%	29.3%	30.6%
Newport	19.2%	19.3%	19.6%	21.5%	22.4%
Wales	18.4%	18.5%	19.3%	21.3%	23.0%

Tredegar Park Primary School is located within the Tredegar Park & Marshfield ward. The FSM data aligns with the ward profile data, Tredegar Park Primary School is located within the Tredegar Park 2 LSOA which is one of the most deprived wards in Newport and is ranked within the top 10% of most deprived wards in Wales. Tredegar Park 1 is within the top 40% of most deprived wards in Wales making Tredegar Park one of the most deprived wards in Newport.

The table below shows the percentage of children learning English as an additional language in Tredegar Park Primary School.

English as an additional language (EAL)					
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Tredegar Park Primary	6.8%	2.9%	5.5%	7.5%	7.4%
Newport	18.1%	17.8%	18.0%	17.4%	16.9%
Wales	6.2%	6.0%	6.1%	6.0%	6.1%

The proportion of pupils for whom English is an additional language has grown slightly in 5 years in Tredegar Park Primary School, although the proportion of EAL pupils remains significantly below the Newport average.

Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Pupils					
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Tredegar Park Primary	16.6%	17.3%	17.8%	17.7%	18%
Newport	26.7%	27.5%	28.1%	28.3%	29.2%
Wales	12.2%	12.5%	12.7%	12.9%	13.3%

The proportion of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Pupils has grown in Tredegar Park Primary School over 5 years, but as a percentage, the school population remains significantly under the Newport average.

Following this period of formal consultation, a Consultation Report will be prepared and published on the Newport City Council website and will be used to determine whether or not to move to publication of a statutory notice. The FEIA will also be updated at this stage. The publication of a statutory notice enables stakeholders to lodge legal objections against a proposal.

Part 2: Engagement

When completing this section, you need to consider whether you have sufficient information about the views and experiences of people who your decision will impact upon. If you don't, you may need to undertake a period of engagement/consultation before continuing. An FEIA is a live document, so can be updated with consultation findings, and amended as needed during the decision-making process.

The council has a duty to consult and engage with people who may experience inequalities as a result of your decision. This includes people **who share Protected Characteristics** (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and people who **have lived experience of socio-economic disadvantage**. The council's Youth Promise also requires us to ensure **all young people in Newport are listened to and included in decisions affecting them**.

The council also has a duty to ensure that any consultation is available bilingually (in Welsh as well as English), and you may like to consider any other community languages that are spoken by people who may be impacted by your decision. Below are some questions that should be included in any public consultation relating to a decision which may impact on the use of Welsh language in Newport:

1. Do you believe that the proposed decision/policy will have a positive or negative effect on opportunities to use the Welsh language?
2. If you think it will have a negative effect, what steps could we take to lessen or remove this and improve positive effects?
3. Do you believe that the proposed decision/policy will treat the Welsh language less favourably than the English language?

1. How have you engaged with people who may be affected by your decision (the stakeholders you have identified)?

This proposal has been discussed with the Headteacher and Governing Body of Tredegar Park Primary School and is supported. The proposal is therefore now being put forward for public consultation to obtain the views of the wider stakeholder groups.

The consultation is being undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the statutory School Organisation Code.

The consultation period is an opportunity for people to learn about the proposal, ask questions and make comments that will be recorded and summarised in a consultation report.

An invitation to engage in the consultation process will be emailed to the stakeholder list outlined previously, including parents/carers, pupils, and staff of the identified affected school(s). Stakeholder emails will also be sent to Newport City Council education partners. The proposal will be published on the Newport City Council website.

Social media platforms such as Twitter and Facebook will also share information on the proposal.

The consultation documents will contain a consultation response pro-forma that can be submitted to the address provided, via post or email. The responses can also be submitted online from the link provided on the council's school reorganisation web pages. Questions and concerns can also be submitted in writing via post or email to Newport City Council.

All consultation documents will be available bilingually in Welsh and English and questions and concerns can be submitted bilingually. Any questions or concerns submitted in Welsh will receive an answer in the same language.

A link to the following documents will be distributed to stakeholders and schools:

- Main consultation document
- A Children and Young People's Everyday Summary version of the consultation document

Digital copies of the 2 documents will be available online on the Newport City Council website at www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation. Hard copies can also be requested by emailing school.reorg@newport.gov.uk or by telephoning 01633 656656.

Two drop-in sessions have been conducted at Tredegar Park Primary School. Council officers were on hand to explain the proposals in more detail and answer any questions or concerns raised by the public. A Pupil Voice session has also been conducted at Tredegar Park Primary School.

Following consultation, Newport City Council's Cabinet Member for Education and Early Years will consider the views expressed and then decide whether to proceed with the proposal. If the decision is taken to proceed, a statutory notice will be published on the Newport City Council website and notices posted on the school gates at Tredegar Park Primary School. The statutory notice period will last for 28 days following the date of publication and enables people to express their views in the form of supporting or objecting to the proposals. If no objections are received following the publication of the statutory notice, Newport City Council's Cabinet Member for Education and Early Years will make the final decision as to whether to proceed. If any objections are received and not subsequently withdrawn during this notice period, the Council's Cabinet will determine the final decision.

