

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

LEARNING AND CULTURE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: 16TH JANUARY, 2020

REFERENCE FROM CABINET: 2ND DECEMBER, 2019

“C165 SCHOOL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS 2021-22 (ER) (SCRUTINY – LEARNING AND CULTURE) –

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration presented the report to seek Cabinet approval to consult on the Local Authority's School Admission Arrangements as required by the Welsh Government's School Admission Code issued in July 2013 which included a revision to secondary school catchment areas.

The report had been presented in order to approve consultation on school admission arrangements for pupil admissions in the academic year 2021/22. This was required in order to meet the Council's obligations to annually consult and agree the admission arrangements by no later than 15th April, 2020.

The report proposed consulting on an amendment to the existing English medium secondary school catchment areas and policy for admissions into the academic year 2021/22. The consultation period would be from 11th December, 2019 to 3rd February, 2020. A report on the outcome of this consultation would be presented to Cabinet in March 2020.

The key changes proposed related to a change in the catchment areas for English medium secondary schools. There was also a proposed minor change to the over subscription criteria which would support attendance at a child's local school. Reference to an ongoing pilot programme for the introduction of co-ordinated admission arrangements was also included.

The proposed changes would ensure a more even distribution of school places to meet future demand for pupils within a defined catchment area requiring a school place.

It was recommended that Cabinet approve the contents of the report so that the statutory consultation on Schools Admissions Policy for 2021/2022 could take place within the statutory timescales. Use of the Emergency Procedure was recommended so that consultation could commence on 11th December, 2019, and in addition it was proposed to refer the report to Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee as part of that consultation.

In addition, the Leader requested that the Director of Learning and Skills ensure that the 'Comparison of Current vs Proposed Catchment Area' maps used in Annex I to Appendix 2 be made larger as part of the consultation.

This was a matter for Executive decision.

Cabinet, having considered the report and all the issues and implications contained therein,

RESOLVED –

(1) T H A T the consultation required to agree Local Authority Admission arrangements (Appendix A) for all community schools in the Vale of Glamorgan be approved.

(1) T H A T consultation on a proposed revision to secondary school catchment areas be approved.

(3) T H A T the report be referred to Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee as part of the consultation process.

(4) T H A T the use of Article 14.14.2 (ii) of the Council's Constitution (urgent decision procedure) be authorised in respect of Recommendations (1), (2) and (3) above.

Reasons for decisions

(1) Para 2.3 (page 6) of the School Admissions Code (Wales) July 2013 states that "Admission Arrangements must be consulted on for each maintained school between 1 September and 1 March, and be set by 15 April of the school years beginning two years before the school year in which the arrangements will apply".

(2) The Council was required to keep school catchment areas under review to ensure a match between the supply and demand for school places in an area.

(3) In order for Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee to participate in the consultation process.

(4) To allow the consultation to commence on 11th December, 2019."

Meeting of:	Cabinet
Date of Meeting:	Monday, 02 December 2019
Relevant Scrutiny Committee:	Learning and Culture
Report Title:	School Admission Arrangements 2021/22
Purpose of Report:	To seek Cabinet approval to consult on the Local Authority's school admission arrangements as required by the Welsh Governments School Admission Code issued in July 2013 which includes a revision to secondary school catchment areas.
Report Owner:	Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration
Responsible Officer:	Paula Ham, Director of Learning and Skills
Elected Member and Officer Consultation:	Trevor Baker: Head of Strategy, Community Learning and Resources Lisa Lewis, Operational Manager, Strategy and Resources Mike Matthews Strategic Planning Officer Matthew Curtis: 21st Century Schools Project Manager
Policy Framework:	This is a matter for Executive decision by Cabinet
<p>Executive Summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This report has been presented in order to approve consultation on school admission arrangements for pupil admissions in the academic year 2021/22. This is required in order to meet the Councils obligations to annually consult and agree the admission arrangements by no later than 15th April 2020. • This report proposes consulting on an amendment to the existing English medium secondary school catchment areas and policy for admissions into the academic year 2021/22. The consultation period will be from 11 December 2019 to 3 February 2020. A report on the outcome of this consultation will be presented to Cabinet in March 2020. • The key changes proposed relate to a change in the catchment areas for English medium secondary schools. There is also a proposed minor change to the over subscription criteria which will support attendance at a child's local school. Reference to an ongoing pilot programme for the introduction of coordinated admission arrangements is also included. • The proposed changes will ensure a more even distribution of school places to meet future demand for pupils within a defined catchment area requiring a school place. 	

- It is recommended that Cabinet approve the contents of the report so that the statutory consultation on Schools Admissions Policy for 2021/2022 can take place within the statutory timescales. Use of the emergency procedure is recommended so that consultation can commence on 11 December 2019, and in addition it is proposed to refer the report to Scrutiny Committee (learning and Culture) as part of that consultation.

Recommendations

1. That Cabinet approves the consultation required to agree Local Authority Admission arrangements (Appendix A) for all community schools in the Vale of Glamorgan.
2. That Cabinet approves consultation on a proposed revision to secondary school catchment areas.
3. That the report be referred to Scrutiny Committee (Learning and Culture) as part of the consultation process.
4. That the use of article 14.14.2 (ii) of the Council's Constitution (urgent decision procedure) be authorised in respect of Recommendations (1), (2) and (3) above.

Reasons for Recommendations

1. Para 2.3 (page 6) of the School Admissions Code (Wales) July 2013 states that "Admission Arrangements must be consulted on for each maintained school between 1 September and 1 March, and be set by 15 April of the school years beginning two years before the school year in which the arrangements will apply".
2. The Council is required to keep school catchment areas under review to ensure a match between the supply and demand for school places in an area.
3. In order for Scrutiny Committee (learning and Culture) to participate in the consultation process.
4. To allow the consultation to commence on 11 December 2019.

1. Background

- 1.1 The Local Authority (LA) has a statutory duty to consult with the governing bodies of schools who have delegated admission powers, all neighbouring Local Authorities (LA's), the admission authorities for all other maintained schools in the relevant area and the governing bodies of all other maintained schools in the relevant area (i.e. community and voluntary controlled schools which do not have delegated admission powers). In the case of religious schools with a

religious character, such body or person representing the religion or religious denomination in question.

- 1.2** The relevant area is determined as the geographical area of the Vale of Glamorgan.
- 1.3** The Local Authority should also consult the Admissions Forum serving the relevant area and where a significant change is proposed, parents of children likely to be affected.
- 1.4** The Local Authority is required to publish a composite prospectus document each year for the subsequent school year admission round detailing school admission arrangements for all maintained school in its area. This information is contained within the Council's information guide "A Parental Guide to School Admission in the Vale".
- 1.5** The Welsh Government's School Admissions Code 2013 requires admission authorities to act in accordance with the code. The code includes practical guidance and imposes requirements on local authorities and admission authorities, regarding the discharge of duties in respect of admissions.
- 1.6** The Local Authority is proposing to consult on a change to admissions policy as required by the Welsh Governments School Admissions Code 2013.
- 1.7** The Local Authority is proposing to consult on a change to English medium secondary catchment areas as a result of a change from a feeder school system to a catchment area basis for entry to secondary education from September 2020.
- 1.8** A school catchment area is a geographically defined area of addresses drawn up to ensure that all schools in an area receive a fair share of pupils in which children are eligible to attend a local school and are used:
 - To give parents an indication of their local school
 - To help schools identify with the communities they serve
 - To prioritise admissions to schools when there are more applications than places available
 - As a planning tool to enable the Authority to fulfil its duty to forecast demand for education in an area and to plan to meet that demand
 - As an element of transport policy in order to facilitate the organisation of school transport and control costs
- 1.9** A school catchment area does not prevent a parent from expressing a preference for a particular school if they do not live in the catchment area. Parents can express a preference for any school. Places are allocated according to the published over-subscription criteria.
- 1.10** As part of the Council's continual review of the supply and demand for school places a review is necessary to ensure areas reflect the needs of the school populations they serve recognising that parental preference has an impact on the overall position.

2. Key Issues for Consideration

- 2.1** The consultation period for the proposed admission arrangements (Appendix A) will be 11 December 2019 to 3 February 2020.
- 2.2** These admission arrangements must be in place in order to determine the allocation of places for the academic year 2021/22.
- 2.3** Cabinet approved at the meeting of the 15th April 2019 (minute number C654) the removal of the feeder school system as an oversubscription criterion for entry to secondary schools for September 2020. Entry to secondary schools from September 2020 will be based on residence within the school catchment area where there are more applications than places available.
- 2.4** The Council has seen an increase in demand for school places at Pencoedtre and Whitmore High Schools since the establishment of mixed sex schooling in September 2018.
- 2.5** Large scale and other housing developments as part of the Council's Local Development Plan (LDP) are having an impact on catchment area pupil numbers such as the Barry Waterfront Development and Darren Farm in Cowbridge.
- 2.6** The Council has undertaken extensive remodelling and new builds of secondary schools in the past 10 years.
- 2.7** The change from a feeder school system to a catchment area basis for entry to secondary schools has necessitated a catchment area review to ensure that secondary school catchment areas are meeting the needs of the populations they serve. The catchment area review is attached at Appendix B.
- 2.8** The review indicates future challenges for the Council in meeting the admission needs of the secondary school catchment populations where parents express a preference for their catchment area school. There is potential for applications to exceed the number of places available for parents resulting in children being denied places at their local and catchment area school.
- 2.9** There is sufficient capacity overall in the Vale of Glamorgan to meet the needs of the future secondary school population but catchment areas are unbalanced. Demand from within some school catchment areas is considerably less than the school is able to accommodate whilst in other areas catchment demand is in excess of the school capacity.
- 2.10** The proposed revisions to school catchment areas are summarised as follows:

Barry Area

- Pencoedtre High School:
 - Transfer of the Gwenfo area into St Cyres school catchment area.

- St Cyres School has the capacity to accommodate extra areas and pupil demand into their catchment areas.
- The revision will provide a better balance of school places to meet future demand for parents living in the Pencoedtre High School catchment area requiring a school place.
- Whitmore High School:
 - Transfer the Rhoose area into Cowbridge Comprehensive School catchment area.
 - Removal of the dual catchment area status of Rhoose to Barry and Llantwit so that it's realigned to Cowbridge Comprehensive.
 - The revision will provide a better balance of school places to meet future demand for parents living in the Whitmore school catchment area requiring a school place.

Cowbridge Area

- Cowbridge Comprehensive School:
 - Increasing the catchment pupil population size by incorporating the area of Rhoose into the school catchment area.
 - The current secondary pupil catchment population is small relative to the size of the catchment area with scope to increase its size.
 - The revision will provide a better balance of school places and will meet future demand for parents living in the Cowbridge Comprehensive School catchment area requiring a school place.

Llantwit Major Area

- Llantwit Major School:
 - Transfer the Rhoose area into Cowbridge Comprehensive School catchment area.
 - A further 270 English medium primary children are likely to enter the secondary school system in future as a result of housing allocations outlined in the Council's Local Development Plan (LDP) that have not come forward for development to date. The developments are also anticipated to introduce a further 241 pupils of secondary school age into the system. It is uncertain as to when interest in the sites is likely to take place but a reduction in the catchment area would provide flexibility to manage these future developments.
 - The revision will provide a better balance of school places to meet demand for parents living in the Llantwit Major School catchment area requiring a school place.

Penarth Area

- Stanwell School
 - The school are their own admissions authority. The Council has not been made aware of any plans to alter the school catchment area.

