

**SCHOOL ORGANISATION PROPOSALS: PROVISION FOR  
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH ADDITIONAL LEARNING  
NEEDS (ALN)**

**COMPLEX LEARNING NEEDS AND AUTISM SPECTRUM  
CONDITION PROVISION FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY AGED  
PUPILS**

**Appendix 5 – Notes of Public Meetings**



**Present:** Richard Portas (SOP)), Michele Duddridge-Friedl (SOP), Jenny Hughes (ALN), Jamyn Beesley (The Court Headteacher), Sarah Pritchard (SOP, Cath Keegan Smith (ALN), Kassia Morris (ALN) Rosalie Phillips (SOP), Members of the public

*Please note: The following is not a transcript but a contemporaneous note of the meeting*

## **The meeting was held via Microsoft Teams**

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Richard Portas (RP) opened the meeting, welcomed attendees and outlined details of the proposed changes.

There was a presentation from MDF which set out the following:

- What is being proposed?
- Background
- Sufficiency of places
- Distribution of places
- Proposals for The Court School
- Fairwater Primary School site
- St Mellons CiW Primary School site
- Proposal for Moorland Primary School
- Condition Categories
- Suitability
- Quality and Standards
- Transport Matters Fairwater Primary
- Transport Matters St Mellons CiW Primary
- Transport Matters Moorland Primary
- Benefits of the proposals
- Potential disadvantages and risks
- Alternative options discounted
- Finance
- What happens next?

### **Questions and response**

RP invited questions/comments from those attending

#### **Q/C – Parent of a child at Moorland Primary School. Where will be early years accommodations be on site?**

RP – looking at two building with a nursery block next to Reception and another block next to the caretaker's house.



**Q/C – traffic around the school site is already busy; how much will traffic increase by?**

RP – looking to make changes to parking and looking at the impact of traffic as part of the planning application for the proposed works.

**Q/C – what would be the impact on school resources/staffing?**

JH – there would be two SRB classes with funding provided in order for the school to employ additional teaching staff and TA's. Looking to provide opportunities for both sets of pupils.

**Q/C – welcome inclusive approach.**

**Q/C – will The Court still be run as one school if across two sites?**

RP – looking at one school across two sites (split site arrangement). There is a range of expertise within the existing school and building on this.

JB – there would be one headteacher with senior managers on each site supporting values and vision.

JH – more places are needed; however, children benefit from smaller nurturing environments. Split sites allow for shorter travelling times. Both proposed sites are adjacent to mainstream schools which will provide opportunities for staff and pupils at both schools.

JB – will allow for development of relationship with communities.

**Q/C – will the Wellbeing Class at Fairwater Primary School remain?**

JH – yes, the Wellbeing Class will remain. Provision is kept under review but locating The Court at Fairwater will provide benefits e.g., shared training.

MDF outlined the ways in which response to the consultation can be made, via e-mail, hard copy response or online survey on the Council website

There were no further questions, RP thanked all those who attended, and the meeting closed.



**Present:** Richard Portas (SOP)), Michele Duddridge-Friedl (SOP), Brett Andrewartha (SOP), Jenny Hughes (ALN), Shirley Karseras, Rosalie Phillips (SOP), Members of the public

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There was a presentation from BA which set out the following:

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- Proposals for The Court School
- Fairwater Primary School site
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- Condition Categories
- Suitability
- Quality and Standards
- Transport Matters Fairwater Primary
- Transport Matters St Mellons CiW Primary
- Transport Matters Moorland Primary
- Benefits of the proposals
- Potential disadvantages and risks
- Alternative options discounted
- Finance
- What happens next?

### **Questions and response**

RP invited questions/comments from those attending

#### **Q/C – How will this affect the Pen y Bryn Primary School site?**

BA – there had been discussion with Pen y Bryn Primary School who were supportive of the need to increase the supply of EHW places. St Mellon's CiW Primary School were moving to a new site and the current site would return to the Council. There would need to be a marginal adjustment of the boundary between the two sites with



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improvements made to the outdoor area at Pen y Bryn. There could be an impact from additional traffic however initial work showed that there was likely to be reduced traffic overall.

There were no further questions, RP thanked all those who attended, and the meeting closed.



**Present:** Richard Portas (SOP)), Michele Duddridge-Friedl (SOP), Brett Andrewartha (SOP), Jenny Hughes (ALN), Rosalie Phillips (SOP), Members of the public

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### **Welcome and Introductions**

Richard Portas (RP) opened the meeting, welcomed attendees and outlined details of the proposed changes.

There was a presentation from BA which set out the following:

- What is being proposed?
- Background
- Sufficiency of places
- Distribution of places
- Current provision 11 -19
- Demand for CLN/ASC places 11 - 19
- Current provision 3 – 11
- Demand for CLN/ASC places 3 - 11
- Condition Categories
- Suitability
- Quality and Standards
- Transport Matters
- Benefits of the proposals
- Potential disadvantages
- Alternative options discounted
- Finance
- Human Resources
- What happens next?

