

Formal Consultation to increase the capacity of Bassaleg School with effect from September 2023

**1 October 2020 –
12 November 2020**



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ysgolion yr 21ain Ganrif
21st Century Schools



NEWPORT
CITY COUNCIL
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Welsh

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Portuguese

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Romanian

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Russian

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سے اس نمبر پر رابطہ کریں Newport City Council زبان میں ترجمے کے لئے تو برائے مہربانی نیوپورٹ سٹی کونسل
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Urdu

Information can also be arranged in other community languages if needed. Please contact us on 01633 656656 to arrange.

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Introduction

The purpose of the consultation is to seek views on the following proposal:

“To increase the overall capacity of Bassaleg School from 1,747 to 2,050 with effect from September 2023”

This is your chance to ask questions and make comments that will be considered when the Council decides how to proceed.

This formal consultation period:

- **Begins on 1 October 2020**
- **Ends at midnight on 12 November 2020**

Background

Bassaleg School is a community maintained school in Newport for pupils aged 11-18 years. The measured capacity of the school is 1,747 and the published admission number (PAN) for years 7-11 is 270. Following the opening in 2017 of Jubilee Park Primary School on the housing development of the same name, the current admission number of Bassaleg School is no longer sufficient to accommodate pupils progressing from Year 6 in the cluster primary schools to Year 7 at Bassaleg School. As a result, Newport City Council proposes to increase the admission number for years 7-11 to 330, and thereby ultimately increase the overall capacity of the school to 2,050, with effect from September 2023.

Bassaleg School is due to benefit from building replacement works under Band B of the Welsh Government 21st Century Schools and Colleges Programme. Under this arrangement Welsh Government will provide 65% of the required funding, subject to business case approval. Newport City Council proposes to use this opportunity to provide the additional school capacity within the building replacement project.

The Consultation Process

The consultation process represents an opportunity for people to learn about the proposal, ask questions and make comments that will be recorded and summarised in a consultation report. This report will be published on the Council's website and will be considered when the Council decides on the way forward.

Due to the current public health situation, and to help limit the spread of the Coronavirus, the Council is not proposing any public drop-in events during this consultation. Instead, questions can be submitted by e-mail to school.reorg@newport.gov.uk and Council officers will generally provide a response within 7 days. This should enable stakeholders to submit informed responses to the consultation. A list of Frequently Asked Questions and answers will also be published on the Council's webpages at www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation

Consultation responses can be submitted using the online response pro-forma available at www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation. Responses can also be returned by email to school.reorg@newport.gov.uk. Alternatively, the pro-forma enclosed can be returned to the Education Information and Development Officer, Room 425w, Newport City Council, Civic Centre, Newport NP20 4UR.

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

Please note that negative responses made to the proposal 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. **The deadline for all responses is midnight on 12 November 2020.**

Following consultation, Newport City Council's Cabinet Member for Education and Skills 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 all affected schools¹. 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, the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills 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.

Arrangements for the participation of children and young people

A Children and Young People's Everyday Summary Version of this consultation has been produced. Both this and the full version are available via the NCC website at www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation, from the Civic Centre, and the Information Station. Copies can also be requested by emailing school.reorg@newport.gov.uk or by telephoning 01633 656656.

Who will we consult with?

- Parents, carers and guardians of pupils attending all schools affected by this proposal;
- Pupils attending all schools affected by this proposal;
- Members of staff currently employed at all schools affected by this proposal;
- The Church in Wales, Diocese of Monmouth;
- Roman Catholic Archdiocese;
- 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 City Council Heads of Service;
- The local Community Councils;
- The Welsh Ministers;
- Assembly Members (AMs) and Members of Parliament (MPs) representing the area served by the schools subject to the proposals;
- Estyn;
- Teaching and staff trade unions representing teachers and staff employed at all schools affected by this proposal;
- The Education Achievement Service for South East Wales;
- The Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent;
- Newport's Welsh in Education Forum;
- The Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership;

¹ The schools affected by this proposal are listed on page 7 of this document

- Newport Serennu Centre;
- SNAP Cymru;
- Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations;
- Preventative services

What do you have to consider?