2. What do you know about the views or experiences of people who may be affected by your decision?

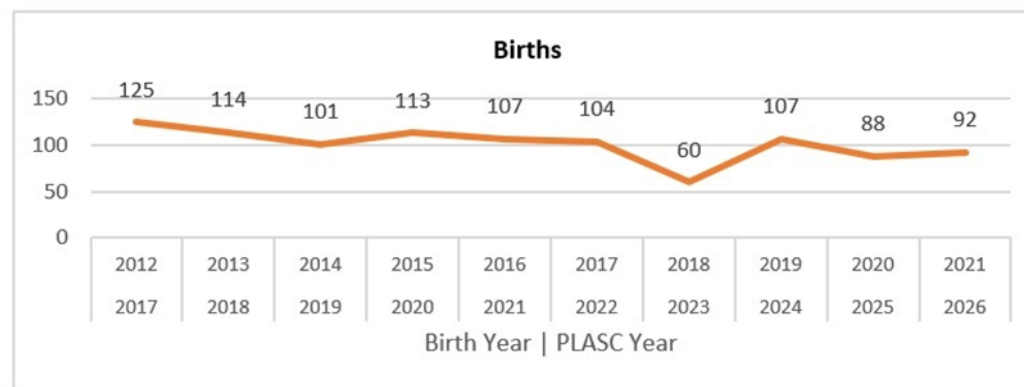
The people affected by the decision are the parents/carers, pupils and staff of Tredegar Park Primary School and young families within the Tredegar Park & Marshfield ward.

The FSM and EAL figures for the school indicate the school community has a relatively high proportion of low-income households and the vast majority speak English as a first language. The Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic figures for the school community have slightly increased over the past 5 years but the figures indicate the school community is predominantly of White-British ethnicity.

Pupils attending Tredegar Park Primary School and school staff are key stakeholders in this proposal as they may see changes to their class structures. There are currently 372 pupils on roll at Tredegar Park Primary School in Reception – Year 6 classes. The table below shows the total pupil numbers at the school broken down by year group.

Tredegar Park Primary School (Reception – Year 6)								
Pupil Numbers – PLASC								
Year	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Total
2022/23	31	58	59	50	56	59	59	372
2021/22	59	57	50	54	59	59	60	398
2020/21	60	53	54	58	60	59	49	393
2019/20	52	53	57	57	59	48	51	377
2018/19	53	57	60	59	55	51	59	394

The number of surplus places has more than doubled between 2022 and 2023 from 22 to 48 due to the low Reception class intake in September 2022, recorded in the PLASC pupil census of 2023. The low intake is due to an unusually low birth rate in the corresponding birth year (2018). Birth rates for the catchment area are shown below and suggest Reception class numbers will return to normal from September 2023.



The uptake rate of Reception places compared to in-catchment births at Tredegar Park Primary School is 51.7%. The table below shows the individual year uptake rate for Reception pupils.

Table 5: Tredegar Park Primary School Reception Uptake Rates (dates are January PLASC)						
2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
47.20%	51.75%	52.48%	46.02%	56.07%	56.73%	51.67%

The consultation period is an opportunity for the council to gain the views of the people the proposal may affect.

This section will be updated once the consultation period has concluded, and the views of the affected stakeholders have been obtained.

Part 3: Assessment

This section requires you to assess the potential impact of your decision on a range of groups who may experience specific disadvantages. Your assessment should be supported by evidence – either from your own engagement/consultation, similar or previous engagement, what you already know about the people who access your service, or from local and national sources of information.

Useful documents which set out information about how communities are impacted by inequalities include [EHRC – Is Wales Fairer?](#) and the council's [COVID-19 Community Impact Assessment](#). Your decision may have both positive and negative impacts – if this is the case, please place a cross in both boxes.

1. Impact on people that share Protected Characteristics

[Protected Characteristics](#) are defined under the Equality Act 2010, and describe groups of people who are protected from discrimination, either in the workplace, or through the provision of goods and services. The council must consider how decisions may impact on people differently because of a protected characteristic, and how any negative impact could be reduced. National guidance on assessing equality impacts and the Public Sector Equality Duty can be found [here](#). You can also access further advice and examples of positive and negative impacts [here](#).