- St Cyres School:
 - Increasing the catchment pupil population area size by incorporating the Wenvoe, Penarth and Sully areas into the school catchment area.
 - The current secondary pupil catchment population is small relative to the size of the catchment area with scope to increase its size.
 - The revision will provide a better balance of school places and will meet demand for parents living in the St Cyres School catchment area requiring a school place.
- 2.11** The above changes will provide a better balance of places in the school catchment areas when compared to the overall number of places available to ensure, as far as possible, pupils living in the catchment area will be able to secure a place at their local school.
- 2.12** The revised catchment areas will support the council's admission process, promote fair access to secondary school places and address high numbers of catchment area applications at certain schools.
- 2.13** The catchment area revisions will be consulted upon with schools and prescribed consultees as part of the consultation exercise on school admission arrangements (Appendix A) for the 2021/22 academic year before any decisions are made. The basis for the changes is attached at Appendix B.
- 2.14** Maps showing current and revised catchment areas are included at Appendix B.

21st Century Schools Programme

- 2.15** The 21st Century Schools and Colleges Programme is a unique collaboration between the Welsh Government and Local Authorities. It is a major long term strategic capital investment programme with the aim of creating a generation of 21st Century Schools in Wales.
- 2.16** Band B of the Council's 21st Century Schools Programme will see more than £134m invested in education assets across the Vale of Glamorgan between 2019 and 2024.
- 2.17** A number of schemes have been progressed for implementation in September 2021. These schemes have been reflected in the admissions arrangements for 2021/22 (Appendix A). These include the expansion of:
 - Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg from 1361 places to 1660 places;
 - Ysgol Sant Baruc from 210 places to 420 places;
 - Llancarfan Primary School from 126 places to 210 places;
 - St Nicholas CIW Primary School from 126 places to 210 places; and
 - St David's CIW Primary School from 140 places to 210 places.
- 2.18** These schemes have been subject to consultation in accordance with the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the School Organisation Code.

3. How do proposals evidence the Five Ways of Working and contribute to our Well-being Objectives?

- 3.1** The Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 (“the 2015 Act”) requires the Council to think about the long-term impact of their decisions, to work better with people, communities and each other and to prevent persistent problems such as poverty, health inequalities and climate change.
- 3.2** To make sure we are all working towards the same purpose, the 2015 Act puts in place seven well-being goals on the Council. The 2015 Act makes it clear the listed public bodies must work to achieve all of the goals, not just one or two, these being:
- A prosperous Wales
 - A resilient Wales
 - A healthier Wales
 - A more equal Wales
 - A Wales of cohesive communities
 - A Wales of vibrant culture and Welsh Language
 - A globally responsible Wales
- 3.3** This proposal would contribute to achieving the wellbeing goals by:
- Ensuring an efficient supply and demand of school places across the Vale of Glamorgan through effective forecasting of future demand
 - Ensuring that wherever possible children can attend their local school
 - Ensuring that all pupils have every opportunity to attain the best possible outcomes
 - Contributing to a healthier Wales by supporting sustainable travel strategies
 - Delivering rigorous consultation.
 - Ensuring that schools serve the educational needs of their local communities as part of the school admissions process.
- 3.4** The 2015 Act imposes a duty on all public bodies in Wales to carry out “sustainable development”, defined as being, "The process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the well-being goals." The action that a public body takes in carrying out sustainable development includes setting and publishing well-being objectives, and taking all reasonable steps in exercising its functions to meet those objectives.
- 3.5** The 2015 Act sets out five ways of working needed for the Council to achieve the seven well-being goals. These are outlined below with examples of the ways in which this proposal supports them.
- 3.6** The importance of balancing short-term needs with the needs to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs. The proposed change to catchment areas

and admissions policy are in part a response to population increases across the Vale of Glamorgan. This proposed changes would support more children to be able to attend their local secondary school in the longer term.

- 3.7** Considering how the Council's objectives impact upon each of the wellbeing goals listed above. This proposal contributes to the well-being goals in several ways including encouraging pupils to be able to walk to school wherever possible and promoting cohesive communities by attending a school in their local area for example.
- 3.8** The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the Council services. By consulting with parents, schools and other stakeholders, we can ensure due consideration of the interests of those people impacted by the proposal.
- 3.9** Acting in collaboration with other persons and organisations that could help the Council meet its wellbeing objectives.
- 3.10** Acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse. The proposed changes are part of an on-going review of the implications of new housing developments on school organisation and will ensure that wherever possible parental preference can be met to support children being able to attend a school close to home, thereby reducing travel and transportation costs as well as associated environmental concerns.
- 3.11** The Council has committed as part of the Corporate Plan 2016-20 to achieving a vision of 'Strong Communities with a Bright Future'. This plan is reflective of the Welsh Government's Well-being of Future Generations Act and is comprised of a number of Well-being objectives to deliver this vision.
- 3.12** Well-being Outcome 3, 'An Aspirational and Culturally Vibrant Vale' is specifically linked to education. We have prioritised the need to raise standards of achievement as one of our well-being objectives. We are proud of the Vale of Glamorgan and our place in Wales and that the use of the Welsh language is growing in the Vale. We respect and value diversity within our communities and recognise the importance of promoting equality of opportunity. We also appreciate our unique heritage and culture and the importance for people of all ages to enjoy a range of activities and to have the opportunities to be creative. We have therefore identified valuing culture and diversity as one of our eight well-being objectives.
- 3.13** Details of the relevant objectives are listed below:

Well-being Outcome 3: An Aspirational and Culturally Vibrant Vale

- The proposed School Admissions Policy contributes to the Council's wellbeing outcome: an environmentally responsible and prosperous Vale by ensuring that wherever possible pupils are educated in a school close to their home address.

Objective 5: Raising overall standards of achievement

- Improve standards of achievement for pupils through sharing excellence between schools and the targeting of resources.

- Secure improved outcomes for groups of learners at risk of underachievement, such as those entitled to free school meals.
- Increase the learning opportunities for disadvantaged individuals and vulnerable families. This would be achieved by ensuring costs associated with travelling to school are minimised wherever possible.
- Reduce the number of young people not in education, employment or training by ensuring that pupils can attend their local school.

3.14 This proposal will meet the five ways of working by:

- Responding to the need to ensure that there is a well-managed balance of supply and demand of school places within the Vale of Glamorgan. It is recognised that the changing demographics in the Vale of Glamorgan will significantly affect the demand for our services. Short term and long term need and the assessment of demographic increases is an important aspect of the Councils strategic planning responsibilities.
- Contributing towards a healthier Wales by supporting sustainable transport strategies.
- Delivering rigorous consultation with open communication channels and numerous opportunities for stakeholders to engage throughout the process.
- Ensuring that schools serve the educational needs of their local communities as part of the school admissions process

4. Resources and Legal Considerations

Financial

- 4.1** Secondary age pupils are entitled to free school transport if they live three or more miles to their nearest or catchment area school.
- 4.2** The proposed changes to secondary school catchment areas will result in increased transportation costs for pupils residing three miles or more by securing new contract vehicles and routes.
- 4.3** It is estimated that the cost of additional transport requirements will be in the region of £85,000 rising to £114,000 per annum over an initial four year period as pupil numbers requiring transport increase each year from those areas and where the Council has an obligation to honour existing transport arrangements for those pupils affected by the changes. This may reduce if pupils from within Stanwell's feeder areas continue to attend Stanwell School but this is difficult to predict at present.
- 4.4** A saving of £31,730 will be achieved by the discontinuation of school transport from the Rhoose area to Whitmore High School. The Council has an obligation to honour existing school transport arrangements for those pupils affected by the changes, the full effect of savings will be realised in around 5 years time.

- 4.5** In the long term the net increase to transportation arrangements after existing transport arrangements are honoured and savings realised will be around £53,270 per annum. This may reduce if pupils from the Sully area do not attend Stanwell School. The cost will be funded from within existing budgets.

Employment

- 4.6** There are no direct implications arising from this report.

Legal (Including Equalities)

- 4.7** Part 1 of the Education Act 1996 (“the 1996 Act”) imposes a number of general duties on all local authorities in Wales. The general duty in section 13 of the 1996 Act is to contribute (so far as the Council’s powers enable them to do so) towards the spiritual, moral, mental and physical development of the community by securing that efficient primary education and secondary education are available to meet the needs of the population of their area.
- 4.8** Section 13A(3) of the 1996 Act states that a local authority in Wales must ensure that their relevant education functions and their relevant training functions are exercised by the authority with a view to promoting high standards, and promoting the fulfilment of learning potential by every person to whom the subsection applies, including those who are of compulsory school age or are below school age and are registered as pupils at schools maintained by the authority.
- 4.9** Part 1 of the Education Act 1996 (“the 1996 Act”) imposes a number of general duties on all local authorities in Wales. The general duty in section 13 of the 1996 Act is to contribute (so far as the Council’s powers enable them to do so) towards the spiritual, moral, mental and physical development of the community by securing that efficient primary education and secondary education are available to meet the needs of the population of their area.
- 4.10** Section 13A(3) of the 1996 Act states that a local authority in Wales must ensure that their relevant education functions and their relevant training functions are exercised by the authority with a view to promoting high standards, and promoting the fulfilment of learning potential by every person to whom the subsection applies, including those who are of compulsory school age or are below school age and are registered as pupils at schools maintained by the authority.

School Standards and Framework Act 1998

- 4.11** Sections 88 and 89 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 (‘the Act’) as amended by the Education Act 2002 and the Statutory School Admissions Code 2013 (‘the Code’) made pursuant to section 84 of ‘the Act’ determines that the Admission Authorities shall, before the beginning of each school year, determine in accordance with the Act the admission arrangements which are to apply for

that year. The Local Authority is the admission authority for community and voluntary controlled schools, unless under section 88(1)(a)(ii) of the Act applies and the function has been delegated in full to the governing body.

- 4.12 The Local Authority as the admission authority has a statutory duty to act in accordance with the Code and the School Admissions Appeals Code.
- 4.13 The Education (Determination of Admission Arrangements) (Wales) Regulations 2006 ('the Regulations) set out the procedure in respect of which the Admission Authorities must follow when determining their admission arrangements, including the consultation and notification process as well as the timescales for these. This report reflects these requirements.

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

4.14 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 ('the 2015 Act') sets out new ways of working – of planning and making decisions – for local authorities and other public bodies it lists. The aim is that, by improving these things, the overall well-being of Wales will be better improved by the things public bodies collectively do. The Act and the statutory guidance makes it clear that local authorities must, in the course of their corporate planning and their delivery against those plans:

- balance short term needs against the ability to meet long term needs;
- think about the impact their objectives have on other organisations' objectives, and on the well-being of Wales, in an integrated way;
- involve in those processes people who reflect the diversity of the population they serve;
- work together collaboratively with other organisations to better meet each other's objectives; and
- deploy their resources to prevent problems from getting worse or from occurring in the first.