The remainder of this document sets out the rationale for the proposal. We would like you to consider the information contained within the document and to hear your views as to whether or not you support the proposal.

The Proposal

The proposal is to increase the published admission number for Years 7 to 11 at Bassaleg School, Forge Lane, Newport NP10 8NF, from 270 to 330 and thereby increase the overall school capacity from 1,747 to 2,050 pupils, from September 2023.

The population of Newport grew by almost 3,500 people between 2011 and 2016, and the primary school population of Newport has grown by 1,565 between January 2014 and January 2020. As these pupils mature, the pressure on school places is transitioning into our secondary school estate, which is reflected in our pupil population forecasts. Detail of this forecast pressure is provided on pages 6 and 8, below.

Much of the city's population growth can be attributed to the scale of new housing developments, making use of former industrial sites and the regeneration of dilapidated and under-occupied residential buildings.

New housing developments will result in the creation of thousands of new homes across the city. A development of over 1000 new homes is underway at Jubilee Park, just one mile away and within the catchment area of Bassaleg School. This development can be reasonably expected to result in an increase of approximately 250 secondary school age pupils needing places in local schools. In September 2017, Jubilee Park Primary School opened under a growing school model, to provide primary school places for the children living on that development. On opening, the school became the sixth primary school of the Bassaleg School cluster. The school capacity has grown over three years, from admitting only 15 pupils per year group in 2017; 30 per year group in 2018; and 45 pupils per year group from 2019 onwards.

High birth rates and inward migration of families moving to the Bassaleg and Rogerstone areas had been noted prior to the commencement of new house building programmes. To support this population growth, a total of five additional temporary 'bubble' classes had been introduced in Reception year groups at High Cross, Mount Pleasant and Rogerstone primary schools for five consecutive years, between 2011 and 2016 to provide extra capacity. A further "bubble" class has also been created at Mount Pleasant Primary to support the 2020 Reception year group. The result of these population increases is that the admission number for Bassaleg School is no longer sufficient to admit all of the in-catchment pupils progressing to secondary school from the cluster primary schools. Without expansion, some in-catchment pupils applying from the Marshfield area, being the farthest located area within the school catchment, are unlikely to be receive an offer of a place at Bassaleg School. The pressure on school places is illustrated overleaf.

Table 1: Cluster admission numbers	
School	Published Admission Number (pupils per year)
High Cross Primary School	30
Marshfield Primary School	60
Mount Pleasant Primary School	30
Pentrepoeth Primary School	60
Rogerstone Primary School	60
Jubilee Park Primary School	45
Primary Total:	285
Bassaleg School	270

Table 2: Actual and forecast Year 7 cohort numbers					
Bassaleg School	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Year 7 PAN	300*	330*	300*	300*	270
Cluster cohort	302	314	303	310	274
Forecast Y7 population	315	330	317	319	280
Numbers in red indicate the cohort/forecast exceeds the published admission number *A temporary increase of 30; 60; 30 and 30 places has been implemented in Y7 for September 2019 to September 2022 to accommodate in-catchment pupils					

Table 3: Cluster pupil numbers Jan 2018 (temporary capacity increases highlighted)								
	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
High Cross Primary School	30	30	30	29	58	30	30	31
Marshfield Primary School	60	58	60	60	60	63	63	59
Mount Pleasant Primary School	30	31	31	30	31	59	29	29
Pentrepoeth Primary School	60	60	59	60	61	61	60	57
Rogerstone Primary School*	60	61	62	95	61	65	94	90
Jubilee Park Primary School*	15**	23	16	14	9	15	18	9
Total	255	263	258	288	280	293	294	275
*Includes pupils in Learning Resource Base Classes (additional to mainstream PAN) ** In the first year, this school opened to just 15 pupils per year group								

