Pupil responses to the consultation on the redevelopment of Cantonian High School, Riverbank Special School and Woodlands High School

A separate online pupil questionnaire was devised and distributed to Cantonian High School, Fairwater, Pentrebane and Peter Lea Primary schools.

Officers attended whole school assemblies at Fairwater, Pentrebane and Peter Lea Primary schools to introduce the proposal to pupils and ask for them to complete the online pupil questionnaire.

As a result, 32 pupil responses were received from Fairwater Primary School, 0 responses from Pentrebane Primary School and 127 from Peter Lea Primary School.

Workshop sessions were also held at Cantonian High School, Woodlands and Riverbank Schools to provide an opportunity for the children to ask questions, learn more about the proposal and give their views.

Cantonian High School Pupils – survey responses

Pupils were asked for their views via an online survey. 172 Cantonian High School pupils completed the pupil online survey, and 272 pupils completed the wider stakeholder online survey. Overall, over 80% of pupils in support of all aspects of the proposal.

Pupils that completed the pupil questionnaire were asked the following questions:

What things do you like about Cantonian High School at present?

Of the 172 pupils that completed the online pupil questionnaire, pupils gave the following responses:

- The teachers
- The students
- The food
- The view
- ICT rooms
- Science block
- 6th Form common room
- Art room
- Drama & music room
- English facilities & library
- Free study lessons
- The large rooms
- Huge fields
- Canopy area for when the weather is bad

- Size of the football pitch
- Anti bullying policy
- Helpful signs to navigate around school
- Separate gyms for boys and girls

What things do you dislike about Cantonian High School at present?

- The buildings are awful
- Some parts of the school are closed off
- The distances between blocks
- Canteen is too expensive
- Canteen is too small
- The food is bad
- The teachers
- The uniform
- Cannot open windows as unsafe
- Corridors are too narrow
- Not all classroom same size
- They don't offer a variety of different subjects for GCSE and A-Level
- We don't do experiments in science
- Lack of PE equipment
- Some of the computers in the common room do not work
- The toilets
- The portacabins
- No heating in the gym
- The sports facilities are not as good as other schools
- Not enough places to sit during break times
- Bullying
- Lack of space for 6th form

Which of the following things would you like to see most in your new school?

Of the 172 Cantonian High School pupils who completed the online pupil questionnaire:

New equipment and facilities (134) New learning environments (111) New drama/ dance studio (109) Improved ICT (107) Library (87) Sports facilities such as all weather 3G pitches (116) Multi Use Games Areas (MUGAs) (110)

Is there anything that you are worried or concerned about?

- Will the site be big enough
- There won't be enough teachers
- There will be too many pupils and everything will be too crowded
- Sports field may be too small
- Damage to wildlife
- Level of bullying may increase
- Having to spend time in another school if they are demolishing the existing buildings
- Missing out on some education when they knock the school down
- Health risks

How do you currently travel to school?

Of the 172 pupils that completed the online pupil questionnaire, pupils gave the following responses (please note that some people chose more than one option):

- Walk (135)
- Car (55)
- Bus (12)
- Cycle (19)
- Scooter (4)
- Train (3)

Is there anything the Council can do to encourage you to actively travel to school?

- More secure bike/scooter shelters with better security cameras
- Council funded locks for bikes/scooters/Lockers
- Make the paths easier to scoot
- A dedicated school bus for Cantonian High School
- Make the bus travel times quicker so that pupils are not late
- Shower/changing rooms for those actively travelling to school
- Set a better school start time

Do you have any other comments that you wish to make?

A very high number of pupils requested lockers for storing personal items, improved shower/changing rooms and improved and larger bike and scooter shelters.

They raised the following points, concerns and requests:

- If Riverbank and Woodlands schools move onto the site the field may be too small for sports activities and recreation.
- There should be an indoor area that has sofas and tables where students can come in at break or lunch and do work or relax.

- There should be a dedicated bus for Cantonian High School. Most of the buses are for Plasmawr High School and are nearly always full, which can lead to me being late for school.
- Lockers for personal belongings
- Improved and larger bike shelters
- Security cameras around the bike shelters
- Shower/changing rooms for those actively travelling to school
- Better IT equipment
- Better PE equipment
- Improved toilets
- Swimming pool
- Different school uniform
- Being able to see younger siblings during break times
- Improve the paths for walking and scooters

Meeting with Cantonian High School Council

Council officers from Transport and Planning and Schools Organisational Planning met with pupils from Cantonian High School Council. The purpose was to engage with the pupils and gather their opinions about the proposal. The pupils asked a variety of questions which officers answered. The pupils were then asked to think of the possible benefits a new school would bring. The following points were noted:

- It would be great to not have Drama and DT lessons in porta cabins but in specifically designed classrooms.
- Overall better use of technology would be advantageous
- It is easier to learn by having better technology
- A more modern, updated school would be good
- Bigger school would be good
- Better science rooms would be beneficial
- There would be an improvement in litter problems as people would have more respect for a new school

An officer from Transport and Planning then gave a short synopsis of the possible ways that children could arrive at school safely whilst being aware of environmental impacts.

A full copy of the contemporaneous notes from the School Council meeting can be seen at Appendix 3.

Meeting with Woodlands High School Council

A meeting with the members of the school council took place for an hour after their lunchbreak. The purpose was to engage with the pupils and gather their opinions about the proposal.