Protected characteristic	Impact:			<p>Provide further details about the nature of the impact in the sections below, considering the Public Sector Equality Duty that the council has to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Promote equal opportunity across different groups Promote community cohesion Help eliminate unlawful discrimination/ harassment/ victimisation
	Positive	Negative	Neither	
Age	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The proposal will increase the capacity of Tredegar Park Primary School by 105 places from 420 to 525 with effect from September 2024. The school is currently operating at 89% of its total available capacity due to the low Reception intake in September 2022 as a result of an unusually low birth rate for the corresponding year. Demand for pupil places in the school is expected to increase as the birth rates have since risen and suggest Reception class numbers will return to normal from September 2023. This is supported by school admissions data which shows all 60 Reception places were allocated for September 2023 following the first late admissions round, with a small number of applications refused.</p> <p>Increasing the school capacity increases the likelihood of local children securing places in Tredegar Park primary school, the increase in places available will be open to everyone in Newport and outside of Newport to apply for, with the places allocated via the Council's oversubscription criteria if more applications are received than places available. The oversubscription criteria is outlined in the School Admissions Policy.</p>
Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is no evidence that suggests the proposal will have a disproportionate impact on people that share this Protected Characteristic. The school is inclusive and is accessible to pupils with visibility and mobility needs.
Gender Reassignment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is no evidence that suggests the proposal will have a disproportionate impact on people that share this Protected Characteristic.
Marriage or civil partnership	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is no evidence that suggests the proposal will have a disproportionate impact on people that share this Protected Characteristic.
Pregnancy or maternity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The proposal seeks to establish more school places in the local area. This could therefore have a positive impact on families with and/or planning to have children in the area.

Protected characteristic	Impact:			<p>Provide further details about the nature of the impact in the sections below, considering the Public Sector Equality Duty that the council has to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Promote equal opportunity across different groups Promote community cohesion Help eliminate unlawful discrimination/ harassment/ victimisation
	Positive	Negative	Neither	
Race	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is no evidence that suggests the proposal will have a disproportionate impact on people that share this Protected Characteristic.
Religion or Belief or non-belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is no evidence that suggests the proposal will have a disproportionate impact on people that share this Protected Characteristic.
Sex	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is no evidence that suggests the proposal will have a disproportionate impact on people that share this Protected Characteristic.
Sexual Orientation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is no evidence that suggests the proposal will have a disproportionate impact on people that share this Protected Characteristic.

2. Impact on Welsh Language

The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure specifies that for all policy decisions, the council must consider the effects (both positive and negative) on the Welsh language. For further guidance on Welsh language considerations see [here](#).

	Impact:																																																																					
	Positive	Negative	Neither																																																																			
Welsh Language	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>The incremental increase in the capacity of Tredegar Park Primary School, an English-medium school, by 15 places per year, will temporarily reduce the % of Welsh-medium places offered as a proportion of all places in the area, for one academic year. It will not however have any impact on the availability of a sufficient number of Welsh-medium school places to enable continued growth in numbers accessing Welsh-medium education provision, in line with the Council's WESP.</p> <p>Table 1: Share of places available by academic year per school category type in the Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli catchment area</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Academic Year</th> <th colspan="2">21/22</th> <th colspan="2">22/23</th> <th colspan="2">23/24</th> <th colspan="2">24/25</th> <th colspan="2">25/26</th> </tr> <tr> <th>School Type</th> <th>PAN</th> <th>% Share</th> <th>PAN</th> <th>% Share</th> <th>PAN</th> <th>% Share</th> <th>PAN</th> <th>% Share</th> <th>PAN</th> <th>% Share</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>EM</td> <td>461</td> <td>75.45%</td> <td>461</td> <td>75.45%</td> <td>461</td> <td>75.45%</td> <td>488</td> <td>76.49%</td> <td>488</td> <td>73.05%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Faith</td> <td>120</td> <td>19.64%</td> <td>120</td> <td>19.64%</td> <td>120</td> <td>19.64%</td> <td>120</td> <td>18.81%</td> <td>120</td> <td>17.96%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>WM</td> <td>30</td> <td>4.91%</td> <td>30</td> <td>4.91%</td> <td>30</td> <td>4.91%</td> <td>30</td> <td>4.70%</td> <td>60</td> <td>8.98%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>611</td> <td>100.00%</td> <td>611</td> <td>100.00%</td> <td>611</td> <td>100.00%</td> <td>638</td> <td>100.00%</td> <td>668</td> <td>100.00%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Newport City Council's 4th Welsh-medium primary school, Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli opened in September 2021 as a seedling school in its temporary base in Caerleon. There are currently 90 statutory age primary places available for 2023/24 across Reception and Year 1 and Year 2 classes. The school had 28 pupils on roll as September 2023 leaving a 69% surplus. The school is due to relocate to its permanent base once the Pillgwenlly Primary School building on Capel Crescent is vacated in the 2024-25 academic year. It is also proposed to increase the admission number of this school to 60 at that time.</p> <p>The Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli catchment area covers a large area of Newport stretching from the river Usk Westwards to the border with Cardiff and North-West to the border with Caerphilly. Newport's Welsh-medium secondary school, Ysgol Gyfun Gwent Is Coed is also situated within this area. The Ysgol Nant Gwenlli Catchment area includes the Tredegar Park and Marshfield, Gaer, Stow Hill, Pillgwenlly and Graig wards. The temporary location of Ysgol Nant Gwenlli at Caerleon is outside of the school's own catchment area and, although free transport is provided, it is acknowledged that this arrangement has likely affected</p>	Academic Year	21/22		22/23		23/24		24/25		25/26		School Type	PAN	% Share	PAN	% Share	PAN	% Share	PAN	% Share	PAN	% Share	EM	461	75.45%	461	75.45%	461	75.45%	488	76.49%	488	73.05%	Faith	120	19.64%	120	19.64%	120	19.64%	120	18.81%	120	17.96%	WM	30	4.91%	30	4.91%	30	4.91%	30	4.70%	60	8.98%	Total	611	100.00%	611	100.00%	611	100.00%	638	100.00%	668	100.00%
Academic Year	21/22		22/23		23/24		24/25		25/26																																																													
School Type	PAN	% Share	PAN	% Share	PAN	% Share	PAN	% Share	PAN	% Share																																																												
EM	461	75.45%	461	75.45%	461	75.45%	488	76.49%	488	73.05%																																																												
Faith	120	19.64%	120	19.64%	120	19.64%	120	18.81%	120	17.96%																																																												
WM	30	4.91%	30	4.91%	30	4.91%	30	4.70%	60	8.98%																																																												
Total	611	100.00%	611	100.00%	611	100.00%	638	100.00%	668	100.00%																																																												