The tables above show how, since September 2011, additional capacity has been required for five successive years, in order to meet demand for primary pupil places in the area. The opening of Jubilee Park Primary School in September 2017 also serves to add to the pressure for secondary school places. Under the council's school admissions policy, where a school is oversubscribed, the agreed oversubscription criteria are applied to determine which children should be admitted. Where there are more in-catchment applications than places available, priority is given to those with relevant siblings already attending the school, and those residing closest to the school. Pupils residing in the Marshfield area of the Bassaleg School catchment may therefore have been adversely affected by the establishment of the Jubilee Park development, as pupils living here would be closer to Bassaleg School. Although pupil population forecasts shown on the following pages indicate that the peak in demand experienced between 2011 and 2016 has largely passed, the need for another 'bubble class' at Mount Pleasant for September 2020 indicates that additional capacity will be

required in the future. For this reason, the council believes it necessary to increase the PAN of Bassaleg School beyond the combined cluster primary PAN of 285, to 330.

Affected Schools

The school directly affected by this proposal is **Bassaleg School**. It is anticipated that pupils from Marshfield Primary School will benefit significantly from the proposal being the farthest cluster primary school to Bassaleg School. However, all pupils attending Bassaleg School will benefit from improved facilities. For completeness, this document provides information on all of the primary schools which make up the Bassaleg School cluster, namely:

- Marshfield Primary School
- Mount Pleasant Primary School
- Rogerstone Primary School
- High Cross Primary School
- Jubilee Park Primary School
- Pentrepoeth Primary School

Bassaleg School is a community maintained, English language secondary school for pupils aged 11-18 years, located in the west of Newport, at Forge Road, linking the A467 Risca bypass and junction 28 of the M4 at Tredegar Park. The school has a published admission number of 270 for years 7-11 and 199 for year 12.

Marshfield Primary School pupils will benefit from this proposal because the increase in the admission number improves the chances of these in-catchment pupils securing a place in the school, and reduces the likelihood of siblings having to attend different schools due to a shortage of places. The catchment area for Bassaleg School is made up of the catchment areas of the cluster primary schools. Therefore any pupils who are in-catchment for the cluster primary school are also in-catchment for Bassaleg School. There are no catchment area changes proposed as part of this proposal.

Past and Projected Numbers – Bassaleg School

Table 4: Recent pupil numbers – Bassaleg School (Y7-13)				
Jan 2016	Jan 2017	Jan 2018	Jan 2019	Jan 2020
1,673	1,626	1,679	1,673	1,677
Pupil numbers are January PLASC submissions				

It is worth noting that although pupil numbers across the school have remained fairly stable, the number of post-16 pupils has declined in recent years, with the whole-school population remaining stable due to larger cohorts joining the school in Year 7.

Table 5: Forecast pupil numbers – Bassaleg School (Y7-13)				
Jan 2021	Jan 2022	2023	2024	2025
1,766	1,846	1,893	1,890	1,890

Current and Projected Numbers – Cluster Primary Schools

Table 6: Cluster pupil numbers (R-Y6) – January 2020								
	PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
High Cross Primary School	30	30	30	30	30	30	56	30
Jubilee Park Primary School*	45	48	47	39	38	41	34	42
Marshfield Primary School	60	54	59	61	57	61	58	60
Mount Pleasant Primary School	30	30	29	29	30	30	31	57
Pentrepoeth Primary School	60	60	56	60	59	59	62	61
Rogerstone Primary School*	60	61	61	62	60	89	62	64
Total:	285	283	282	281	274	310	303	314

*Includes pupils in Learning Resource Base Classes (additional to mainstream PAN)
Highlighted cells identify temporary bubble class arrangements