Discussion centred on likes and concerns for the proposal and was covered over the following headings:

- Classrooms;
- 6th form common room;
- Dance studio with sprung floor;
- Recording studio;
- IT;
- Breakout areas;
- Parent Café;
- Air conditioning;
- Outdoor classrooms;
- Toilets;
- Layout / Shared Space;
- Preparation for Life
- Transport

A full copy of the contemporaneous notes from the School Council meeting can be seen at Appendix 3.

Meeting with Riverbank Special School Council

Officers from the School Planning Team met with a group of children currently attending Riverbank to go through the proposal and discuss how they felt.

When asked about their current school the children felt that:

- it was not big enough
- the corridors were not wide enough
- the doors were not big enough
- the classrooms are not big enough with some classes having to share spaces
- the hall is small
- there weren't enough toilets particularly for those children in the portacabin classroom
- the site gets muddy

The things that were important to the children were:

- sport
- drama and Music
- quiet space
- being close to Woodlands
- they liked when pupils from Woodlands visited
- older children helping with younger children
- ICT
- outdoor space
- the firepit

The children were excited about the proposal to have a new school and had a number of things that they would like to be provided.

- separate classrooms for each class
- bigger classrooms (to include reading area/art area/changing area)
- Wider corridors
- bigger automatic doors
- ICT
- a bigger hall
- lifts to allow access for everyone
- access to outdoor learning areas
- an outdoor shelter with play equipment
- a garden
- a fire pit with better seats
- a first Aid Room
- somewhere for muddy shoes
- a café area
- more/bigger toilets
- changing rooms
- stage

- drama Hall/costume space
- whole school PA system
- cinema/animation room (multi media)
- dining Hall
- turning circle for drop off/pick up
- MUGA
- new outdoor equipment
- a quiet room
- a library with seats
- a sensory room

A full copy of the contemporaneous notes from the meeting can be seen at Appendix 3.

Fairwater Primary School – survey responses

32 pupils from Fairwater Primary School completed the online pupil questionnaire. Pupils that completed the pupil questionnaire were asked the following questions:

What things are you looking forward to at secondary school?

- Meeting people and making new friends
- Different work
- New lessons
- New teachers
- Being with siblings
- Walking to school with my friends
- Interesting lessons and clubs
- New buildings
- ICT

Is there anything that you are worried about?

- Getting detention
- Being bullied
- The work may be too hard
- Not going to class on time
- Getting lost

Which of the following things would you like to see in your new school?

Of the 32 Fairwater Primary School pupils who completed the online questionnaire:

New equipment and facilities (30) New learning environments (27) New drama/ dance studio (26) Improved ICT (25) Library (0)

What else?

- Girls dance club
- All weather pitch
- Swimming pool
- Climbing equipment
- Lockers
- Rugby Shed

How do you currently travel to school?

Of the 32 pupils that completed the online pupil questionnaire, pupils gave the following responses (please note that some people chose more than one option):

- Walk (29)
- Car (20)
- Bus (0)
- Cycle (3)
- Scooter (1)
- Train (0)

Is there anything that the Council could do to help encourage you to travel actively to school?

- Bike and scooter shelter
- Cycle path
- Changing rooms
- Lockers

Do you have any other comments that you wish to make?

- Cantonian High School should not share their site with other schools
- Lessons for First Aid
- Concerns about what to bring on first day of school

Peter Lea Primary School – survey responses

127 pupils from Peter Lea Primary School completed the online pupil questionnaire. Pupils that completed the pupil questionnaire were asked the following questions:

What things are you looking forward to at secondary school?

- More subjects
- Better teachers
- Going on your phones at break time
- Meeting new friends
- Chemistry
- Maths
- Learning more stuff
- Music
- Art
- IT
- Woodcraft
- Swimming
- Seeing family
- Having your own lockers
- Homework
- New sports
- Being older
- Clubs
- Bigger playground
- Uniform

Is there anything that you are worried about?

- Bullies
- Hard work
- Burning my hands when cooking
- Older kids picking on people
- Detention
- Science
- Maths
- Not making friends
- People not accepting me
- Getting lost
- Tests
- Making mistakes
- Getting bad grades
- Walking on my own
- Loads of homework
- Losing temper and getting into multiple fights

- Not going to the same school as my friends
- GCSE's
- Getting told off

Which of the following things would you like to see in your new school?

Of the 127 Peter Lea Primary School pupils who completed the online questionnaire:

New equipment and facilities (77) New learning environments (72) New drama/ dance studio (42) Improved ICT (61) Library (51)

What else?

- Cool dinner hall
- Dance studio
- Library
- ICT
- Indoor basketball court
- Swimming Pool
- New equipment
- New classrooms

How do you currently travel to school?

Of the 127 pupils that completed the online pupil questionnaire, pupils gave the following responses (please note that some people chose more than one option):

- Walk (66)
- Car (72)
- Bus (0)
- Cycle (11)
- Scooter (6)
- Train (0)

Is there anything that the Council could do to help encourage you to travel actively to school?

- Lockers
- More bike/scooter shelters
- Showers
- Do not allow people to drive cars to school 2 days a week
- No car park

- Extra hour on your tablet
- The promise of a treat
- Warm weather
- Travelling actively to school with friends

Pentrebane Primary School

No pupils from Pentrebane Primary School completed the online pupil questionnaire.