4.15 The statutory guidance, for organisations subject to the Act, sets out the expectations for how the duties should be met:
<http://gov.wales/topics/people-and-communities/people/future-generations-act/?lang=en>

4.16 The Act itself is available to view online:
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/anaw/2015/2/contents/enacted>

4.17 Current practice on the use of surplus school accommodation, Information document No 158/2014.

(5) Public Sector equality duty

4.18 The public sector equality duty (see section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) came into force in April 2011. Public authorities like the Council are required, in carrying out their functions, to have due regard to the equality needs set out under s.149 of the Equality Act 2010 to:

- eliminate discrimination (both direct and indirect), harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
 - advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and
 - foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- 4.19** Direct discrimination occurs if, because of a protected characteristic, a local authority treats a person less favourably than it treats or would treat others.
- 4.20** Indirect discrimination occurs if a local authority applies to a person a provision, criterion or practice which is discriminatory in relation to a relevant protected characteristic of that person (“B”). A provision, criterion or practice is discriminatory if:
- The local authority applies, or would apply it, to persons with whom B does not share the characteristic;
 - It puts, or would put, persons with whom B shares the characteristic at a particular disadvantage when compared with persons with whom B does not share it;
 - It puts, or would put, B at that disadvantage, and
 - The local authority cannot show it to be a proportionate means of achieving a legitimate aim.
- 4.21** In short, indirect discrimination would arise if a local authority applied the same provision, criterion or practice to everyone, but it put those in a certain protected group at a “particular disadvantage” when compared with persons not in that group. Even if a “particular disadvantage” arises, indirect discrimination is not present if the provision, criterion or practice can be justified – i.e. if it is a proportionate means of achieving a legitimate aim. Members must pay due regard to any identified risk of such discrimination arising in respect of the decision before them.
- 4.22** It is to be noted that section 149, so far as relating to age, does not apply to the exercise of a function relating to the provision of education to children in schools (see paragraph 1 of Schedule 18 to the 2010 Act).
- 4.23** Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity includes having due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by people with a protected characteristic. Due regard must also be had to the need to take steps to meet the needs of such persons where those needs are different from those of persons who do not have that characteristic, and to encourage those who have a protected characteristic to participate in public life.
- 4.24** The steps involved in meeting the needs of disabled persons include steps to take account of the persons’ disabilities.
- 4.25** Having due regard to “fostering good relations” involves having due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

- 4.26** Complying with the PSED may involve treating some people better than others, so far as that is allowed by discrimination law.
- 4.27** The equality duty arises where the Council is deciding how to exercise its statutory powers and duties under the 1996 Act and the 2013 Act. The Council's duty under section 149 of the Equality Act is to have "due regard" to the matters set out in relation to equalities when considering and making decisions in relation to its statutory duties under those Acts. Accordingly due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality, and foster good relations must form an integral part of the decision-making process. Members must consider the effect that implementing a particular decision will have in relation to equality before making a decision. The Council must have an adequate evidence base for its decision making. This can be achieved by undertaking an Equality Impact Assessment of proposals. The potential equality impact of the proposal will be assessed as part of the proposed consultation, and a summary of the position would be presented to Cabinet for their consideration as part of the determination process. A careful consideration of the assessment is one of the key ways in which Members can show "due regard" to the relevant matters.
- 4.28** Where it is apparent from the analysis of the information that the proposals would have an adverse effect on equality then reasonable adjustments should be made to avoid that effect (mitigation).
- 4.29** Members should be aware that the duty is not to achieve the objectives or take the steps set out in s.149. Rather, the duty on public authorities is to bring these important objectives relating to discrimination into consideration when carrying out its public functions (which includes the functions relating to school admissions). "Due regard" means the regard that is appropriate in all the particular circumstances in which the authority is carrying out its functions. There must be a proper regard for the goals set out in s. 149. At the same time, Members must also pay regard to any countervailing factors, which it is proper and reasonable for them to consider. This would include ensuring that School Admission policy actively contributes to ensuring that the delivery of education is more efficient. The weight of these factors in the decision-making process is a matter for Members in the first instance.
- 4.30** The duty covers the nine protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation. However, section 149, so far as relating to age, does not apply to the exercise of a function relating to the provision of education to pupils in schools (see paragraph 1 of Schedule 18 to the 2010 Act).
- 4.31** The Council must also comply with the specific equality duties imposed by the Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties)(Wales) Regulations 2011, SI 2011/1064 ("the Regulations"), particularly regulation 8 (imposing specific duties to make arrangements for assessing the impact of its policies/practise and monitoring of the same).

5. Background Papers

School admission Code 2013 guidance can be found at:

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-03/school-admissions-code.pdf>



VALE of GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
School Admissions Policy
2021/2022

Directorate of Learning and Skills



RELEVANT AREA FOR CONSULTATION

In accordance with the School Admissions Statutory Code (July 2013), admission authorities are required to consult with “relevant areas”. These are as follows:

- The governing body of the relevant schools.
- All neighbouring LAs.
- Admission authorities for all other maintained schools in the relevant area.
- Governing Bodies of all other schools in the relevant area (i.e. community and voluntary controlled schools which do not have delegated admissions powers).
- In the case of schools with a religious character, such body or person representing the religious denomination in question.

Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools

The Council is the admission authority for community and voluntary controlled schools. The relevant area for consultation on admission arrangements is the geographical area of the Vale of Glamorgan Council. This is determined by The Education (Relevant Areas for Consultation on Admission Arrangements) Regulations 1999.

ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS – INTRODUCTION

The Council is the Admission Authority for all maintained community and voluntary controlled secondary, primary and nursery schools in the Vale of Glamorgan. All admissions are approved by the Directorate of Learning and Skills. In the case of a voluntary aided school the appropriate admissions authority is the governing body to which all applications for admission should be made.

The Council is piloting coordinated admissions for five partner voluntary aided schools who are their own admissions authority, these include;

- Llansannor CIW Primary;
- St Andrews CIW Primary;
- St Brides CIW Primary;
- St David’s CIW Primary;
- Wick & Marcross CIW Primary.

The Council is looking to roll the programme out to other voluntary aided schools. It is felt that a coordinated approach creates a fairer, more equitable system of allocating places for a number of reasons;

- Coordinated arrangements provide parents with a single school place offer for their child;
- Parents would not be holding more than one school place. The offer of multiple schools denies parents places at schools, preventing other children being offered these places;
- There is often uncertainty as to which pupils will start at schools, a coordinated approach would provide greater certainty for schools of the numbers and pupils entering reception.

The Council will ensure, as far as possible, that every pupil is guaranteed a place in a primary school within reasonable distance of home. The authority's admission arrangements will enable effective management of the admission intake to schools under which catchment area children are ranked as a high priority when allocating places in the event of oversubscription at primary and secondary schools. The Council is committed to providing local schools for local children where possible.

Admission Number

All maintained schools must admit pupils up to their published admission number. An admission may not be refused to any school until a school's admission number has been reached. The published admission numbers have been calculated in accordance with the Welsh Government's school capacity calculation methodology "Measuring the Capacity of Schools in Wales (MCSW)". As these numbers are based on the physical capacity of the school to accommodate pupils, they should not be exceeded in normal circumstances.

Infant Class Size Regulations

The Government introduced a policy to reduce class sizes for children aged five, six and seven years old as part of its overall aim to improve educational standards in schools.

Section 1 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1988 and the Education (Infant Class Sizes) (Wales) Regulations 1998, which came into force on 1 September 1998, placed a duty upon Local Authorities and school governing bodies to limit to 30 the size of classes for 5, 6 and 7 years old from September 2001 i.e. children in reception, year 1 and year 2 classes, except where permitted exceptions apply.

Admission authorities are not required to admit a child to an infant class where to do so would be incompatible with the duty to meet infant class size limits, because the admission would require measures to be taken to comply with those limits which would cause prejudice to efficient education or efficient use of resources. Admission authorities can only refuse admission on the basis of infant class size prejudice if the admission number has already been reached.

Late Applicants

Only applications received by the closing date for reception and transfer to year 7 at secondary school can be considered in the first round of admissions. Parents should therefore note these dates in order to ensure that their application is received in time to be considered alongside all other parents applying on time. Late applications will be dealt with only after the first round of applications has been completed. This may affect a child's chances of gaining a place in the parents' school of choice if for example sufficient applications are received prior to the closing date for the Council to admit up to the admission number. This would mean, for example, that applicants who live outside of the catchment area who apply on time are offered places instead of pupils who live within the catchment area whose parents did not apply by the closing date.

The arrangements for late applications are slightly different for nursery due to the termly allocation process. Once the closing date has passed and the initial round of allocations made for those pupils eligible for a September start date, any late applications are added to the allocation waiting lists for younger pupils due to start in January or April in order of the over subscription criteria.

In all cases, once the first round of allocations has been made and/or all available places have been offered, any late applications join the waiting list or termly nursery allocation waiting lists as prioritised by the oversubscription criteria. If any places are subsequently offered at the school, then they will be offered to applicants as ranked by these criteria. In this case, late catchment applications for example would have priority over “on time” applications categorised in a lower criterion who were refused a place in the first round.

Evidence of Residence & Shared Parental Responsibility

In all cases evidence of permanent residence of a pupil at the time of application must be supplied if required. Any place approved on the basis of residence will be withdrawn if the pupil is not resident at the address at the time of application or at the beginning of the school term to which the application relates.

Where parents have shared responsibility for a child, and the child lives with both parents for part of the school week, then the home address will be determined as the address where the child resides for the majority of the week (i.e. 4 out of 7 days). Parents will be required to provide documentary evidence to support the address they wish to be considered for allocation purposes.

Where a parent provides fraudulent or intentionally misleading information to obtain the advantage of a particular school for their child, to whom they would not otherwise be entitled, the Council reserves the right to withdraw the offer of a place.

Statutory Appeals

Parents will be advised of the outcome of their application on the offer date normally by their stated preferred method. This will be either via email, by logging into the online application system or via letter. If parents are dissatisfied with the result of an application for a particular school (excluding nursery), an appeal may be submitted to an independent Statutory Appeal Panel. Any decision made by the panel is binding on all parties. If the appeal is not successful, further applications for a place at the same school will not be considered during the same academic year unless there are significant and material changes in the circumstances of pupil/parents or school.

Waiting Lists

Waiting lists will be maintained for oversubscribed schools where a place has been refused.

In respect of the annual allocation of places, applications will remain on the waiting list until 30th September of the next academic year. General transfer applications received outside of the annual allocation of places will also remain on the waiting list until 30th September. After this time parents will be expected to make a further application for admission if they wish to remain on the waiting list.

Admissions to Sixth Forms

The Governing Bodies of community schools are responsible for the determination of admission arrangements to sixth forms. Applications should therefore be made directly to the school.

Admissions Process – Timetable

The timetable below provides all relevant dates in terms of managing the admission arrangements and adheres to the requirements of The School Admissions (Common Offer Date) (Wales) Regulations 2013 which advises that admission authorities must ensure that offer letters for secondary schools are sent on the 1st March or the next working day and that primary offers should be made on the 16th April or the next working day.

TIMETABLE	2020/2021 Academic Year		
	Secondary	Primary	Nursery
Admissions information sent to parents/schools by LA. Online application service opens	25 September 2020	6 November 2020	25 January 2021
Closing date for receipt of preference forms	27 November 2020	15 January 2021	26 March 2021
VA/ Foundation schools notify LA of results of applications	1 February 2021	2 April 2021	3 May 2021
Notification of results to parents of applications to Community, Voluntary Aided and Foundation Schools	1 March 2021	16 April 2021	21 May 2021

NURSERY EDUCATION

The Council is the Admissions Authority for all maintained Community Nursery Schools and Nursery Classes in Community Schools in the Vale of Glamorgan. No place can be allocated at a community or controlled nursery without formal application. The Council will normally accept children who are three years old at the start of term (1st September, 1st January or 1st April) up to the schools approved capacity. Where the number of applications for admission exceeds the number of places available, places will be allocated applying the following criteria, in the order of priority set out below, up to the approved

capacity.

Parents should also note that children attending a nursery school will not have an 'automatic' right to continued education at the same school when moving up to a reception class, whether residing within the catchment area or outside it. Parents will be required to complete an application for their chosen school (see Primary Education Admission Arrangements section). As nursery education is not a statutory provision there is no right of appeal against a decision to refuse a place for a child at a particular school.

Where a parent provides fraudulent or intentionally misleading information to obtain the advantage of a particular school for their child, to whom they would not otherwise be entitled, the Council reserves the right to withdraw the offer of a place.

Nursery Admission Oversubscription Criteria

The Council is the Admissions authority for all maintained community nursery schools and nursery classes in community and voluntary controlled schools. Admissions are allocated termly in consideration of applications for pupils who were three on or before the last day of the previous term (31 August, 31st December or 31 March).

Children with a statement of Special Educational Needs, when the school is named as the most appropriate setting, will be admitted before applying the oversubscription criteria.

All applications are ranked by the published oversubscription criteria date regardless of their start date within the nursery. Pupils residing in catchment or with a sibling connection who are eligible for a nursery place later in the academic year will therefore be provisionally allocated places prior to the allocation of non-catchment applications even when the non-catchment applications are for older children.