Table 7: Primary school pupil numbers (R – Y6) – Bassaleg Cluster						
	Capacity	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
High Cross Primary School	210 (240 to 2021)	243	244	238	234	236
Jubilee Park Primary School*	315	N/A	N/A	104	195	289
Marshfield Primary School	420	414	420	423	417	410
Mount Pleasant Primary School	210 (240 to 2020)	255	239	240	243	236
Pentrepoeth Primary School	420	418	416	418	420	417
Rogerstone Primary School*	420 (510 to 2020)	532	533	528	497	459
Total	1995 (2145)	1862	1852	1951	2006	2047

Pupil numbers are January PLASC submission for each listed year.
*Numbers include pupils in LRB classes

Table 8: Primary school forecasts – Bassaleg Cluster						
	Capacity	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
High Cross Primary School	210 (240 to 2021)	227	194	185	176	173
Jubilee Park Primary School	315	274	278	275	279	284
Marshfield Primary School	420	416	415	414	413	414
Mount Pleasant Primary School	210 (240 to 2020)	212	213	203	193	193
Pentrepoeth Primary School	420	419	401	382	374	359
Rogerstone Primary School	420 (450 to 2022)	442	425	362	333	307
Total	1995 (2085)	1990	1926	1821	1768	1730

Building Condition

The condition of the buildings on the affected school sites has been judged on a scale of A to D as follows:

Table 9: Building condition	
Bassaleg School	C-
High Cross Primary School	C+
Jubilee Park Primary School	A
Marshfield Primary School	C+
Mount Pleasant Primary School	C+
Pentrepoeth Primary School	C+
Rogerstone Primary School	B

Current accommodation at Bassaleg School is spread across 15 sets of buildings of varying quality and suitability. The main building dates from the 1930s, with much of the school comprising buildings constructed in the 1960s. Two teaching blocks are much more recent, but there are also a considerable number of demountable classrooms of various ages which are in a particularly poor state of repair.

This has resulted in a logistical challenge to pupils and staff navigating the site. There is also inadequate sports provision, and the two main halls and dining areas are located at opposite ends of

the extensive site, neither of them sufficient to accommodate more than a single year group at any one time. Added to these issues is the over-arching problem of a lack of investment in the older buildings over a protracted period of time, which results in pupils being taught in dilapidated, inefficient, uninspiring classrooms.

Under this proposal, a new teaching block, dining and assembly facilities and sports pitches will be provided at Bassaleg School, and the majority of the poor quality accommodation currently on site will be demolished.

Quality and Standards in education

Quality and standards in schools in Newport are monitored by Estyn and the Local Authority (LA). Estyn is the office of Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector of Education and Training in Wales. It is a Crown body, established under the Education Act 1992. Estyn is independent of the National Assembly for Wales but receives its funding from the Welsh Government under Section 104 of the Government of Wales Act 1998. Estyn inspects quality and standards in education and training providers in Wales. The most recent inspection results of each school directly affected by this proposal are outlined below:

School	Inspection Date	Inspection Area				
		Standards	Wellbeing & attitudes to learning	Teaching & learning experiences	Care, support & guidance	Leadership & management
Bassaleg School	May 2019	Good	Good	Good	Excellent	Good

It is not anticipated that the proposal will have any effect on quality and standards in teaching at any of the cluster primary schools. Consideration is given to the potential impact of the proposal on quality and standards at Bassaleg School below, and is aligned with the Estyn Inspection framework:

Standards –

Under this proposal there will be no change to the leadership team and structure at Bassaleg School. This team has been judged to deliver good standards of education at the school. The proposal will be made possible through a considerable investment in new teaching and learning facilities which can also be expected to improve pupil behaviour and concentration and allow teachers to focus fully on teaching. As such, the proposal is expected to have a positive effect on standards at the school.

Standards at the six cluster primary schools will not be affected by this proposal.