### **Questions and response**

RP invited questions/comments from those attending

**Q/C – what are the plans to enable the number of places at Whitchurch High School, Llanishen High School and Bishop of Llandaff to expand.**

RP – the numbers are already at capacity and looking to consolidate; not anticipating any additional capital spend but there may be some staffing changes.

**Q/C – Llanishen High School is using demountable accommodation and accessing space at the rugby club.**



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RP – yes, that is the case. Providing temporary accommodation with permanent build ready for September; staffing and finance in place.

**Q/C – are the presentation slides available to view publicly; parent home schooling at present and interested in capacity for this year and next.**

MDF – all of the information can be found in the consultation document on the Council website.

RP – contact details are listed on the website and please get back to us with any questions.

MDF – drop-in sessions (on-line/telephone) available if that would be helpful.

**Q/C – where do high functioning children with Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) fit into proposals?**

RP – looking at additional capacity city wide in order to meet a range of needs; mix of SRB, special schools and mainstream provision.

JH – lots of pupils who need additional support but do not require a specialist setting and looking to improve support on an ongoing basis.

**Q/C - people count not just buildings and need to ensure human resources are available and that those who need support in mainstream have their needs met.**

**Q/C - parent of a child with additional learning needs who will be going up to high school in September; disappointing experience and do not feel that there is anywhere for them to go. Currently in mainstream primary and will require a high level of support with literacy and numeracy. Have looked at all options including Welsh immersion in order to attend Ysgol Glantaf. Specialist Resource Bases (SRB's) are offered on the basis of diagnosis and the only one suitable would be Whitchurch with no option for access to mainstream provision. The preference would be for Bishop of Llandaff but because child does not have an ASC diagnosis this is not suitable. There is no general provision available in the west of the city. There are benefits for children in being able to walk to school and do not want to put child in a taxi each day; want them to be able to access provision suitable to their needs in the local area.**

**There is an SRB in Catonian for ASC also. Welsh-medium immersion at this stage would be a challenge however more provision like the provision at Ysgol Glantaf is needed. Concerned that this is a done deal and going through the process when more options are needed.**

RP – formalising some arrangements and also proposing new provision. Looking to increase scale of provision; recognise that balance is not yet there and working to bring further proposals forward.

JH offered to meet to discuss individual circumstances if this would be helpful.

**Q/C – feelings are shared regarding SRB's. Welsh language pupils are in a better position and disappointing that there is differentiation. There is a need to recognise that there is a range of additional learning needs to be addressed.**



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JH – recognise concerns. SRB at Ysgol Glantaf for Complex Learning Needs and expect the same practice at other mainstream schools. It would be helpful to understand individual concerns and circumstances.

**Q/C – there will be parents who will not be in a position to have their voice heard. A wide range of views is needed and consideration also has to be given to the green agenda and health and wellbeing.**

RP – steps in the right direction and looking to build on this. Appreciate points being made and looking to engage as widely as possible; would normally be holding in person sessions in local areas; able to offer on-line drop-in sessions and very much want feedback from as wide a range of stakeholders as possible.

**Q/C – Llanishen High School model runs along the same lines as Ysgol Glantaf, but this is dependent on staff numbers.**

RP – staffing is considered as part of funding model. Recognise need to follow up and consider how things are running.

**Q/C – two children who went through Llanishen High School with both moving from mainstream to the SRB. The Learning Support Department acts as an SRB and works well within school. Provision for children at school level and these discussions are needed with other schools also.**

**Q/C – concerned that proposals are formalising existing provision e.g., Llanishen has 44 pupils at present and going up to 45, with the same position at Bishop of Llandaff. There will continue to be a provision gap. Cardiff Additional Learning Needs Department has a problematic image amongst parents and better communication would help.**

JH – lots of changes are being made in the way things work. Parent Reference Groups are being developed and recognise the need to look at further changes that could be made to improve things. Acknowledge that some of the growth in provision is retrospective but this is a starting point and will keep looking at this. Consideration also being given to how to support pupils more widely; where are the gaps in provision and what is the best way of addressing this.

RP – looking to address Complex Learning Needs provision though Band B with significant investment with a focus on current and future provision.

**Q/C – SRB provision on the west of the city and the range of needs, has to be considered. Provision for additional learning needs can lead to segregation throughout life; children need opportunities to develop social and communication skills; need to be truly inclusive and integrate pupils allowing them to be the best they can be.**

JH – SRB and special school provision is for children with very complex needs for whom mainstream is not suitable. The provision for children in mainstream seems to be the issue.

**Q/C – the Ysgol Glantaf approach seems inclusive and is appealing as a parent.**

**Q/C - details should be shared with all schools and learners.**



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MDF provided details of how responses to the consultations could be made (e-mail, online survey, letters), with all responses welcome. Notes of the meeting were also being made. Pupils being consulted at all of the schools included in the proposals; lings provided to all schools and will check that these have been shared.

**Q/C – run SRB at Ysgol Glantaf; the school has an official SRB for Complex Learning Needs and has also set up a wellbeing class similar to provision at other schools; the Welsh sector is also learning from the English sector.**

There were no further questions, RP thanked all those who attended, and the meeting closed.