Once the initial September allocations have been made, any late applications are added to the waiting list/ termly allocation list and places offered on that basis. In these cases, late catchment applications, for example, will be ranked higher up the allocation list than "on time" applications qualifying under a lower criteria.

Autumn Term Admissions (allocated in May for a September start date)

1. Children who will be three on or before 31 August where evidence has been supplied to confirm that they are looked after, or have been previously looked after by a local authority in accordance with Section 22 of the Children Act 1989.
2. Children who had their third birthday before the last day of the previous term and are resident within the defined catchment area of the school on or before the published closing date for receipt of application forms. Evidence of permanent residence will be required. In the event of over-subscription by applicants from this category alone, the criteria set out below, in order of priority, will be applied to produce an order of preference;
 - (a) Children who have a brother or sister in attendance at the school during the academic year in which the child is to be admitted. (Where preferences exceed places available, the Council determines priority by reference to the

age of the pupils' youngest sibling in the school, the youngest commanding the highest degree of priority).

(b) Children in chronological date of birth order, the oldest being admitted first. If two or more children have the same date of birth priority will be given to children living nearest the school as measured by the shortest available walking route, those living nearest will have priority. The Council uses a Geographical Information System (GIS) to calculate home to school distances.

3. Children who had their third birthday before the last day of the previous term (31 August, 31 December or 31 March) and whom the Council judges that there are compelling medical or social grounds for their admission to a specified nursery school/class i.e. those children recommended for placement with regard to medical, psychological or special education reasons. (Written recommendations from appropriate external agencies or professional advisers will be required in such cases).
4. Children who had their third birthday before the last day of the previous term (31 August, 31 December or 31 March) and have a brother or sister in attendance at the school during the academic year in which the child is to be admitted. (Where preferences exceed places available, the Council determines priority by reference to the age of the pupils' youngest sibling in the school, the youngest commanding the highest degree of priority).

Spring Term Admissions (Allocated in October for a January start date)

5. Children who will be three on or before 31 December where evidence has been supplied to confirm that they are looked after, or have been previously looked after by a local authority in accordance with Section 22 of the Children Act 1989.
6. Children who will be three on or before 31 December, resident within the defined catchment area of the school on or before the published closing date for receipt of preference forms. Evidence of permanent residence will be required. In the event of over-subscription by applicants from this category alone, the criteria set out at point 2 above, in order of priority, will be applied to produce an order of preference.

All remaining applications will be prioritised using points 3 and 4 above.

Summer Term Admissions (allocated in January for an April Start date)

7. Children who will be three on or before 31 March where evidence has been supplied to confirm that they are looked after, or have been previously looked after by a local authority in accordance with Section 22 of the Children Act 1989.
8. Children who will be three on or before 31 March, resident within the defined catchment area of the school on or before the published closing date for receipt of preference forms. Evidence of permanent residence will be required. In the event of over-subscription by applicants from this category alone, the criteria set out at point 2 above, in order of priority, will be applied to produce an order of preference.

All remaining catchment applications will be prioritised using points 3 and 4 above.

Remaining Applications

9. Where there are still spaces available after applying the criteria above, these will be allocated to children who had their third birthday before the last day of the previous term (31st August, 31st December or 31st March) with priority given to those living nearest the nursery school/class as measured by the shortest available walking route, those living nearest will have priority. The Council uses a Geographical Information System (GIS) to calculate home to school distances.

Early Years Funding

Parents may also apply for nursery education place funding with a registered provider approved by the Vale of Glamorgan Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership. Where parents opt for a place with a registered early year's provider, they will only be eligible to receive funding for a part time place regardless of whether the place offered is full or part-time. Funding will only be granted for sessions where early year's education is provided.

PRIMARY EDUCATION

Reception age pupils may be admitted to school full time in the September of the academic year in which they reach five i.e. the September following a child's fourth birthday. This is not a legal requirement, and parents may choose not to send their children to school until later in the year or when they are of statutory school age. This will be a matter for individual negotiation between parents and schools. Statutory school age is defined as the start of the term following a child's fifth birthday.

Attendance at a nursery class does not automatically entitle a child to a reception class place in the same school.

All parents are required to express a preference for the school they wish their child to attend/transfer to, even if it is their catchment area school. In the autumn term parents will be invited to nominate their preferred primary school for the following September by completion of an appropriate application form. Parents will be notified of decisions in line with the timetable provided. No firm guarantee can be given that a parent's preference can be met in every case as requests for places in certain schools may exceed the number of places available.

In deciding upon admissions, the Council will consider each individual application received by the published closing date. Where a school is named in a statement of Special Educational Needs the Council has a duty to admit the child to the school. Where this is known to the admission authority, the child will be allocated a place before other applicants are assessed against the oversubscription criteria.

An admission to a school will normally be granted provided a schools admission number (and statutory class size limit, where applicable) will not be exceeded. However where the number of applications for admission to a school exceeds the number of places available,

places will be allocated applying the admission criteria, in the order of priority, set out below. The Council will not normally exceed a school's admission number where this applies.

Oversubscription Criteria

1. Children where evidence has been supplied to confirm that they are looked after, or have been previously looked after in accordance with Section 22 of the Children Act 1989.
2. Children who are currently permanently resident within the designated catchment area of the school on or before the published closing date for receipt of preference forms. Evidence of permanent residence of a child must be supplied if requested. In the event of over-subscription by applicants from this category alone criteria (4), (5) and (6), in order of priority, would be applied to produce an order of preference.
3. Children not currently permanently resident within the designated catchment area of the school whose parents have satisfied the Council, on or before the published closing date for receipt of preference forms, that the child will be taking up residence within the catchment area by the commencement of the school term to which the application relates. In the event of over-subscription by applicants from this category alone criteria (4), (5) and (6), in order of priority, would be applied to produce an order of preference.
4. Children in respect of whom the Council judges that there are compelling medical or social grounds for their admission to a specified primary school i.e. those children recommended for placement at a named school with regard to medical, psychological or special education reasons. (Written recommendations from the appropriate external agencies or professional advisers will be required in such cases). In the event of over-subscription by applicants from this category alone criteria (5) and (6), in order of priority, would be applied.
5. Children who have an elder brother or sister in attendance at the school during the academic year in which the child is to be admitted. In the event of over-subscription by applicants from this category alone, the Council will determine priority and allocate places by reference to the age of the pupil's youngest sibling in the school, the youngest commanding the highest degree of priority.
6. In determining applications for admission in respect of other pupils in the age group, the Council gives particular regard to the degree of proximity of the pupil's home to the school, as measured by the shortest available walking route; those living nearest will have priority. The Council uses a Geographical Information System (GIS) to calculate home to school distances.

SECONDARY EDUCATION

Children normally transfer to secondary school in the September following their eleventh birthday. In the autumn term parents of Year 6 pupils are invited to nominate their preferred secondary school by the published closing date. No firm guarantee can be given that parents preference can be met in every case as requests for places in certain schools may

exceed the number of places available. The Council will endeavour to meet parental preference wherever possible provided there are spaces available and a school's admission number will not be exceeded.

In deciding upon admissions the Council will consider each individual application received by the published closing date. Only applications received by the published closing date for receipt of preference forms will be considered in the initial round of allocation of places. Other preference forms received will be considered as late applications.

Where a school is named in a statement of Special Educational Needs the Council has a duty to admit the child to the school. Where this is known to the admission authority, the child will be allocated a place before other applicants are assessed against the oversubscription criteria.

An admission to a school will be granted, provided a school's admission number will not be exceeded. However where the number of applications for admission to a school exceeds the number of places available, places will be allocated applying the oversubscription criteria, in the order of priority, set out below.

Oversubscription Criteria

1. Children where evidence has been supplied to confirm that they are looked after, or have been previously looked after in accordance with Section 22 of the Children Act 1989.
2. Pupils who are currently permanently resident within the designated catchment area of the school on or before the published closing date for receipt of preference forms. Evidence of permanent residence of a child must be supplied if requested. In the event of over-subscription by applicants from this category alone criteria (4), (5) and (6), in order of priority, would be applied to produce an order of preference.
3. Pupils not currently permanently resident within the designated catchment area of the school whose parents have satisfied the Council, on or before the published closing date for receipt of preference forms, that the child will be taking up residence within the catchment area by the commencement of the school term to which the application relates. In the event of over-subscription by applicants from this category alone criteria (4), (5), and (6), in order of priority, would be applied to produce an order of preference.
4. Pupils in respect of whom the Council judges that there are compelling medical or social grounds for their admission to a specified secondary school i.e. those children recommended for placement at a named school due to medical, psychological or special education reasons. (Written recommendations from the appropriate external agencies or professional advisers will normally be required in such cases). In the event of oversubscription by applicants from this category alone criteria (5) and (6) would be applied.
5. Pupils who have an elder brother or sister at the school and who will be on register at the school (years 8 to 11) during the academic year in which the child is to be admitted. In the event of over-subscription by applicants from this category alone,

the Council will determine priority and allocate places by reference to the age of the pupils youngest sibling in the school, the youngest commanding the highest degree of priority.

6. In determining applications for admission in respect of other pupils the Council gives particular regard to the proximity of the pupil's home to the secondary school as measured by the shortest available walking route, those living nearest will have priority. The Council uses a Geographical Information System (GIS) to calculate home to school distances.

Admission Numbers: September 2021/22

(THE FOLLOWING ADMISSION NUMBERS REMAIN UNDER REVIEW AND MAYBE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AFTER CONSULTATION WITH RESPECTIVE SCHOOLS).

School Name	Admission Number
<u>Secondary Schools</u>	
Pencoedtre High School	210
Whitmore High School	180
Cowbridge Comprehensive	240
Llantwit Major School	180
St Cyres School	210
St Richard Gwyn RC High School	163
Stanwell School	299
Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg	240*
<u>Primary Schools</u>	
Albert Primary	55
All Saints CIW Primary	30
Barry Island Primary	30
Cadoxton Primary	60
Cogan Primary	30

Colcot Primary	45
Dinas Powys Primary	60
Evenlode Primary	60
Fairfield Primary	45
Gladstone Primary	60
Gwenfo CIW Primary	30
High Street Primary	30
Holton Primary	60
Jenner Park Primary	30
Llancarfan Primary	30*
Llandough Primary	30
Llanfair Primary	18
Llangan Primary	15
Llansannor CIW Primary	30
Oak Field Primary	30
Palmerston Primary	30
Pendoylan CIW Primary	30
Peterston-S-Ely CIW Primary	27
Rhws Primary	53
Romilly Primary	90
St Andrew's Major CIW Primary	30
St Athan Primary	30
St Brides Major CIW Primary	30
St David's CIW Primary	30*
St Helen's RC Primary	44
St Illtyd Primary	54
St Joseph's RC Primary	30

St Nicholas CIW Primary	30*
Sully Primary	50
Victoria Primary	60
Wick & Marcross CIW Primary	22
Y Bont Faen Primary	30
Ysgol Gwaun y Nant	60
Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant	30
Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg	30
Ysgol Gymraeg Pen y Garth	60
Ysgol Iolo Morganwg	30
Ysgol Sant Baruc	60*
Ysgol Sant Curig	60
Ysgol Y Ddraig	60

* Admission numbers are subject to the implementation of proposed school organisation proposals for the schools

**School Catchment area review
December 2019**

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Background

As part of the Council's continual review of the supply of and demand for school places, it has become necessary to undertake a review of English medium secondary school catchment areas.

Catchment Areas

A school catchment area is a geographically defined area of addresses drawn up to ensure that all schools in an area receive a fair share of pupils in which children are eligible to attend a local school and are used;

- To give parents an indication of their local school.
- To help schools identify with the communities they serve.
- To prioritise admissions to school when there are more applications than places available.
- As a planning tool to enable the Authority to fulfil its duty to forecast demand for education in an area and to plan to meet that demand.
- As an element of transport policy in order to facilitate the organisation of school transport and control costs.