Wellbeing and attitudes to learning –

Wellbeing and attitudes to learning have been judged to be good at Bassaleg School. The new teaching facilities are being designed with input from the school to ensure that they will have a positive impact on pupil wellbeing and attitudes to learning, in line with the school’s vision for the delivery of the new curriculum and with the ethos of the school. Further, the rationalisation of teaching, dining and assembly accommodation – bringing more of it together in one place – is expected to have a significant positive impact on pupil and staff wellbeing and will improve attitudes to learning.

Wellbeing and attitudes to learning at the six cluster primary schools will not be adversely affected by this proposal but may be positively affected through the improved chance of securing a place at the cluster secondary school.

Teaching and learning experiences –

Teaching and learning experiences are judged to be good at Bassaleg School, despite the challenges currently presented by some dated and poor condition accommodation. Under this proposal, new and improved teaching facilities will be provided which will impact all areas of learning experience. As such, it is expected that the proposal will have a positive impact on teaching and learning experiences.

The new facilities at the school will be available to Key Stage 2 pupils attending the six cluster primary schools through cluster events and so will provide some benefit to pupils in these schools.

Care support and guidance –

Bassaleg School is a very inclusive school, with inclusion being a central part of the schools' value system. Care, support and guidance have been judged to be excellent at Bassaleg School, and efforts are focussed on ensuring that the new facilities enable a continuation of this excellent provision. This provision will be reinforced both through this proposal and through the introduction of the new curriculum.

Care support and guidance at the six cluster primary schools will not be affected by this proposal.

Leadership and management –

As noted above, there will be no changes to leadership and management at the school. The proposed works to facilitate the increase in overall capacity will enable the leadership team to shape the teaching and learning provision to support the delivery of the curriculum, strengthening links across subjects and departments, and bringing them together to effectively deliver all Areas of Learning Experience.

School Categorisation

The National School Categorisation system gives us a clear and fair picture of how well a school is performing compared with other schools across Wales and helps us to identify the schools that need the most help, support and guidance to improve. The system has been developed collectively between regional education consortia and Welsh Government. Its primary function is to identify, across Wales, the schools that need the most support.

Bassaleg School is in the “green” support category with its improvement capacity judged as being group A. This indicates that the school is considered to have high standards with the capacity to drive improvement, and is able to support other schools.

What Will the Proposal Provide?

The proposal will be facilitated by a significant build project for the school, delivered through the 21st Century Schools and Colleges Programme, which allows the Council to benefit from Welsh Government match funding, subject to business case approval.

The project will deliver a new teaching block which will accommodate up to 1,440 pupils, enabling the school capacity across years 7 to 11 to increase by 300 places, bringing the whole school capacity to a total of 2,050 places. The new build will therefore replace a significant amount of the existing buildings which are in poor condition. The exact detail of what the project will deliver is still being developed through the business case process, focussing on achieving both impact and value for money. The Strategic Outline Case for the project was approved by Welsh Government in February 2020. It is anticipated that the project will deliver the following facilities:

- Whole school catering facility and dining hall
- Assembly hall
- Standard teaching classrooms
- Specialist teaching classrooms (music, science & technology)
- Drama studio
- Recording studio
- Learning resource and wellbeing areas
- Improved sports pitches
- Better grouping and proximity of subject areas
- Removal of poor quality and demountable teaching accommodation
- Improved access and additional parking spaces

The new building will be constructed within the existing school site while pupils and staff continue to use the existing facilities. Once the new building is complete, pupils and staff will move into the new building and the old buildings will be demolished. The more disruptive works will be scheduled for times when the school is closed.