	Impact:																																	
	Positive	Negative	Neither																															
				<p>the uptake of places at the school. The school was originally intended to relocate to Pillgwenlly in September 2023, but considerable delays in securing land to relocate Pillgwenlly Primary school mean that this will not be possible until the 2024-25 academic year. The temporary facility has space for three classes of 30 totalling 90 pupils plus a nursery class.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that some households will live within easy walking distance of an English-medium school but be further from Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli. Some of these will live within 2 miles of the Welsh-medium catchment school and therefore not be eligible for funded school transport. This disincentive to choose Welsh-medium education will be countered by our promotion campaign which will highlight to families the various benefits of Welsh-medium education.</p> <p>The table (2) below shows the number of Reception class places available at Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli in January 2022 and January 2023, compared to the English-medium schools in The John Frost School cluster.</p> <table border="1"> <caption>Table 2: Reception Class places available 2022-2023</caption> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2"></th> <th rowspan="2">Capacity</th> <th colspan="3">January 2022</th> <th colspan="3">January 2023</th> </tr> <tr> <th>NOR</th> <th>Available</th> <th>% Available</th> <th>NOR</th> <th>Available</th> <th>% Available</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>TJFS Cluster Schools</td> <td>341</td> <td>334</td> <td>7</td> <td>2.05</td> <td>306</td> <td>35</td> <td>10.26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>YG Nant Gwenlli</td> <td>30</td> <td>6</td> <td>24</td> <td>80</td> <td>8</td> <td>22</td> <td>73.33</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Table 2 shows that the number of unfilled Reception places increased in the English-medium schools from 2022 to 2023, while the number of places taken at Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli increased.</p>		Capacity	January 2022			January 2023			NOR	Available	% Available	NOR	Available	% Available	TJFS Cluster Schools	341	334	7	2.05	306	35	10.26	YG Nant Gwenlli	30	6	24	80	8	22	73.33
	Capacity	January 2022					January 2023																											
		NOR	Available	% Available	NOR	Available	% Available																											
TJFS Cluster Schools	341	334	7	2.05	306	35	10.26																											
YG Nant Gwenlli	30	6	24	80	8	22	73.33																											