A catchment area does not prevent a parent from expressing a preference if they do not live in the catchment area. Parents can express a preference for any school. Places are allocated according to the published over-subscription criteria.

Aims of the review

- To promote fair access to school places.
- To provide a single catchment area school for each address in the Vale of Glamorgan.
- To align primary and secondary catchment areas to match demand to the capacity of a school.
- To resolve some historical catchment issues.

Why are we carrying out a review?

- The Council has changed from a feeder school system to a catchment area basis for entry to secondary education from September 2020.
- The establishment of mixed sex schooling in the Barry area has changed the dynamic in Barry.
- Large scale and other housing developments are having an impact on catchment area numbers.
- Catchment area numbers are unbalanced compared to the capacity of secondary schools serving those catchment areas albeit parental preference will have an impact. There is potential for applications to exceed the number of places available at entry to a secondary school.
- The Council has undertaken extensive remodelling and new builds of secondary schools in the past 10 years.

As a result of parental preference a large number of secondary school children attend other schools other than their catchment area school. A number of children also attend Vale of Glamorgan schools living outside the geographical area of the Vale of Glamorgan. The following table illustrates

parental preference based on the current feeder school system for entry to secondary education to be replaced by a catchment area criteria from September 2020.

School	Number on Roll		Number living in the school catchment area	Number living outside school catchment area living in the Vale of Glamorgan	Number living outside of the Vale of Glamorgan
Cowbridge	1539		960 (62%)	294 (19%)	285 (19%)
Llantwit	930		879 (94%)	36 (4%)	15 (2%)
Pencoedtre	789		542 (69%)	238 (30%)	9 (1%)
St Cyres	1170		427 (36%)	345 (29%)	398 (34%)
Stanwell	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A
St Richard Gwyn	789		751(95%)	0	38 (5%)
Whitmore	933		552 (59%)	377 (40%)	4 (1%)
Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg	924		915 (99%)	0	9 (1%)

There is sufficient capacity overall in the Vale of Glamorgan to meet the needs of the future secondary school population, but catchment areas are unbalanced. Demand from within some school catchment areas is considerably less than the school is able to accommodate whilst in other areas catchment demand is in excess of the school capacity.

School data sets used for the catchment review reflect the number of pupils on roll at schools at July 2019.

Barry Area

The Barry area is served by:

- Pencoedtre High School and Whitmore High School for English medium secondary education
- St Richard Gwyn for a denominational education
- Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg for Welsh medium secondary education

Pencoedtre catchment

2266 children live in the catchment area who attend English medium primary schools, reception to year 6, excluding those that attend St Helens and St Joseph's RC schools from within catchment. The following table shows when those children would enter English medium secondary schooling. The school's admission number for entry to year 7 is 210 pupils. The table below illustrates the maximum Year 7 entry numbers to the school based on English medium primary catchment area data for Pencoedtre that shows insufficient places if **all** parents requested their catchment area school. A further 105 English medium primary school children are anticipated to enter the catchment area as a result of the ongoing housing development in the catchment area.

English medium primary pupil numbers living in Pencoedtre High School catchment area by age group and year of entry to year 7 of secondary school

Admission Number 210	Rec (YR 7 intake 2025)	Year 1 (YR 7 intake 2024)	Year 2 (YR 7 intake 2023)	Year 3 (YR 7 intake 2022)	Year 4 (YR 7 intake 2021)	Year 5 (YR 7 intake 2020)	Year 6 (YR 7 intake 2019)
Pencoedtre maximum catchment intake requirement	301	321	335	323	341	320	325
Approved housing development	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
Total intake requirement	316	336	350	338	356	335	340
Under/Over	-106	-126	-140	-128	-146	-125	-130

Currently 24% of children in the catchment area attend St Richard Gwyn from outside of St Richard Gwyn feeder schools and 11% attend other EM secondary schools outside of Barry. However this may change and reduce in future due to the establishment of mixed sex schooling and the removal of the feeder system which will no longer prioritise Barry children attending a feeder school of

another secondary school. Barry children will be assessed on proximity grounds for entry to other schools; those living nearest a school will have priority.

Using the above total figure of 35% to other schools, this would potentially reduce the maximum catchment area requirement as illustrated in the following table;

English medium primary pupil numbers living in Pencoedtre High School catchment area by age group and year of entry to year 7 of secondary school (<u>35% scenario to other schools</u>)							
Admission Number 210	Rec (YR 7 intake 2025)	Year 1 (YR 7 intake 2024)	Year 2 (YR 7 intake 2023)	Year 3 (YR 7 intake 2022)	Year 4 (YR 7 intake 2021)	Year 5 (YR 7 intake 2020)	Year 6 (YR 7 intake 2019)
Nett Pencoedtre catchment intake requirement	205	218	227	220	231	218	221
Under/Over	5	-8	-17	-10	-21	-8	-11

The following table illustrates a 25% intake to other schools if catchment numbers increase as a result of mixed sex schooling in Barry and or removal of the feeder primary school system.

English medium primary pupil numbers living in Pencoedtre High School catchment area by age group and year of entry to year 7 of secondary school (<u>25% scenario to other schools</u>)							
Admission Number 210	Rec (YR 7 intake 2025)	Year 1 (YR 7 intake 2024)	Year 2 (YR 7 intake 2023)	Year 3 (YR 7 intake 2022)	Year 4 (YR 7 intake 2021)	Year 5 (YR 7 intake 2020)	Year 6 (YR 7 intake 2019)
Nett Pencoedtre catchment intake requirement	237	252	262	253	267	251	255
Under/Over	-27	-42	-52	-43	-57	-41	-45

The catchment area population of the school is densely populated and large compared to the intake/admission number of 210 pupils per year group. In order to manage current demand for places within the Pencoedtre catchment area, the intake relies on pupils attending other secondary schools outside the catchment area but this may change as result of the removal of the feeder school system for entry to secondary education from September 2020 and the introduction of mixed sex schooling in Barry.

Whitmore catchment

1642 children live in the catchment area who attend English medium primary schools, reception to year 6, excluding those that attend St Helens and St Joseph's RC schools from within catchment. The following table shows when those children would enter English medium secondary schooling. The school's admission number for entry to year 7 is 180 pupils. The table below illustrates the maximum Year 7 entry numbers to the school based on English medium primary catchment area data for Whitmore that shows insufficient places if **all** parents requested their catchment rea school. A further 105 English medium primary school children are anticipated to enter the catchment area as a result of the ongoing housing development in the catchment area. Rhoose operates as a dual catchment area for both Whitmore and Llantwit, 20% of Rhoose pupils on average are aligned to Whitmore based on historic data averages.

English medium primary pupil numbers living in Whitmore High School catchment area by age group and year of entry to year 7							
Admission Number 180	Rec (YR 7 intake 2025)	Year 1 (YR 7 intake 2024)	Year 2 (YR 7 intake 2023)	Year 3 (YR 7 intake 2022)	Year 4 (YR 7 intake 2021)	Year 5 (YR 7 intake 2020)	Year 6 (YR 7 intake 2019)
Whitmore maximum catchment intake requirement	215	227	227	247	250	237	239
Approved housing development	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
Total intake requirement	230	242	242	262	265	252	254
Under/Over	-50	-62	-62	-82	-85	-72	-74

Currently 17% of children in the catchment area attend St Richard Gwyn from outside St Richard Gwyn feeder schools and 10% to other EM secondary schools outside of Barry. However this may change and reduce in future due to the establishment of mixed sex schooling and the removal of the feeder system which will no longer prioritise Barry children attending a feeder school of another secondary school. Barry children will be assessed on proximity grounds for entry to other schools; those living nearest a school will have priority. The average intake to St Richard Gwyn may reduce as a result of the establishment of mixed sex schooling in Barry

Using the above total figure of 27% to other schools, this could potentially reduce the maximum catchment area number requirement as illustrated in the following table.

English medium primary pupil numbers living in Whitmore High School catchment area by age group and year of entry to year 7
(27% scenario to other schools)

Admission Number 180	Rec (YR 7 intake 2025)	Year 1 (YR 7 intake 2024)	Year 2 (YR 7 intake 2023)	Year 3 (YR 7 intake 2022)	Year 4 (YR 7 intake 2021)	Year 5 (YR 7 intake 2020)	Year 6 (YR 7 intake 2019)
Nett Whitmore catchment intake requirement	168	177	177	191	193	184	185
Under/Over	12	3	3	-11	-13	-4	-5

The following table illustrates a 20% intake to other schools if catchment numbers increase as a result of mixed sex education in Barry and or removal of the feeder primary school system.

English medium primary pupil numbers living in Whitmore High School catchment area by age group and year of entry to year 7
(20% scenario to other schools)

Admission Number 180	Rec (YR 7 intake 2025)	Year 1 (YR 7 intake 2024)	Year 2 (YR 7 intake 2023)	Year 3 (YR 7 intake 2022)	Year 4 (YR 7 intake 2021)	Year 5 (YR 7 intake 2020)	Year 6 (YR 7 intake 2019)
Nett Whitmore catchment intake requirement	184	194	194	210	212	202	203
Under/Over	-4	-14	-14	-30	-32	-22	-23

The catchment area population of the school is large compared to the intake/admission number of 180 pupils per year group. In order to meet manage demand for places within the Whitmore catchment area, the intake relies on pupils attending other secondary schools outside the catchment area but this may change as result of the removal of the feeder school system for entry to secondary education from September 2020 and the introduction of mixed sex schooling in Barry.

St Richard Gwyn and Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg

Both St Richard Gwyn and Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg serve the whole of the Vale of Glamorgan area. Their catchment areas are not subject to review and are sufficient to meet the needs of the Vale of Glamorgan pupil population.

Cowbridge Area

The Cowbridge area is served by:

- Cowbridge Comprehensive for English medium secondary education
- St Richard Gwyn for a denominational education
- Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg for Welsh medium secondary education

Cowbridge catchment

927 children live in the catchment area who attend English medium primary schools, reception to year 6, excluding those that attend St Helens and St Joseph's RC schools from within catchment. The following table shows when those children would enter English medium secondary schooling. The school's admission number for entry to year 7 is 240 pupils. The table illustrates the maximum Year 7 entry numbers to the school based on English medium primary catchment area data for Cowbridge that shows sufficient places if **all** parents requested their catchment area school. A further 175 English medium primary school children are anticipated to enter the catchment area as a result of the ongoing housing development in the catchment area.

English medium primary pupil numbers living in Cowbridge school catchment area by age group and year of entry to year 7 entry point to year 7

Admission Number 240	Rec (YR 7 intake 2025)	Year 1 (YR 7 intake 2024)	Year 2 (YR 7 intake 2023)	Year 3 (YR 7 intake 2022)	Year 4 (YR 7 intake 2021)	Year 5 (YR 7 intake 2020)	Year 6 (YR 7 intake 2019)
Cowbridge maximum catchment intake requirement	122	155	111	128	137	130	144
Approved housing development	25	25	25	25	25	25	25
Total intake requirement	147	180	136	153	162	155	169
Under/Over	93	85	104	87	78	85	71

The catchment area population of the school is relatively small compared to the intake/admission number of 240 pupils per year group with scope to introduce other areas to serve the school to provide a greater catchment population. The current low catchment population is likely to mean that

a number of pupils will gain access from outside the catchment area based on proximity grounds and where some other council boundary areas are in closer proximity to the school than other areas of the Vale. Currently, based on a feeder school system, 19% of pupils on roll live outside of the Vale of Glamorgan and 19% live in other vale secondary school catchment areas.

