

Date/Dyddiad 10 June 2016
Ask for/Gofynwch am M Matthews
Telephone/Rhif ffôn 01446 709727
Fax/Ffacs 01446 709376
Your Ref/Eich Cyf
My Ref/Cyf MM/Cadoxtonschools
e-mail/e-bost MMatthews@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

The Vale of Glamorgan Council
Directorate of Learning and Skills
Provincial House, Kendrick Road, Barry CF62 8BF
Telephone: (01446) 700111 Textphone: (01446)
741219
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg
Dysgu a Sgiliau,
Tŷ'r Dalaith, Heol Kendrick, Y Barri CF2 8BF
Rhif ffôn: (01446) 700111 Ffôn testun: (01446)
741219
www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk
www.bromorgannwg.gov.uk



To: Parents, Carers and Guardians of children attending Cadoxton Nursery and Cadoxton Primary schools
Headteachers, Staff and Governors of Cadoxton Nursery and Cadoxton Primary schools
Statutory Consultees

Dear Consultee,

PROPOSAL TO AMALGAMATE CADOXTON NURSERY AND CADOXTON PRIMARY SCHOOLS

On 6 June 2016, the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Cabinet determined the proposal to amalgamate Cadoxton Nursery and Cadoxton Primary schools by extending the age range of Cadoxton Primary School from 4 to 11 to 3 to 11 years and discontinuing Cadoxton Nursery school.

The Council held a full consultation with prescribed consultees that concluded with the issue of a statutory notice on the amalgamation proposal. Cabinet in making its decision considered all previous Cabinet reports relating to the proposal; the responses to the consultation as set out in the Consultation Report and the statutory objections received together with the local authority response as set out in the Objection Report. Taking all matters into account, Cabinet has approved the proposal. As a result Cadoxton Nursery and Cadoxton Primary schools will amalgamate from 1 September 2016.

It was noted that there were 113 statutory objections. The main concerns of objectors are summarised in the objection report together with the response from the local authority. The objection report is available to view on the council website at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/cadoxtonschools or a hard copy is available on request to the address above or e-mail MMatthews@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

In determining the proposal, Cabinet were satisfied that the proposal will:

- Maintain the quality and standards of education in the area;
- Maintain access and parental preference for English medium provision in the area;
- Continue to provide a mix of English medium, Welsh medium and faith provision within Barry and surrounding area;
- Will lead to greater efficiency in the resourcing of education within the immediate area and across the school estate;

The reasons for the decision in respect of the factors outlined in the School Organisation Code are as follows;

Quality and Standards of Education

The proposal will enable the high standards of education present in the existing, separate schools to be combined and to contribute to high quality provision within one school operating across two sites.

The new school will be managed by one headteacher, as opposed to the current arrangement, where two are required at the nursery and primary school. This would allow a shared vision and leadership and minimise the number of transition points between schools that children currently experience. The proposal will maximise the benefits arising from such continuous transition and will offer greater potential for improving the levels of achievement for all pupils.

The amalgamation is based on sound educational principles including the progression of pupils through a school with a single management and pedagogical ethos.

The view of Estyn is that “the proposal is likely to at least maintain the current standards of education and provision in the area. The proposal is unlikely to have a negative impact on any other schools or providers of pre-school education in the area”.

Need for places and the impact on the accessibility of schools

Cadoxton and the surrounding area will retain English, Welsh and faith provision. The number of school places available for children in the area will not alter as a result of the proposal. The amalgamated school will continue to meet the demand of parents for places within the schools.

There will be no impact as a result of the proposal on pupils’ journeys and available walking routes to schools as the amalgamated school will operate over the two existing sites. Nothing in the proposal will change school transport arrangements, eligibility or accessibility.

Estyn state “the proposer has appropriately considered the impact of the proposal on pupils’ travel arrangements. The proposal states clearly that it does not envisage that there will be any changes to traffic or congestion around the school, as there will be no change to the overall capacity of the school or any extension to the current facilities.”

Resourcing of education

The amalgamation of the two schools would result in funding being allocated to the primary school on the same basis as for other primary schools with nurseries. The delegated funding for the primary school will be approximately £86,000 less than the funding currently being provided for the separate nursery and primary schools.

The funding allocated for each pupil will remain the same. The majority of the revenue saving would be generated through changes to staffing resulting from the school’s new staffing structure. This includes savings from having only a single headteacher for the amalgamated schools.

The amalgamation of the schools will ensure available resources are used as effectively as possible.

The decision is subject to the call in procedures as set out in the Council’s constitution which allows decisions taken by Cabinet to be reviewed. Should a call in of the decision take place, all stakeholders will be informed.

Yours sincerely



Anne Brown
School Organisation Manager