	Impact:																																											
	Positive	Negative	Neither																																									
				<p>The consultation document notes that in January 2023, there were 91 English-medium places available across the John Frost Cluster primary schools. This equates to 3.8%. At this time there were 47 places available at Ysgol Nant Gwenlli.</p> <table border="1"> <caption>Table 3: 10 Year WESP Target for Reception cohort Welsh-medium % uptake</caption> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">2022 - 2023</th> <th colspan="2">2023 - 2024</th> <th colspan="2">2024 - 2025</th> <th colspan="2">2025 - 2026</th> <th colspan="2">2026 - 2027</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>116*</td> <td>6.10%</td> <td>129**</td> <td>6.60%</td> <td>150</td> <td>7.60%</td> <td>160</td> <td>8.10%</td> <td>171</td> <td>8.60%</td> </tr> <tr> <th colspan="2">2027 - 2028</th> <th colspan="2">2028 - 2029</th> <th colspan="2">2029 - 2030</th> <th colspan="2">2030 - 2031</th> <th colspan="2">2031 - 2032</th> </tr> <tr> <td>180</td> <td>9.20%</td> <td>193</td> <td>9.80%</td> <td>193</td> <td>10.40%</td> <td>N/K</td> <td>11.10%</td> <td>N/K</td> <td>11.10%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>From 2024-25 onwards, numbers have been calculated by applying the target % to NCC pupil projections. *% applied to PLASC 2023 Reception number. **% applied to ,cohort estimate based on September 2023 Reception places allocated</p> <p>The data in table 3, above, indicates the minimum desired growth rate to achieve Newport's 10 Year WESP Target for the Reception cohort. Target population is measured as a percentage of the cohort, and the numbers in the table are indications based on projections. Therefore, although English-medium provision may increase we are still committed to the same incremental increase in the % of uptake across the Welsh-medium sector as per our WESP, and the actual number will be proportionate to the cohort size year on year. The WESP target is a percentage of the relevant year's cohort and not percentage of places available.</p> <p>It is noted that due to the delay in relocating Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli, arising from the delay in securing land to enable the relocation of Pillgwenlly Primary School, the Welsh-medium PAN for September 2024 will be 142 which is below the anticipated WESP target of 150 pupils. If the Council receives applications for more than 142 Welsh-medium Reception places for this year, officers will work with the Headteacher and Governing Body of YG Nant Gwenlli to consider how additional places can be provided in advance of the move to a permanent site. It must be clear that this has been caused by the delay in the availability of the current Pillgwenlly Primary building and not the proposed expansion of Tredegar Park Primary. The Council has never refused an application for a learner wishing to access WM</p>	2022 - 2023		2023 - 2024		2024 - 2025		2025 - 2026		2026 - 2027		116*	6.10%	129**	6.60%	150	7.60%	160	8.10%	171	8.60%	2027 - 2028		2028 - 2029		2029 - 2030		2030 - 2031		2031 - 2032		180	9.20%	193	9.80%	193	10.40%	N/K	11.10%	N/K	11.10%
2022 - 2023		2023 - 2024		2024 - 2025		2025 - 2026		2026 - 2027																																				
116*	6.10%	129**	6.60%	150	7.60%	160	8.10%	171	8.60%																																			
2027 - 2028		2028 - 2029		2029 - 2030		2030 - 2031		2031 - 2032																																				
180	9.20%	193	9.80%	193	10.40%	N/K	11.10%	N/K	11.10%																																			

	Impact:			
	Positive	Negative	Neither	
				<p>education and is committed to this approach. Immersion provision is available for late joiners in both the primary and secondary sectors, with plans to expand this when Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli moves to its permanent location.</p> <p>There are four sub-groups that monitor the implementation of the WESP and the 'Grow' group covering Outcomes 1 and 2 has a strong focus on promotion of Welsh-medium education. The "Grow" sub-group which meets on a termly basis is chaired by a representative of Cymraeg I Blant.</p> <p>The proposal being consulted upon primarily affects an English-medium school. The proposal is to increase capacity in the English-medium sector to ensure a sufficiency of places to meet parental choice. The January 2023 Pupil Census showed places available in all year groups at Tredegar Park Primary School. The census also identified that 7.2% of the pupils in Newport schools whose homes were within the Tredegar Park catchment area were attending a Welsh-medium school. This is notably higher than the Newport average of 5.1% of the primary school population, suggesting Welsh-medium uptake is good in this area. It should be noted that as Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli newly opened as a seedling school in September 2021, a significant number of pupils from the area attend Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Teyrnnon, which was the catchment Welsh-medium primary school prior to the establishment of Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli.</p> <p>The increase in English-medium places would not directly affect the Welsh-medium sector as there is a no evidence of a correlation between availability of English-medium places and the uptake of Welsh-medium places. In fact, over the last four years, the cohort of pupils joining Reception classes across Newport has become smaller resulting in more unfilled places, but the number of pupils attending Welsh-medium schools in Newport has increased (see table 4 below). There is a sufficiency of places in the Welsh-medium sector, and this is expected to continue when Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli is relocated to its permanent base in Pillgwenlly as a growing school.</p>