Llantwit Area

The Llantwit area is served by:

- Llantwit Major School for English medium secondary education
- St Richard Gwyn for a denominational education
- Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg for Welsh medium secondary education

Llantwit catchment

1432 children live in the catchment area who attend English medium primary schools, reception to year 6, excluding St Helens and St Joseph's RC schools. The following table shows when those children would enter English medium secondary schooling. The school's admission number for entry to year 7 is 180 pupils. The table illustrates the maximum Year 7 entry numbers to the school based on English medium primary catchment area data for Llantwit that shows insufficient places if **all** parents requested their catchment re a school. A further 126 English medium primary school children are anticipated to enter the catchment area as a result of the ongoing housing development in the catchment area. Rhose operates as a dual catchment area for both Llantwit and Whitmore, 80% of Rhose pupils on average are aligned to Llantwit based on historic data averages.

English medium primary pupil numbers living in Llantwit Major School catchment area by age group and year of entry to year 7

Admission Number 180	Rec (YR 7 intake 2025)	Year 1 (YR 7 intake 2024)	Year 2 (YR 7 intake 2023)	Year 3 (YR 7 intake 2022)	Year 4 (YR 7 intake 2021)	Year 5 (YR 7 intake 2020)	Year 6 (YR 7 intake 2019)
Llantwit maximum catchment intake requirement	172	197	211	220	222	207	220
Approved housing development	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
Total intake requirement	190	215	229	238	240	225	238
Under/Over	-10	-35	-49	-58	-60	-45	-58

On average 19% of children resident in the catchment area attend other EM schools outside the area. Based on this figure this would potentially reduce the catchment area number requirement as illustrated in the following table:

English medium primary pupil numbers living in Llantwit Major School catchment area by age group and year of entry to year 7 (19% scenario to other schools)

	Rec (YR 7 intake 2025)	Year 1 (YR 7 intake 2024)	Year 2 (YR 7 intake 2023)	Year 3 (YR 7 intake 2022)	Year 4 (YR 7 intake 2021)	Year 5 (YR 7 intake 2020)	Year 6 (YR 7 intake 2019)
Nett Llantwit catchment intake requirement	154	174	185	193	194	182	193
Under/Over	26	6	-5	-13	-14	2	-13

The overall catchment area population is generally larger than the school admission/intake number of 180 pupils per year group and school capacity overall. In order to manage current demand for places within the Llantwit Major catchment area, the school relies on pupils attending secondary schools outside the catchment area that may change as result of the removal of the feeder school system for entry to secondary education from September 2020.

Penarth Area

The Penarth area is served by:

- St Cyres Comprehensive and Stanwell school for English medium secondary education. Stanwell is a foundation school who are their own admissions authority. They have retained the feeder primary school criteria for entry to secondary education
- St Richard Gwyn for a denominational education
- Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg for Welsh medium secondary education

St Cyres catchment

986 children live in the catchment area who attend English medium primary schools, reception to year 6, excluding those that attend St Helens and St Joseph's RC schools from within catchment. The following table shows when those children would enter English medium secondary schooling. The school's admission number for entry to year 7 is 210 pupils. The table below illustrates the maximum Year 7 entry numbers to the school based on English medium primary catchment area data for St Cyres that shows sufficient places if **all** parents requested their catchment reas school. A further 49 primary school children are anticipated to enter the catchment area as a result of ongoing housing development in the catchment area. A proportion (15%) of pupils living within the catchment area attend Stanwell School feeder schools and are likely to gain places by virtue of attending a linked feeder school.

English medium primary pupil numbers living in St Cyres school catchment area by age group and year of entry to year 7

Admission number 210	Rec (YR 7 intake 2025)	Year 1 (YR 7 intake 2024)	Year 2 (YR 7 intake 2023)	Year 3 (YR 7 intake 2022)	Year 4 (YR 7 intake 2021)	Year 5 (YR 7 intake 2020)	Year 6 (YR 7 intake 2019)
St Cyres maximum catchment intake requirement	134	156	139	123	142	140	152
Approved housing development	8	8	8	8	8	8	7
Total catchment intake requirement	142	164	147	131	150	148	159

Under/Over	68	46	63	79	60	62	51
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The catchment area population of the school is moderately small compared to the intake/admission number of 210 pupils per year group with scope to introduce other areas of the Vale to serve the school to provide a greater catchment population. The current low catchment population is likely to result in a number of pupils gaining access to the school from outside the school catchment area based on proximity grounds and where Cardiff is in closer proximity to the school than other areas of the Vale such as Barry. Currently, based on a feeder school system, 34% of pupils on roll at St Cyres live in the Cardiff area.

Stanwell catchment

1515 children live in the catchment area who attend English medium primary schools, reception to year 6, excluding those that attend St Helens and St Josephs RC schools from within catchment. The following table shows when those children would enter English medium secondary schooling based on a catchment area scenario but Stanwell, as a Foundation Status School, have retained the feeder primary school criteria for entry to secondary education. The school's admission number for entry to year 7 is 299 pupils. The following table illustrates the maximum Year 7 entry numbers to the school based on English medium primary catchment area data for Stanwell that shows sufficient places if **all** parents requested their catchment rea school. A further 88 English medium primary school children are anticipated to enter the catchment area as a result of ongoing housing development in the catchment area.

English medium primary pupil numbers living in Stanwell school catchment area by age group and entry point to year 7

Admission Number 299	Rec (YR 7 intake 2025)	Year 1 (YR 7 intake 2024)	Year 2 (YR 7 intake 2023)	Year 3 (YR 7 intake 2022)	Year 4 (YR 7 intake 2021)	Year 5 (YR 7 intake 2020)	Year 6 (YR 7 intake 2019)
Stanwell maximum catchment intake requirement	212	196	203	234	221	210	239
Approved housing development	13	13	13	13	12	12	12
Total intake requirement	235	209	216	247	233	222	241
Under/Over	64	90	83	52	66	77	58

The catchment area population of the school is moderately small compared to the intake/admission number of 299 pupils per year group with scope to introduce other areas to serve the school to

provide a greater catchment population. The current low catchment population is likely to mean that a number of pupils will gain access from outside the catchment area based on proximity grounds to include St Cyres catchment area pupils and also where Cardiff is in closer proximity to the school than other areas of the Vale such as Barry. The Council does not hold any up to date secondary pupil data for Stanwell School, the only data available relates to the 2019 Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC).

Catchment Area Challenges

The change from a feeder school system to a catchment area arrangement for entry to secondary education in the event of oversubscription from September 2020 has required a detailed look at current secondary catchment areas to ensure they meet the needs of their catchment population.

Barry

The Barry area is densely populated particularly in the east. Both English medium schools catchment populations are large where maximum year 7 intake demand from within catchment, excluding parental preference, would exceed the number of places available for pupils. The catchment areas of both schools require a possible remodel and reduction in size to meet future population needs. Housing developments are anticipated to introduce a further 105 English medium primary school pupils overall into each catchment area.

Cowbridge

The secondary school catchment population is considerably smaller than the school capacity and intake/admission number requirements. Demand from within the existing catchment areas is considerably less than the school is able to accommodate. The school is currently full with demand being met from pupils attending who live outside of the school catchment area and outside of the Vale of Glamorgan area. The Cowbridge catchment area can be expanded in order to redistribute pupils from other areas to meet the needs of the Vale of Glamorgan secondary school population.

Llantwit

The secondary school catchment area population is large where maximum year 7 intake demand from within catchment, excluding parental preference, would exceed the number of places available. The catchment area requires a possible remodel and reduction in size to meet future school population needs.

Penarth

Both secondary school catchment populations' areas are smaller than their school capacity and intake/admission number requirements. Demands from within the existing catchment areas are less than the school is able to accommodate. Both schools easily meet pupil demand from within their

catchment area with scope to increase catchment area sizes to meet need from other areas of the Vale. The current low catchment populations means that a number of pupils will gain access from outside the catchment area based on proximity grounds and where Cardiff is in closer proximity to the schools than other areas of the Vale of Glamorgan.

Options to Address Catchment Area Challenges

A remodelling of secondary school catchment areas towards the west of the Vale of Glamorgan is proposed to meet future demand for secondary school places in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Meeting Demand in Barry

Pencoedtre

Pencoedtre catchment area requires a possible reduction in size to meet potential future demand from within catchment area. This could be achieved by extending the catchment area of St Cyres School into the Wenvoe area. This will increase the catchment population of St Cyres and at the same time ease demand for places from the East of Barry at Pencoedtre High but not necessarily to an exact match to the admission number.

The following scenario illustrates the reduction to the catchment area population as described above. Parental preference will also have an impact on pupil data. The following scenarios assume that intakes to St Richard Gwyn, outside of the schools feeder primaries, and other EM intakes are maintained at the current levels of 36%.

Pencoedtre High School catchment area excluding the Wenvoe area

This involves moving the Wenvoe catchment area into St Cyres School as illustrated in the table below. The average intake to St Richard Gwyn from within catchment area may reduce as a result of the establishment of mixed sex schooling in Barry. Around 60% of children from Gwenfo Primary School attend St Richard Gwyn each year.

English medium primary pupil numbers living in the proposed catchment area by age group and entry point to year 7

Admission Number 210	Rec (YR 7 intake 2025)	Year 1 (YR 7 intake 2024)	Year 2 (YR 7 intake 2023)	Year 3 (YR 7 intake 2022)	Year 4 (YR 7 intake 2021)	Year 5 (YR 7 intake 2020)	Year 6 (YR 7 intake 2019)
Proposed catchment intake number	267	304	312	309	326	301	307
Approved Housing Development	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
To St Richard Gwyn (25% average intake outside of St Richard Gwyn feeders)	-70	-80	-82	-81	-85	-79	-81
To other EM secondary schools (11%)	-31	-35	-36	-36	-38	-35	-35
Total intake requirement	181	204	209	207	218	202	206
Under/Over	29	6	1	3	-8	8	4

Transport implications;

Supply a 45/53 seater vehicle from Wenvoe to St Cyres at £110 per day totalling £20,900 per year. This is likely to increase in time to a requirement for a further vehicle from the area as numbers increase at an additional cost of £20,900 per annum.

This option would potentially align catchment area numbers for Pencoedtre on the assumption that intakes to St Richard Gwyn and other secondary schools in the catchment area are maintained at the current levels detailed in the above table. There is potential for the option to affect numbers at St Richard Gwyn in future as around 60% of children from the Wenvoe area enter St Richard Gwyn each year.

Whitmore

Remove the dual catchment status of Rhoose from Whitmore High School. This will reduce the catchment area population of Whitmore High School as illustrated in the following table below. Parental preference will also have an impact on pupil data. The following scenarios assume that intakes to St Richard Gwyn, outside of the schools feeder primaries, and other EM intakes are maintained at the current levels of 27% unless indicated.

English medium primary pupil numbers living in Whitmore High School catchment area by age group and entry point to year 7							
Admission Number 180	Rec (YR 7 intake 2025)	Year 1 (YR 7 intake 2024)	Year 2 (YR 7 intake 2023)	Year 3 (YR 7 intake 2022)	Year 4 (YR 7 intake 2021)	Year 5 (YR 7 intake 2020)	Year 6 (YR 7 intake 2019)
Whitmore catchment intake requirement	198	204	206	223	223	212	207
Approved Housing development	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
To St Richard Gwyn (17% average intake outside of St Richard feeders)	-36	-37	-38	-40	-40	-36	-38
To other EM secondary schools (10%)	-21	-22	-22	-24	-22	-24	-22
Total intake requirement	156	160	161	174	178	167	162
Under/Over	24	20	19	6	2	13	18

The Barry area is densely populated with no scope to move areas around from each Barry Secondary School to another such as Whitmore to Pencoedtre.

There are no transport implications as a result of this option. The average intake to St Richard Gwyn may reduce as a result of the establishment of mixed sex schooling in Barry.

This option would potentially align catchment area numbers for Whitmore on the assumption that intakes to St Richard Gwyn and other secondary schools in the catchment area are maintained at the current levels detailed in the above table.

