

**Extract from the Chair's letter – 14<sup>th</sup> July 2021<sup>1</sup>**

**Pentyrch Primary School**

Members asked questions around the demand for places and the wider issue of primary school population, noting that by 2023/24 there is projected to be a 48% surplus for primary places in that part of the city. Members acknowledge increasing demand arising from the housing developments in the area was likely to result in changes to this figure.

Linking with previous discussions we have had with you regarding demand for school places (and in this case, the wider issue regarding the decline in primary school population), we would welcome a commitment to regular updates coming back to the Committee on this issue to enable us to monitor school population numbers.

Members asked questions about leadership and governance on the proposal, particularly with regards to the Federation that is currently operating for Pentyrch and Llanishen Fach schools. Members noted that current arrangements appear to be well developed, but it is still not clear whether the proposal is for one governing body or two. Members stated that they were concerned that demand and pressures on Governors will be significant, and therefore we feel that this issue needs to be clarified early on in this proposal. Therefore we would welcome further updates on this issue.

**Response from Cllr Merry – 26 July 2021**

Currently it is anticipated that Pentyrch Primary School will need to federate in order to support both effective management of the school along with the opportunity to allow for greater staff development opportunities and effective financial allocation. However this is not a decision that has been finalised and is very much for the respective partners to consider and agree whether this is the most appropriate way forward based on the full range of information available to them in their particular context.

In the event a federation were to be pursued and deemed the most appropriate solution for the school and any respective federation partner, the governors would receive the appropriate support. This would be put in place in order to ensure that there was not an undue time commitment required over and above that of a single school and that they were fully confident in fulfilling the wider remit to enable the full range of perspectives to be respected and integrated into planning for the two schools effectively.

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<sup>1</sup> Link to papers - [Agenda for Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee on Tuesday, 13th July, 2021, 4.30 pm : City of Cardiff Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)