	Impact:																																												
	Positive	Negative	Neither																																										
				<table border="1"> <caption>Table 4: Reception cohort – total/total in WM education</caption> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Total Cohort</th> <th>WM Cohort</th> <th>%</th> <th>WM Target</th> <th>%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Jan 2020</td> <td>1988</td> <td>104</td> <td>5.23</td> <td>112**</td> <td>5.63</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jan 2021</td> <td>1950</td> <td>113</td> <td>5.79</td> <td>112**</td> <td>5.74</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jan 2022</td> <td>1963</td> <td>108</td> <td>5.50</td> <td>112**</td> <td>5.71</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jan 2023</td> <td>1895</td> <td>111</td> <td>5.85</td> <td>116</td> <td>6.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sept 2023</td> <td>1951*</td> <td>121</td> <td>6.20</td> <td>129</td> <td>6.6</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>*Estimate based on Reception places allocated ** Targets from 2017-2020 WESP</p> <p>Table 4 shows that the total number of pupils in Reception year classes has not increased since January 2020, but the number and the proportion of pupils in WM provision has increased steadily over the period. As such, there is no significant evidence of a link between the availability of English-medium school places and the uptake of Welsh-medium school places.</p> <p>It is noted however that although free transport is provided to Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli at Caerleon, the school is not currently located in the local area. The incremental increase of the capacity of Tredegar Park Primary School by 15 places per year group, together with the previously determined proposal to increase the capacity of Pillgwenlly Primary School by 12 places per year will temporarily reduce the proportion of Welsh-medium places available in the local area by 0.2% to 4.7%, for one year, before increasing to 8.98% in 2025, as illustrated in table 1.</p>							Total Cohort	WM Cohort	%	WM Target	%	Jan 2020	1988	104	5.23	112**	5.63	Jan 2021	1950	113	5.79	112**	5.74	Jan 2022	1963	108	5.50	112**	5.71	Jan 2023	1895	111	5.85	116	6.1	Sept 2023	1951*	121	6.20	129	6.6
	Total Cohort	WM Cohort	%	WM Target	%																																								
Jan 2020	1988	104	5.23	112**	5.63																																								
Jan 2021	1950	113	5.79	112**	5.74																																								
Jan 2022	1963	108	5.50	112**	5.71																																								
Jan 2023	1895	111	5.85	116	6.1																																								
Sept 2023	1951*	121	6.20	129	6.6																																								

	Impact:																																																											
	Positive	Negative	Neither																																																									
				<p>The number of places available, number of pupils and surplus places by language category in Newport is shown in table 5 below.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">Table 5: January 2023 pupil census - capacity and surplus places – Primary (R-Y6)</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th>Primary capacity</th> <th>% of total</th> <th>NOR</th> <th>% of total</th> <th>Unfilled places</th> <th>% unfilled</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Welsh-medium</td> <td>859</td> <td>5.62</td> <td>706</td> <td>5.10</td> <td>153</td> <td>17.81</td> </tr> <tr> <td>English medium</td> <td>14,417</td> <td>94.38</td> <td>13,125</td> <td>94.90</td> <td>1,292</td> <td>8.96</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">January 2023 pupil census - capacity and surplus places – Secondary (Y7-Y11)</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th>Secondary capacity</th> <th>%</th> <th>NOR</th> <th>%</th> <th>Unfilled places</th> <th>% unfilled</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Welsh-medium</td> <td>870</td> <td>7.01</td> <td>520</td> <td>4.63</td> <td>350</td> <td>40.23</td> </tr> <tr> <td>English medium</td> <td>11,535</td> <td>92.99</td> <td>10,715</td> <td>95.37</td> <td>820</td> <td>7.11</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The proposal does not contribute to the Council's plans for growing Welsh-medium education provision across Newport as outlined in our 10-year Welsh in Education Strategic Plan. It is therefore acknowledged that this proposal will not contribute to the Council's targets in relation to Cymraeg 2050.</p> <p>If implemented, the proposal will result in more teaching jobs in which Welsh language skills will be listed on the job description.</p>	Table 5: January 2023 pupil census - capacity and surplus places – Primary (R-Y6)								Primary capacity	% of total	NOR	% of total	Unfilled places	% unfilled	Welsh-medium	859	5.62	706	5.10	153	17.81	English medium	14,417	94.38	13,125	94.90	1,292	8.96	January 2023 pupil census - capacity and surplus places – Secondary (Y7-Y11)								Secondary capacity	%	NOR	%	Unfilled places	% unfilled	Welsh-medium	870	7.01	520	4.63	350	40.23	English medium	11,535	92.99	10,715	95.37	820	7.11
Table 5: January 2023 pupil census - capacity and surplus places – Primary (R-Y6)																																																												
	Primary capacity	% of total	NOR	% of total	Unfilled places	% unfilled																																																						
Welsh-medium	859	5.62	706	5.10	153	17.81																																																						
English medium	14,417	94.38	13,125	94.90	1,292	8.96																																																						
January 2023 pupil census - capacity and surplus places – Secondary (Y7-Y11)																																																												
	Secondary capacity	%	NOR	%	Unfilled places	% unfilled																																																						
Welsh-medium	870	7.01	520	4.63	350	40.23																																																						
English medium	11,535	92.99	10,715	95.37	820	7.11																																																						

1. Please describe how you have ensured your engagement has considered the view of Welsh speakers in Newport and the impact of your decision on the Welsh language.

The consultation will run bilingually and is shared with schools including Newport's Welsh-medium schools. The views of Welsh speakers can be captured as all consultation documentation will be translated and distributed and shared with any affected schools.

The consultation documents have been shared with members of Newport's Welsh Education Forum (WEF) via bilingual email.


All responses are welcomed to be submitted in Welsh and if requested, a response will be provided in Welsh.