New building indicative floor plans

Ground floor:



First floor:



Second floor:



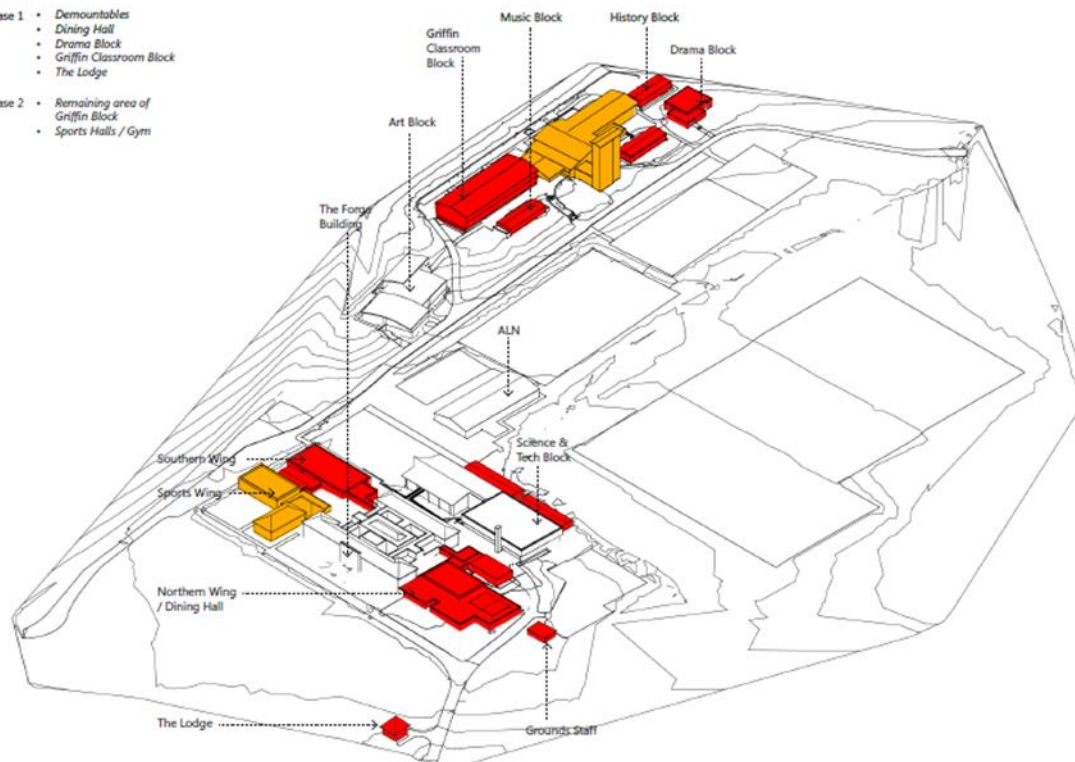
Front elevation and plaza:



Demolition plan:

Demolition Key

- Phase 1** • Demountables
 - Dining Hall
 - Drama Block
 - Griffin Classroom Block
 - The Lodge
- Phase 2** • Remaining area of Griffin Block
 - Sports Halls / Gym



When Will This Be Effective?

The project is scheduled to be commence in the spring of 2021 and to complete in the spring of 2023. The school capacity will increase to 2,050 from September 2023. In order to meet the increased demand for Year 7 pupil places it is proposed to implement this proposal in phases, by admitting additional in-catchment pupils to Year 7, according to demand, as follows:

Table 11: Capacity increase implementation			
Year	Additional capacity created	Maximum Y7 intake	Capacity
2018-2019	0	270	1,747
2019-2020	30	300	1,777
2020-2021	60	330	1,837
2021-2022	30	300	1,867
2022-2023	30	300	1,897
2023-2024	60	330	1,957
2024-2025	60	330	2,017
2025-2026	33	330	2,050

The 2019 to 2022 Y7 admission increases will be made possible by the addition of 5 temporary classrooms. These will be replaced by the new build teaching facility and will be removed from site once the build project is complete.

Cost of the Proposal

The project will require a capital investment of approximately £28m, made possible through Welsh Government's 21st Century Schools and Colleges programme which will provide approximately £16m of the required investment. The balance of £12m will be invested by Newport City Council through banked developer contributions from the Jubilee Park (Alcan) and Tredegar Park Golf Club developments, and supported borrowing.

