

Monmouthshire County Council PO Box 106, Caldicot NP26 9AN Cyngor Sir Fynwy

Blwch SP 106, Cil-y-Coed NP26 9AN Tel/Ffôn: 01633 644582 E-Mail/Ebost: willmclean@monmouthshire.gov.uk Web/Gwefan: www.monmouthshire.gov.uk

Our Ref/Ein Cyf: Your Ref:/Eich Cyf:

Date/Dyddiad: 1st October 2024

Dear consultee,

## Relocation of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni

Following the statutory consultation processes concerning the proposals to increase the capacity of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni to 420 places through its relocation to the site of the former Deri View Primary School I now write to notify you of the Council's decision..

You will be aware from my previous correspondence that the Council's Cabinet met on the 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024 to consider the feedback provided by consultees during the statutory consultation period. At this meeting, Cabinet agreed to proceed to the next stages of the statutory process, namely, to publish statutory notices concerning the above proposal to be implemented from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025.

The statutory notices were formally published on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2024 and allowed a 28 day window for any statutory objections. The objection period closed on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024. The Council is required to produce an Objection Report which details any statutory objections received during this window, together with the Council's response to these objections. A copy of the Objection Report is available to view at <a href="School Reorganisation - Monmouthshire">School Reorganisation - Monmouthshire</a>, however it is noted that there were no statutory objections received. Hard copies of the Objection Report can be provided on request.

The Council's Cabinet met on the 11<sup>th</sup> September 2024 to consider the content of the Objection Report, and made their final decision to implement the proposals as consulted on, namely, to increase the capacity of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni to 420 places plus 60 place Meithrin through its relocation to the former Deri View Primary School site. This decision means that Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni will relocate to Llwynu Lane, Abergavenny, NP7 6AR with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025.

In determining the proposal, Cabinet Members gave careful consideration to key factors that concern school organisation proposals as identified within the School Organisation Code (November 2018). A summary of the considerations given to these identified factors can be found below:

- As part of the consultation process the Council has assessed the impact of the proposal on the quality and standards of Education. Following the outcome of the consultation and taking into consideration the feedback that has been received, Cabinet were confident that there will be an overall positive impact on the quality and standards of education.
- The proposal will not affect the quality of learning in any of the English medium schools in the Abergavenny cluster, however, for those currently attending Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni, the proposals are likely to have a hugely

positive impact on their teaching and learning experiences as they relocate to an improved environment with excellent teaching and learning facilities.

- The relocation and associated increase in capacity of Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni is expected to have a positive impact on the Abergavenny community who wish to be educated through the medium of Welsh. We anticipate that there will be an increase in parental choice for Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni because the Council will be providing more Welsh medium places in an improved teaching and learning environment.
- The proposal demonstrates our commitment to increasing the number of children accessing Welsh-medium provision and meets our targets outlined in our Welsh Education Strategic Plan (WESP). It also supports the Welsh Government's national strategy Cymraeg 2050.
- The development of Welsh-medium education has been a central priority for Monmouthshire as outlined in all our WESPs and it is a main priority in the current plan. We acknowledge that the relocation of the school provides the necessary foundations to enable Welsh medium education in Abergavenny to grow to be able to offer a two form entry (60 places per year group) which is something that could not be offered on their current site. This places us in a strong position to meet our target of 120 reception learners by the end of the current WESP in 2031.

The full considerations given to support the decision made by Cabinet is available to interested parties by studying the statutory documentation concerning these proposals, which can be accessed by visiting <a href="https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation">www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation</a>

The Council is excited to now move forward to implement these proposals and looks forward to working very closely with the governing body, staff and children to ensure that the transition to the new site is as seamless as possible.

Yours sincerely

Will McLean

Chief Officer for Children and Young People

Mae'r Cyngor yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg, Saesneg neu yn y ddwy iaith. Byddwn yn cyfathrebu â chi yn ôl eich dewis.

Ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

The Council welcomes correspondence in English or Welsh or both, and will respond to you according to your preference. Corresponding in Welsh will not lead to delay.