Meeting Demand in Llantwit

Llantwit Major School

Llantwit catchment area requires a potential reduction in size to meet potential future demand from within catchment area. This could be achieved by removing the dual catchment area status of Rhoose and aligning the Rhoose area to Cowbridge Comprehensive School. The Penmark and Porthkerry area of Rhoose will already be aligned to Cowbridge Comprehensive from September 2021 as a result of the relocation of Llancarfan Primary School to the area. The inclusion of the entire area of Rhoose area within the Cowbridge Comprehensive School catchment area would negate divisions within Rhoose and the potential for splitting the village in two. The whole of Rhoose would serve one secondary school rather than two.

For September 2019, 12% of pupils living in the Llantwit Major catchment area entered Cowbridge Comprehensive School. On average 19% of pupils within catchment area attend other schools out of area. The following scenarios assume that intakes to other schools are maintained at the current levels.

English medium primary pupil numbers living in the proposed catchment area by age group and entry point to year 7

Admission Number 180	Rec (YR 7 intake 2025)	Year 1 (YR 7 intake 2024)	Year 2 (YR 7 intake 2023)	Year 3 (YR 7 intake 2022)	Year 4 (YR 7 intake 2021)	Year 5 (YR 7 intake 2020)	Year 6 (YR 7 intake 2019)
Proposed catchment intake number	128	147	146	167	166	156	159
Approved housing Development	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
Average intake to other schools from within catchment area (19%)	-27	-31	-31	-35	-35	-33	-34
Total intake requirement	119	134	133	150	149	141	143
Under/Over	61	46	47	30	31	39	37

The average intake to St Richard Gwyn may reduce as a result of the establishment of mixed sex schooling in Barry.

Whilst the relocation of Rhoose would see catchment area numbers reduce, there are housing allocations in the area as part of the authority's Local Development Plan (LD) that are still to receive planning permission that feed into Llantwit area are as follows;

- Higher End – 120 units
- Church Farm – 250 units
- Former stadium site – 65 units
- Froglands Farm – 90
- Northern access road – 375 units
- Eagleswell site – 72 units

It is unknown as to when these sites would receive planning permission but they would introduce a further 270 English medium primary school children into the secondary catchment area to feed into the secondary sector. The developments are also anticipated to introduce a further 241 pupils of secondary school age into the system. The reduction to the catchment area would provide the flexibility to manage the future demand in accommodating the proposed housing allocations detailed above within the LDP.

Transport implications

Supply a 45/53 seater vehicle from Rhose to Cowbridge at £110 per day totalling £20,900 per year. This is likely to increase in time to a requirement for a further vehicle from the area as numbers increase at an additional cost of £20,900 per annum.

This option would align catchment area numbers for Llantwit on the assumption that intakes to other secondary schools in the catchment area are maintained at the current levels detailed in the above table.

Meeting Demand in Cowbridge

Cowbridge Comprehensive School

Cowbridge catchment population is small compared to the school capacity to accommodate pupils. Demand from within the existing catchment areas is considerably less than the school is able to accommodate. In order to balance out demand in other areas of the Vale of Glamorgan, Cowbridge could accommodate the pupil population of other school catchment as follows

- Increase the catchment population by incorporating the areas of Rhoose into the catchment area.
- The above will redistribute pupils in the Vale to meet the needs of the overall secondary school population.

The following illustrates the scenario outlined above.

English medium primary pupil numbers living in the proposed catchment area by age group and entry point to year 7							
Admission Number 240	Rec (YR 7 intake 2025)	Year 1 (YR 7 intake 2024)	Year 2 (YR 7 intake 2023)	Year 3 (YR 7 intake 2022)	Year 4 (YR 7 intake 2021)	Year 5 (YR 7 intake 2020)	Year 6 (YR 7 intake 2019)
Proposed catchment intake number	174	209	172	189	202	187	214
Approved Housing Development	26	26	26	26	26	26	26
Total intake requirement	200	235	198	215	228	213	240
Under/Over	40	5	42	25	12	27	0

Transport implications

Supply a 45/53 seater vehicle from Rhoose to Cowbridge at £110 per day totalling £20,900 per year. This is likely to increase in time to a requirement for a further vehicle from the area as numbers increase at an additional cost of £20,900 per annum.

Meeting Demand in Penarth

Both Penarth secondary school catchment populations' areas are smaller than their school capacity and intake/admission number requirements.

St Cyres School

Demands from within the existing catchment area are less than the school is able to accommodate. The school is able to meet pupil demand from within their catchment area with scope to increase its catchment area size to meet need from other areas of the Vale. The current low catchment populations means that a number of pupils gain access from outside the catchment area based on proximity grounds and where Cardiff is in closer proximity to the schools than other areas of the Vale of Glamorgan.

In order to balance out demand in other areas of the Vale of Glamorgan, St Cyres could accommodate the pupil population of area from other school catchment areas as follows:

- Increase the catchment population by incorporating the areas of Wenvoe into the school catchment area.
- Increase the catchment area population to include the whole of the Penarth and Sully areas in recognition that Stanwell School are their own admissions authority. Stanwell operate a primary feeder school arrangement for entry to the school with an assumption that the school are likely to continue to attract around 55% of children in the area.
- The above would redistribute pupils in the Vale to meet the needs of the overall secondary school population.

The following illustrates the scenario outlined above.

English medium primary pupil numbers living in the proposed catchment area by age group and entry point to year 7							
Admission Number 210	Rec (YR 7 intake 2025)	Year 1 (YR 7 intake 2024)	Year 2 (YR 7 intake 2023)	Year 3 (YR 7 intake 2022)	Year 4 (YR 7 intake 2021)	Year 5 (YR 7 intake 2020)	Year 6 (YR 7 intake 2019)
Proposed catchment intake number	375	363	359	368	372	365	404
Approved Housing Development	25	25	25	25	24	24	24
Intake to Stanwell (55%)	-220	-213	-211	-216	-218	-214	-235

Total intake requirement	180	175	173	177	178	175	193
Under/Over	30	35	37	33	32	35	17

Transport implications

Supply a 45/53 seater vehicle from Wenvoe to St Cyres at £110 per day totalling £20,900 per year. This is likely to increase in time to a further requirement for a vehicle from the area as numbers increase at a further cost of £20,900 per annum.

A possible requirement for a 45/53 seater vehicle from Sully at £110 per day totalling £20,900 per year. However, as this is a feeder area for Stanwell, pupils are more than likely to continue to attend Stanwell School.

Demand from within the existing catchment areas is still less than the school is able to accommodate. There is scope to introduce further areas into the St Cyres catchment area.

Summary: The Preferred Way Forward

In order to align primary and secondary catchment areas to better match demand to the capacity at secondary schools, the preferred way forward includes:

Barry Area

Pencoedtre High School

- Transfer the Wenvoe area into St Cyres school catchment area.

Whitmore High School

- Remove the dual catchment status of Rhoose from Whitmore High School.
- Transfer the Rhoose area to Cowbridge Comprehensive School.

Cowbridge Area

Cowbridge Comprehensive School

- Increase the school catchment population by incorporating the area of Rhoose into the school catchment area.

Llantwit Area

Llantwit Major School

- Transfer the area of Rhoose into Cowbridge catchment area.

Penarth Area

St Cyres School

- Increase the school catchment population by incorporating the Wenvoe, Penarth and Sully areas into the school catchment area.

Associated Transport Costs with the preferred options

The options above will require:

- At present four buses operate from the Rhoose area to Llantwit Major at a cost of £646 per day, £122,740 per annum. The same transport arrangements will be required in the long term from Rhoose to serve Cowbridge and therefore the change in the long term is cost neutral. However in the short term the Council will be required to honour those children travelling to Llantwit Major from Rhoose up until the last child leaves school with

additional buses required to Cowbridge as buses to Llantwit Major phase out periodically. In approximately five years' time, a similar amount of vehicles would serve Cowbridge that are currently in operation to Rhoose.

The additional transport costs would relate to an initial four year period of around £28,500 per annum as buses phase in and out.

- Currently a bus operates from the Rhoose area to Whitmore high school at a cost of £167 per day, £31,730 per annum. As a result of a catchment area change the Council would be required to honour those children travelling to Whitmore from Rhoose up until the last child leaves school. The size of the bus will reduce as pupils no longer qualify to Whitmore and others receiving transport leave secondary schooling. In around 5 years' time the bus will no longer be required resulting in a saving to the Council of £31,730 per annum at this time.
- An additional vehicle to St Cyres School would be required from the Wenvoe and surrounding area at an initial estimated cost of £28,500. This would increase to £57,000 for a further vehicle as potential numbers increase from the area over time. Free school transport is not currently provided for pupils from Wenvoe area. Wenvoe is within the three mile qualifying limit with potential for pupils to qualify from the Culverhouse Cross area within the Vale boundary. As no children currently receive free school transport from the Wenvoe area to Pencoedtre, a catchment area change would result in additional costs to the Council and are not offset by any current transport arrangements.
- At present 2 buses operate from the Sully area to Stanwell at a cost of £395 per day, £75,050 per annum. The same transport arrangements would be required in the long term if parents opted for St Cyres in future rather than Stanwell but this is unknown. Stanwell are the admission authority for the school that serves the Sully area, it is likely that pupils from the area would continue to attend Stanwell School. As the Sully area serves both schools and if some parents did opt for St Cyres School, it is feasible that an additional vehicle could be required to serve St Cyres at a cost of £150 per day, £28,500 per annum.

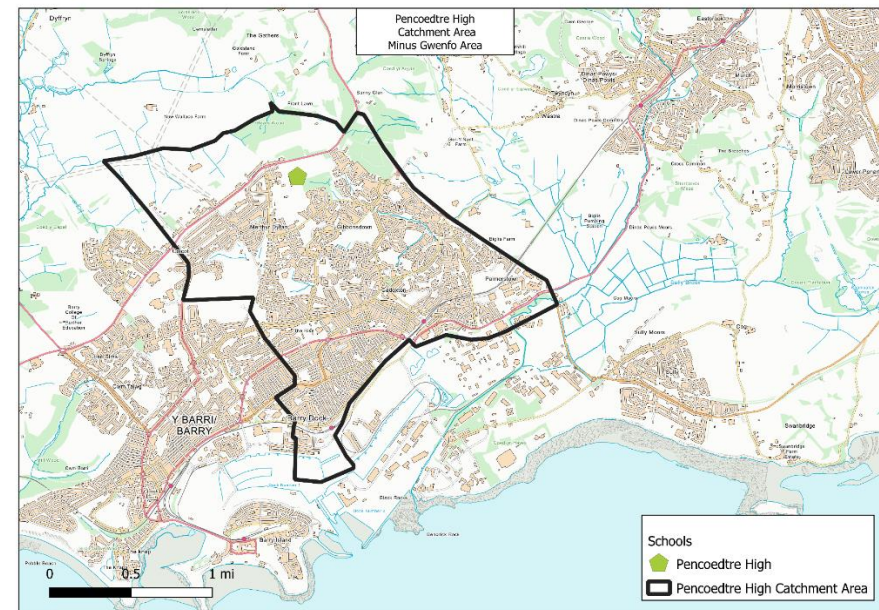
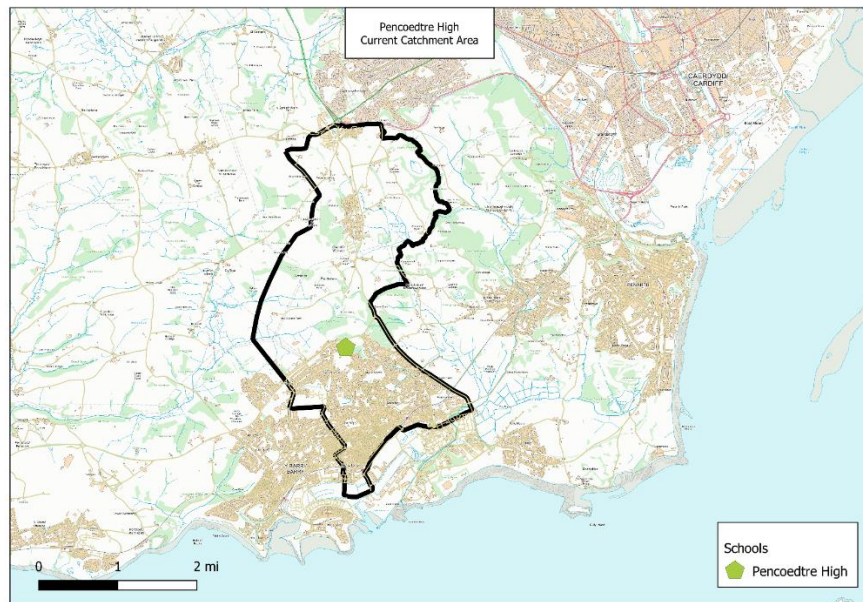
The total estimated cost of additional transport requirements is £85,500 per annum rising to £114,000 over an initial four year period as numbers increase from the areas mentioned to include children from the Sully area attending St Cyres School and where the Council has an obligation to honour existing transport arrangement for those pupils affected by the changes. However this initial cost is likely reduce as pupils from within Stanwell's feeder areas are more than likely continue to attend Stanwell School but numbers are difficult to predict at present. After a four year period the number of buses required will reduce as Llantwit Major School buses phase out resulting in transport costs reducing to £85,000 per annum and again this may reduce further if pupils from the Sully area do not attend Stanwell School. There is a saving of £31,730 per annum to be achieved by the discontinuation of the school bus from Rhoose to Whitmore.