Revenue Costs

There is currently a pressure identified within the Local Authority's Medium Term Financial Plan linked to the growing demand for secondary school places within the Authority, which includes the increased provision proposed at Bassaleg School.

Alternative Options Considered

1) Do nothing

Under this option no additional or replacement facilities would be provided. Existing accommodation would be repaired under standard maintenance arrangements

Strengths:

- No investment required
- No disruption to school or neighbourhood

Weaknesses:

- Problems with condition of existing accommodation will not be addressed
- Issues with the site arrangement will not be addressed
- No additional capacity to meet in-catchment demand
- Local children will have to travel further to get to another school possibly on the other side of the city
- Ongoing transport cost liability to the Authority
- Significant maintenance liability to existing buildings, and potential Health and Safety concerns

Conclusion: The 'do nothing' option does not address the current and anticipated issues concerning building condition and the local pressure on school places. This is not therefore considered to be a preferred option.

2) Replace some existing accommodation; no expansion

Under this option the worst of the existing buildings would be replaced, but no additional capacity would be provided at the school.

Strengths:

- Addresses issues with poor condition accommodation
- Addresses issues with site arrangements
- Provides new and inspiring facilities for teaching and learning

Weaknesses:

- No additional capacity to meet in-catchment demand
- Local children will have to travel further to get to another school possibly on the other side of the city
- Ongoing transport cost liability to the Authority
- Disruption to school and neighbourhood during construction works

Conclusion: Although this option would address some of the worst health & safety concerns over the condition of buildings on the site, it would not address the local pressure for school places and presents a risk that the authority will be unable to discharge its duty to provide a sufficiency of

school places. As a result, pupils, mostly from the Marshfield area, will likely be offered places in schools that are not their catchment school and may be located some distance from their home address. There is also likely to be a transport cost associated with this option. This option is not preferred due to the necessary displacement of pupils from within the Bassaleg cluster and the risk of failure in terms of the statutory duty.

3) Provide new accommodation to enable a 300 place capacity increase only

Strengths:

- Provides new and inspiring facilities for teaching and learning
- Provides additional pupil places to meet in-catchment demand
- Avoids transport costs and inconvenience

Weaknesses:

- Issues with the condition of existing accommodation will not be addressed
- Issues with the site arrangement will not be addressed
- Significant maintenance liability to existing buildings, and potential Health and Safety concerns

Conclusion: While this option would provide the additional capacity necessary to meet local demand, it would fail to maximise the opportunity to invest in the school and replace some of the poor condition buildings on the site. This option is not preferred as the significant building condition liability would remain.

4) Increase the capacity of another secondary school

Strengths:

- Provides required pupil places in the city

Weaknesses:

- Would not provide school places in the locality in which they are needed
- Home to school transport implications
- Limited possibilities for expansion on other school sites in the west of the city

Conclusion: This option is not preferred due to the difficulty to expand another school site, and because it would fail to address the issues at Bassaleg School. It would also not provide the required capacity on the right location.

5) Change school catchment areas to divert pressure away from Bassaleg School

Strengths:

- An alternative to expansion on the Bassaleg site

Weaknesses:

- Would not provide school places in the locality in which they are needed

- Home to school transport implications
- Likely to impact many or all secondary schools and their cluster primary schools
- Fails to provide any extra school capacity

Conclusion: This would be an unduly disruptive approach to resolving the anticipated pressure for school places in the Rogerstone and Marshfield areas. It would also not address the challenge of the overall availability of school places across the city, nor the issues with the condition of the current buildings at Bassaleg School. This option is not therefore preferred.

What will the preferred proposal achieve?

If implemented, the proposal will provide sufficient capacity to meet the expected demand from in-catchment families for the foreseeable future. In addition, much of the existing poor quality accommodation will be replaced with a fully accessible, state of the art new build teaching block with dining and assembly facilities.

