

Date/Dyddiad 21 March 2019  
Ask for/Gofynwch am M Matthews  
Telephone/Rhif ffôn 01446 709727  
Fax/Ffacs  
e-mail/e-bost MMatthews@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk  
Your Ref/Eich Cyf  
My Ref/Cyf MM/LLANC

The Vale of Glamorgan Council  
Learning and Skills  
Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU  
Telephone: (01446) 700111  
www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk



**Cyngor Bro Morgannwg**  
Dysgu a Sgiliau  
Swyddfeydd Dinesig, Heol Holton, Y Barri CF63 4RU  
Rhif ffôn: (01446) 700111  
www.bromorgannwg.gov.uk

To: Parents Carers and Guardians of children attending Llancafarn Primary School;  
Headteacher, Staff and Governing Body of Llancafarn Primary School;  
Prescribed Consultees

Dear Consultee,

**Proposal to reconfigure primary provision in the Western Vale by;**

- **Creating a new 210 place primary school building with a 48 part time place nursery class for Llancafarn Primary School in Rhoose.**
- **Transferring staff and pupils from the existing Llancafarn Primary School building into the new school building.**
- **Changing the age range of Llancafarn Primary School from 4 – 11 years to 3 – 11 years.**

On 18 March 2019, the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Cabinet determined the proposal to reconfigure primary provision in the Western Vale by transferring Llancafarn Primary School to a new school site in Rhoose on land north-west of the railway line, extend the age range and increase the school capacity. It is proposed to implement the proposal on 1 September 2021.

The Council held full consultation with prescribed consultees that concluded with the issue of a statutory notice on the 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 Llancafarn Primary School will transfer to a new school site in Rhoose on land north-west of the railway line from 1 September 2021 with an extended age range and an increase in school capacity.

It was noted that there were 102 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/westernvalereconfiguration](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/westernvalereconfiguration) or a hard copy is available on request to the address above or e-mail [MMatthews@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:MMatthews@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)

In determining the proposal, the Council was satisfied that the proposal will:

- Enable the school to further improve while catering for a greater pupil population;
- Enable further improvements to educational outcomes and standards in the area;
- Maintain access and parental preference for English medium provision in the area;
- Manage the supply and demand for school places in the area.

In determining the proposal the Council took into account the following factors as outlined in the School Organisation Code 2013 as follows:

### **Quality and standards in education**

It was Estyn's opinion that the proposal is likely to at least maintain the standard of education provision in the area.

Estyn commented that "The Vale of Glamorgan Council has presented a sound rationale for the proposals to create a new school building for Llancarfan Primary School with the addition of 48 nursery places for pupils on a part-time basis, on a new site in Rhoose. It sets out the expected benefits and disadvantages of the proposal clearly. The local authority has considered provision for existing pupils in the current Llancarfan Primary School, its future pupils, as well as those in Rhws, Llanfair and St Nicholas Primary Schools. This is because the proposed realignment of existing catchment areas in Rhoose in order to accommodate the new school site, would affect pupils in these schools. The local authority has taken appropriate account of educational standards, school surplus places, pupil travel arrangements, accessibility of provision, the quality and sustainability of school accommodation, financial investment and running costs."

The proposal will develop continuity and progression in children's learning from the age of three that will provide a consistent approach from 3-11 years to promote and underpin continuity and progression for pupils, ensuring breadth and balance across the curriculum.

A new building and location will allow for further development of a curriculum filled with rich experiences that challenge children, raise attainment and develop interpersonal relationships.

The proposal will provide innovative and creative learning environments which are adaptable to change and will challenge and support children to reach their full potential.

### **Need for places and the impact on the accessibility of schools**

The Council has considered the sufficiency of school places in the area and the likely demand in future. The proposal will ensure that there is a sustainable balance between the supply and demand for primary school places in the area to meet demand from new housing developments in Rhoose and to reduce overall surplus capacity in line with Welsh Government targets.

Under the proposal there are no plans to change the Council's policy on the transport of children to and from schools. School transport would be provided in line with the Council's transport policy which provides free home to school transport for primary age children who live 2 miles or more from their designated catchment area or nearest suitable school. Free school transport is not provided for children attending a nursery unit at a school.

Estyn state "The plan has considered appropriately the impact on learner travel arrangements, in terms of pupils' eligibility to access free school transport for pupils of statutory school age under existing local authority policy. It recognises that some pupils who live closer to the current school site will have further to travel."

### **Resourcing of education**

Funding will be in accordance with the Vale of Glamorgan Council school funding formula. The school will receive resources on the same basis as any other primary school within

the Council which allocates the majority of funding for schools on the basis of pupil numbers. During the transition phase, the Council will provide additional financial protection for Llancarfan Primary School in order to maintain current staffing levels and to safeguard the school in future.

This proposal will mean that significant capital investment will be made in transferring the school to a new site. It is estimated that the total capital funding required to build a new school on a green field site, including the installation of utilities services and highways provision, will be £4.185 million. The Council is expected to receive £2.720 million in Welsh Government Band B funding through the 21st Century Schools Programme. The balance will be funded through the Council's contribution outlined within the Capital Programme.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'PA Ham', written in a cursive style.

Paula Ham  
Director of Learning and Skills