In order to ensure that an equitable consultation is achieved in both Welsh and English, Newport City Council:

- Will ensure all publicly available documentation will be available bilingually
- Will ensure all stakeholder emails are bilingual
- Will ensure there will be a Welsh language version of the consultation web page on the NCC website
- Will provide translation services at drop in session where appropriate
- Will encourage stakeholders to respond to the consultation in Welsh
- Will ensure the consultation questionnaire asked specific questions in relation to the project's potential positive or negative impact on opportunity to promote and use the Welsh language

3. The Sustainable Development Principle

The Well-being of Future Generations Act puts in place a sustainable development principle which helps organisations consider the impact they could have on people living in Wales in the future, and ensure they are focused on tackling long-term challenges. Below, consider how your decision promotes, advances, or contradicts the [5 ways of working](#) which underpin the sustainable development principle. You can access further guidance on considering the sustainable development principle [here](#).

<p>Long term</p> 	<p><i>The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs.</i></p>	<p>The proposal seeks to increase the capacity of Tredegar Park Primary School.</p> <p>This will result in the school capacity increasing incrementally from 420 to 525 with effect from September 2024. Over the past 5 years the number of pupils attending Tredegar Park Primary School has fluctuated with a high of 398 in 2021/22.</p> <p>The Reception allocations for September 2023 were released on 17th April 2023 and Tredegar Park Primary School had an allocation 58 pupils, 53 of which were an in-catchment or high priority admission. Following the first late admissions round, all 60 places were allocated with a small number of applications refused. The year group is therefore full; possibly for the full length of the cohort's primary education.</p> <p>With the school currently operating at 89% capacity in 2022/23 due to the low Reception intake in September 2022, most year groups are near capacity with many operating with single digit places remaining and most of the other six English-medium schools in the John Frost school cluster are also almost at capacity. There is a need to increase capacity within the area and all schools within the cluster have been considered for expansion, with Tredegar Park Primary School identified as being the most suitable.</p>
--	---	---

<p>Prevention</p> 	<p><i>Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</i></p>	<p>The proposal seeks to increase the capacity of Tredegar Park Primary School from 420 to 525 places. Within the 'Current practice on the use of surplus school accommodation' document, Welsh Government recommends a 10% surplus of school places. As of January 2023, Tredegar Park Primary School had 372 pupils on roll, leaving 11% surplus places. This is currently above the Welsh Government recommendation but with the increase in housing developments in the surrounding area, many of the cluster schools are full. The Newport One ward profiles show that the Tredegar Park ward population has constantly grown over the past 10 years in all age groups. At the time of writing, all 60 Reception places for September 2023 at the school have been allocated. Tredegar Park Primary School has been identified as the most suitable school that has the ability to accommodate a small scale expansion to 2.5 form entry with remodelling/extension.</p>
<p>Integration</p> 	<p><i>Considering how the public body's well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies.</i></p>	<p>A formal statutory consultation will be carried out and supported at each stage by a FEIA to consider the impact of the proposal. This proposal supports the "A prosperous Wales", "A more equal Wales" and "A Wales of cohesive communities" Well-being Goals and has no adverse effect on any of the other Well-being Goals.</p>
<p>Collaboration</p> 	<p><i>Working together to deliver objectives.</i></p>	<p>A formal consultation will be carried out with the opportunity for engagement with all stakeholders and supported at each stage by a FEIA to consider impact.</p> <p>Members of the education department and Tredegar Park Primary School will work together to deliver the expansion.</p>
<p>Involvement</p> 	<p><i>Involving those with an interest and seeking their view - ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area.</i></p>	<p>Newport City Council will engage with stakeholders (listed in Section 3) and the schools affected by the proposal. This will be via providing physical consultation documents on request and several copies will be delivered to affected schools, the consultation documents will be made available online at www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation, public drop in sessions will held where council officers will be on hand to explain the proposal and answer questions.</p>

		Pupil Voice sessions will be held at the affected schools to gain the pupils' thoughts on the proposals. A Children and Young Person's consultation document will be made available and distributed to the affected schools. These will also be provided prior to and at all pupil voice sessions.
--	--	--

4. Socio-economic Duty

The [Socio-economic Duty](#) is set out in the Equality Act 2010, and requires the council, when making strategic decisions, to pay due regard to the need to reduce the inequalities of outcome that result from socio-economic disadvantage. Inequalities of outcome are felt most acutely in areas such as health, education, work, living standards, justice and personal security, and participation.

A 'strategic decision' is defined by Welsh Government as a decision **which affects how the council fulfils its statutory purpose over a significant period of time and does not include routine 'day to day' decisions.** Strategic decisions include:

- Corporate plans
- Setting wellbeing, equality and other strategic objectives
- Changes to, or development of public services
- Strategic financial planning
- Strategic policy development

If you do not think your decision meets this definition, and you do not plan on carrying out a Socio-economic Duty Assessment in this section, please provide your rationale below. Any decision which is presented to a Cabinet Member, at Cabinet or Council will be viewed as a strategic decision.