Impact on the Local Environment

The proposal will impact the local environment and road network in two ways; from the proposed construction and site development, and from the increased pupil and staff population at the school site.

As outlined above, the proposed capacity increase for Bassaleg School is a direct response to the development of new housing in the immediate locality at Jubilee Park and Tredegar Park Golf Club, both of which are within easy walking distance of the school. As such, the traffic impact has largely already been accounted for in the planning applications for those two developments, in an area that has recently seen investment in road layout improvements implemented by Welsh Government. There is an existing safe walking route between the Jubilee Park development and the school site, and consideration will be given to improvements to this as part of the proposed scheme.

Improved access and parking is being included within the design proposals for the development, which will seek to reduce the impact of school related parking in the local streets outside of the school site.

Safe routes to school and active travel arrangements are being considered in partnership with colleagues in City Services. Developing a coherent travel strategy and school travel plan to promote ecologically friendly travel choices is seen as integral to the proposed scheme and will be presented as part of the planning application package.

School Organisation Arrangements

Catchment Area

There will be no changes to the current primary and secondary catchment areas under this proposal.

Admissions

Newport City Council is the admissions authority for Bassaleg School, and applications for admission will continue to be assessed in accordance with the Council's School Admissions Policy.

In accordance with this policy, parents can express a preference for any school, but there is no guarantee of admission to the chosen school, even if it is the catchment school. Admission to the school will be made in accordance with parental preference, subject to availability. Where a school is oversubscribed, preference requests will still be considered, but the Council's over-subscription criteria will be applied to determine priority.

Further information on the School Admissions policy and process can be found on the Council website at www.newport.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Home to School Transport

Under the Council's policy, free home to school transport is provided to all secondary school aged pupils who live 3 miles or more from their catchment school, or alternatively the nearest available school. This proposal will not impact on this arrangement, and the availability of home to school walking routes will remain unchanged or will be improved.

Governance

There will be no changes to the school governance arrangements under this proposal.

Staffing

The proposed capacity increase at the school is likely to provide job opportunities as more teaching staff will be needed. The necessary staff will be recruited by the Headteacher and governing body of the school, with support from the local authority.

Risks

The risks associated with this proposal, and mitigating factors are listed below:

Table 12: Project Risks	
Risk	Mitigating factor
Delays in securing planning permission impact project delivery	Early engagement with City Services and Regeneration, Investment and Housing has enabled the relevant issues to be identified prior to the submission of the planning application. Impact assessments and details of proposed necessary mitigation measures will form part of the application.
Funding sufficiency to deliver the project	The proposed scope of the project and outline design has been commercially assessed and is considered affordable within the Newport City Council 21 st Century Schools Band B programme envelope. The affordability of the project is under constant review.
Demand for pupil places decreases	Pupil forecasts indicate growing demand across the city, and Bassaleg School is an identified pressure area.
Demand for places increases beyond proposed capacity increase	It is possible that the school will continue to receive more applications than spaces available. However the council is confident that the proposed expansion will be sufficient to meet in-catchment demand for the foreseeable future.

Impact Assessments

A fairness and equalities impact assessment has been conducted for this proposal and is available on the council website.

Impact on Welsh language provision

The proposal has no bearing on the Council's plans to develop and promote Welsh language provision. It is therefore acknowledged that this proposal will make no contribution to the Council's targets in relation to Cymraeg 2050.

Consultation Response Pro-forma

This response relates to the proposal to increase the capacity of Bassaleg School by 300 places for pupils aged between 11 and 16 years, with effect from September 2023.

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 2020.** 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 11-16 capacity of Bassaleg School by 300 places with effect from September 2023.

Yes No In part

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

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 and English languages equally?

Yes No

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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	
Asian-Bangladeshi		Any other ethnic group (please state): _____	
Asian-Indian		Prefer not to say	
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: _____