In the long term the net increase to transport arrangements after existing transport arrangements are honoured and savings realised will be around £53,270 per annum. This may reduce if pupils from the Sully area do not attend Stanwell School.

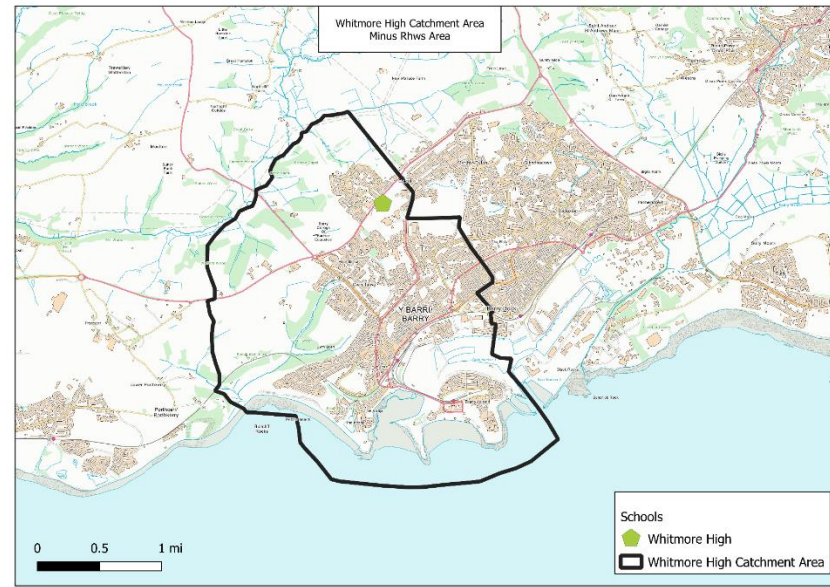
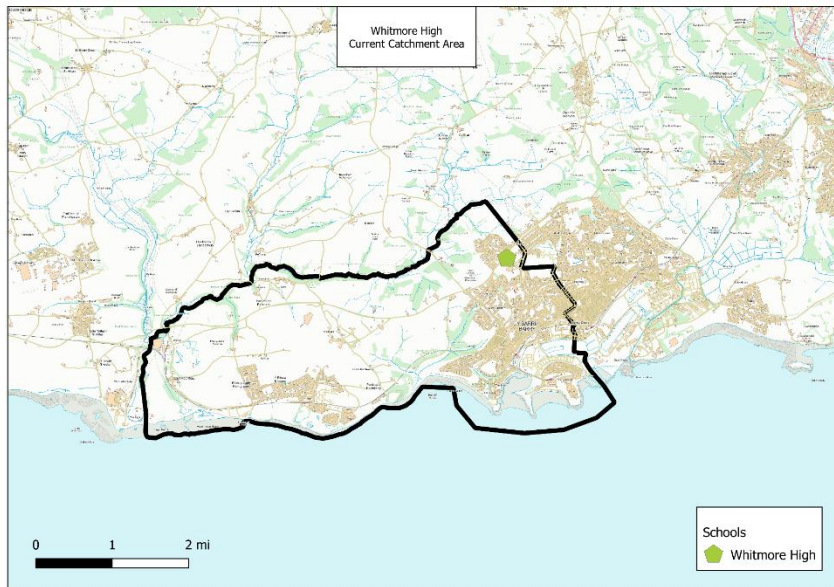
Annex I - Maps

Comparison of Current vs Proposed Catchment Areas

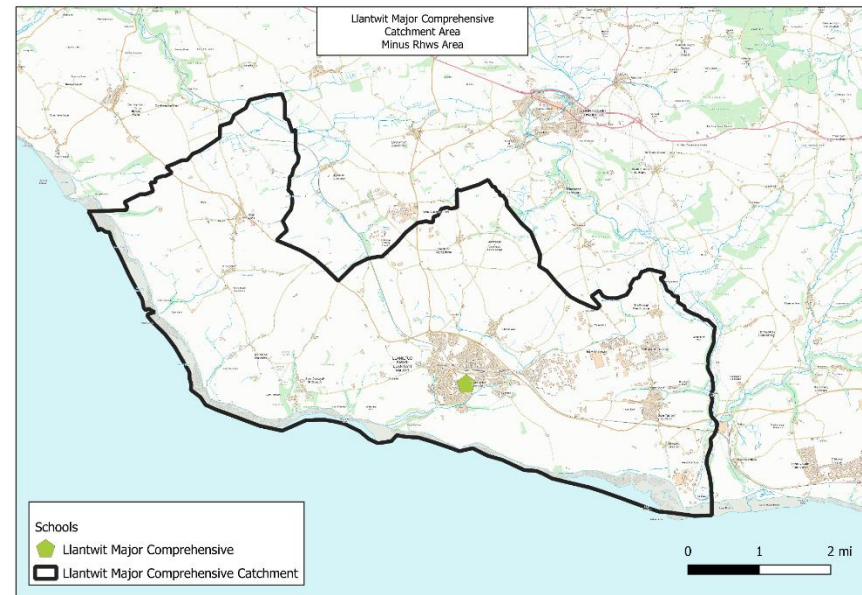
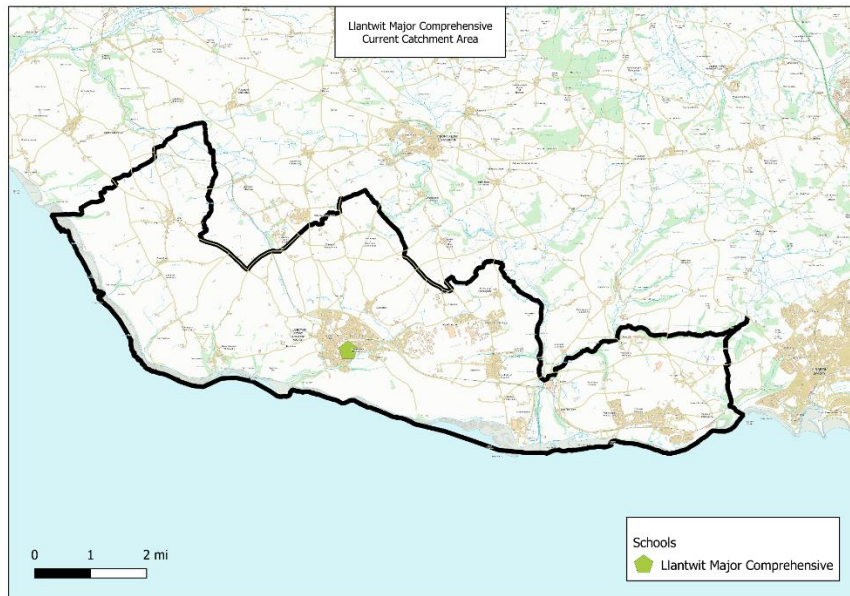
Pencoedtre



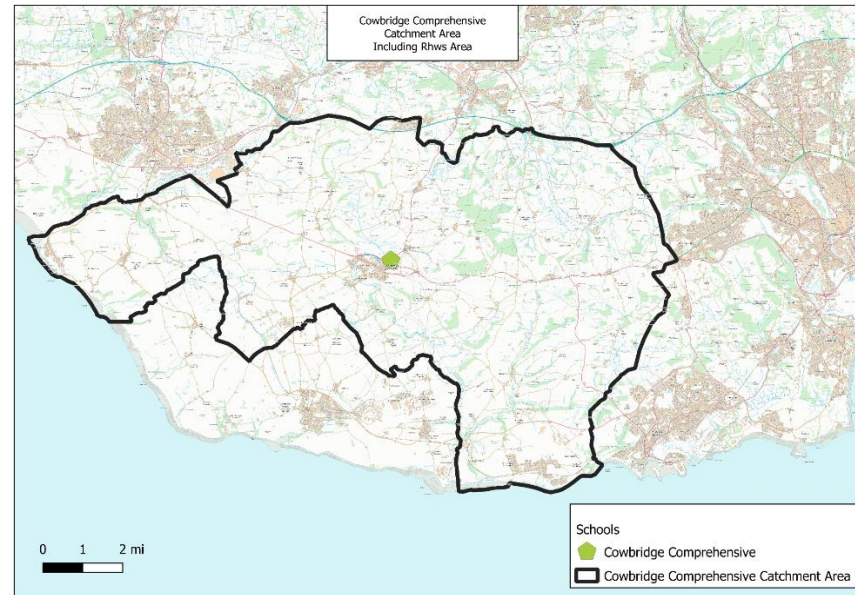
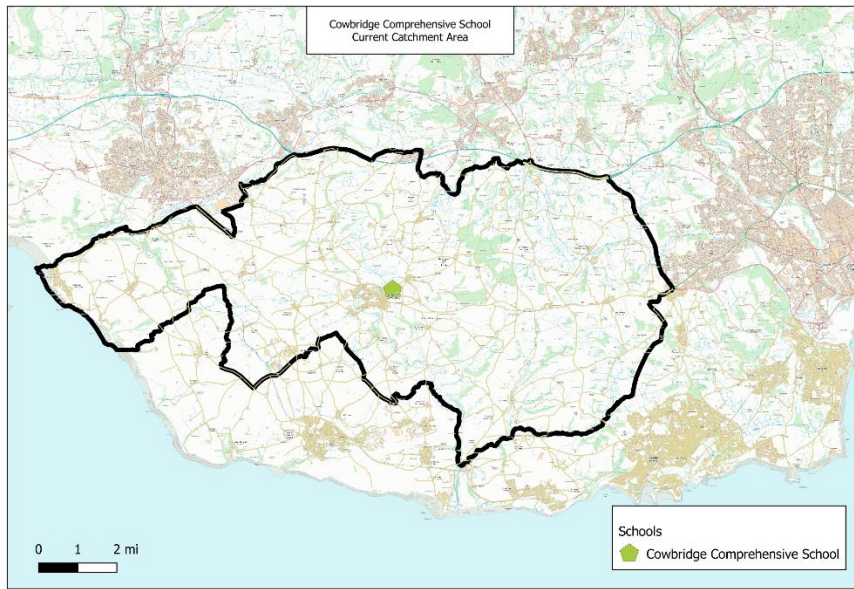
Whitmore



Llantwit Major



Cowbridge



St Cyres