If your decision does meet the definition, please consider the impact of your decision on the socio-economically disadvantaged groups, and areas of inequality that may arise from socio-economic disadvantage contained in the matrix below. The groups listed are not exhaustive and you should consider any additional groups relevant to your decision who may experience socio-economic disadvantage in the following ways:

- **Low Income/Income Poverty** - cannot afford to maintain regular payments such as bills, food, clothing, transport etc.
- **Low and/or no Wealth** - enough money to meet basic living costs and pay bills but have no savings to deal with any unexpected spends and no provisions for the future

- **Material Deprivation** - unable to access basic goods and services i.e. financial products like life insurance, repair/replace broken electrical goods, warm home, hobbies etc.)
- **Area Deprivation** - where you live (rural areas), where you work (accessibility of public transport)
- **Socio-economic Background** – for example, parents’ education, employment and income

Indicate a positive or negative impact, or both where they apply, and the severity of this impact by coding the sections of the grid based on the below. *If there is no/neutral impact, please leave blank.*

Negative Impact		Positive Impact	
N1	Negative impact – mild	P1	Positive impact – mild
N2	Negative impact – moderate	P2	Positive impact – moderate
N3	Negative impact – significant	P3	Positive impact – significant
N4	Potential for negative impact (but unsure)	P4	Potential for positive impact (but unsure)

Areas of inequality that may arise from socio-economic disadvantage – definitions							
Education :The capability to be knowledgeable, to understand and reason, and to have the skills and opportunity to participate in the labour market and in society							
Work : The capability to work in just and favourable conditions, to have the value of your work recognised, even if unpaid, to not be prevented from working and to be free from slavery, forced labour and other forms of exploitation							
Living Standards : The capability to enjoy a comfortable standard of living, in appropriate housing, with independence and security, and to be cared for and supported when necessary.							
Justice, Personal Security and Community Safety : The capability to avoid premature mortality, live in security, and knowing you will be protected and treated fairly by the law							
Health : The capability to be healthy, physically and mentally, being free in matters of sexual relationships and reproduction, and having autonomy over care and treatment and being cared for in the final stages of your life							
Participation : The capability to participate in decision making and in communities, access services, know your privacy will be respected, and express yourself							
Groups	Areas of inequality						
	Living Standards	Work	Health	Education	Justice and community safety	Participation	Physical Environment
Children living in poverty			P2	P1		P4	P2
Low income households without dependent children							
Unemployed young people		P4					
Long term unemployed		P4					

Homeless households							
Refugees, migrants and asylum seekers		P4					
Deprived neighbourhoods - WIMD rank in 10% most deprived LSOA			P2	P4		P2	P2
People on Universal Credit / income related benefits				P4			
Adults with no qualifications or low qualifications							
People living in low quality housing or in Houses of Multiple Occupation				P4			

1. What evidence do you have about socioeconomic disadvantage and inequalities of outcome in relation to this decision?

As an 'Education' plan, it will reduce potential inequalities of opportunity and outcome in education by increasing the number of school places in Newport as a whole, and in the John Frost School cluster specifically. The local community is characterised by relatively high levels of socioeconomic disadvantage and the school has been praised for the way in which it provides an environment in which children can thrive and make real progress in both academic and personal development. Many of the primary schools within the John Frost School cluster are almost at capacity and adding more school places in the local area will enable children to remain and learn within their local communities. This will positively impact on wellbeing goals a prosperous Wales and a more equal Wales and the wellbeing objective to improve skills, educational outcomes and employment opportunities.

2. Please describe how you have ensured your engagement has considered the views of people living in Newport who are affected by socio-economic disadvantage.

The consultation information will be made available for and shared with all group across Newport. Versions of the documents available in the form of the full version and a shortened easy read version aimed at children and young people will be available. These documents will be available digitally and in hard format on a variety of digital platforms online and at various locations across the city. On the inside cover of the consultation documents, a list of languages is provided that the document can be translated into on request. This will enable people from all groups to access the consultation.

3. Does this decision contribute to a cumulative impact?

No

Part 3: Actions and Outcomes

Considering any negative impacts that you have identified, indicate below how you will reduce these, increase the potential for positive impacts, and how you will monitor those impacts. Further guidance on how to complete your action plan can be found [here](#).

IMPACT ON PEOPLE THAT SHARE PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS			
Summary of impact	Action to reduce negative impact / opportunities to increase positive impacts	How this impact will be monitored	Owner
IMPACT ON WELSH LANGUAGE			
Summary of impact	Action to reduce negative impact / opportunities to increase positive impacts	How this impact will be monitored	Owner
SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACTS			
Summary of impact	Action to reduce negative impact / opportunities to increase positive impacts	How this impact will be monitored	Owner
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLE			
Summary of impact	Action to reduce negative impact / opportunities to increase positive impacts	How this impact will be monitored	Owner

Tudalen 58

Once your FEIA is complete, please forward to nccequality@newport.gov.uk