

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

**EMOTIONAL HEALTH AND WELL BEING PROVISION FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY AGED PUPILS**

**Appendix 4: Notes from Pupil Engagement Meetings**



**Schools Programme  
Record of Virtual Meeting  
The Court School Pupil Engagement  
16 November 2021**



**Present:** Rosalie Phillips (SOP), Ceri Tanti (SOP), Rachel Burgess Willis (SOP), Sarah Pritchard (SOP), The Court School pupils

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

### **Welcome and Introductions**

SOP officers visited The Court Special School to talk with pupils regarding the consultation in relation to providing additional places for ALN. The class met with had a mix of Year 4, 5 and 6 pupils.

Officers explained the proposals as they relate to The Court, saying that it is proposed to have the school on two sites, to allow for more children to be able to attend the school, where the schools were proposed to be and explained to the class that the buildings will take some time to build.

Officers asked for their views on what is good at The Court, any concerns they may have and what they'd like to see at a new school.

The pupils had a number of suggestions and comments to make:

#### **Good things about The Court to continue at the new school:**

Staff award tokens to pupils for good work, which the children can spend on things like fidget toys. The pupils were concerned that this might change if the school was across two sites.

#### **Concerns pupils would have:**

A concern was raised regarding whether the children would have the same classmates or have to be in a class with children they don't know when the new building opens?

How would the school be split when the new schools open? Will changes be made to existing classes so that children go to the closest school to their home?

#### **What pupils would like to see at a new school:**

- A bigger area to play football, with bigger goals and high fences to keep the football in. The current space used isn't flat, which means the ball rolls away.
- Some of the outside space at The Court floods when there is rain, the pupils would like to be able to use the space outside.
- Shelters outside for rainy weather.
- A vegetable garden and chickens.
- More opportunities to have animals.
- A heated swimming pool.
- A large trampoline and bouncy castle.
- Climbing frames suitable for older children, up to Year 6.
- More space outside, as currently have to travel off site for football.
- Bigger classrooms, with windows that can be opened.



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- More comfortable chairs.
- Chairs and tables that are light and easy to move when doing activities.
- More chill out rooms for when pupils need a space away from the classroom – currently there is only one and lots of children need to use it.
- A space to do arts and crafts – currently a tarpaulin has to be put down to protect the flooring in the classroom.
- A music room – if the headteacher is having a meeting the children can't play the piano at the same time as the school doesn't have a separate space.
- A room where the children can do cooking, as currently use a small kitchen.
- A bigger library, with more books.
- A bigger hall, as the one at The Court is small and doesn't have PE equipment.
- Pupils would like to learn other languages.
- Pupils would like the School Council to have a say in the new school.
- The pupils thought it was good that travel times might be less to get to and from school.
- Currently the children eat lunch in their classroom, and some of them would like the option of being able to eat in a cafeteria.
- Need more security camera and gates to keep pupils in and safe.
- More ICT lessons.

**Feedback from Class Teacher**

The teacher said that Wi-Fi in The Court isn't reliable, and this is needed if a child isn't able to stay in class and has to join lessons remotely from another part of the building.

Officers thanked the children for listening so well and giving their input. Officers then explained what happens next, saying that all the comments from the consultation will be put together in a report to be considered by the Council's Cabinet.

If the proposal goes ahead, we will write to everybody who replied to the consultation to let them know that the proposal is moving on to the next stage.

There were no further questions, officers thanked the pupils and the meeting closed.



**Schools Programme  
Record of Virtual Meeting  
Fairwater Primary School Pupil Engagement  
Additional Learning Needs – The Court School  
22 November 2021**



**Present:** Rosalie Phillips (SOP), Hibah Iqbal (SOP), Ceri Tanti (SOP), Rachel Burgess Willis (SOP), Fairwater Primary Student Council

*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**

SOP officers met with the Student Council of Fairwater Primary School to talk with pupils regarding the consultation in relation to providing additional places for ALN.

A presentation was given, and officers explained the proposal for a new build school to accommodate The Court Special School on two sites, allowing more children to be able to have a school place at The Court. It is proposed that one of these new school buildings is built on the field of Fairwater Primary School.

The children had the following questions and comments:

#### **Will we lose any of the playground?**

The playground will stay the same. The new building would go on the field, where there is lots of space.

#### **Would we be able to play with the children from the other school?**

This would depend on what the schools agree between themselves.

#### **Would the schools have the same entrance?**

Current plans are that children attending the new Court school arrive down the same lane but would leave from a different entrance, but this has not been decided yet. Council Officers will be working with Fairwater Primary School to decide best place for entrance/exit if the project goes ahead.

**The children were all happy with the idea of another school on their site.**

#### **What age are the children?**

Primary school age.

#### **Will the other school be separate?**

Yes, they have their own building and their own teachers.

#### **How far would the school be from Fairwater Primary School?**

Not sure exactly how far, or exactly where it will go on site, but it's planned to go on the field.

**The children all agreed that the field is big enough to share with another school.**



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**The children had some discussion regarding where on the field another building could best go and suggested the entrance to the site could be by the community centre.**

Officers thanked the children for listening so well and giving their input. Officers then explained what happens next, saying that all the comments from the consultation will be put together in a report to be considered by the Council's Cabinet.

If the proposal goes ahead we will write to everybody who replied to the consultation to let them know that the proposal is moving on to the next stage.

There were no further questions, officers thanked the pupils and the meeting closed.



**Schools Programme**  
**Record of Year 8 Pupil Engagement Meeting**  
**Greenhill School**  
**19 January 2022**



**Present:** Headteacher & Staff (Greenhill School), Year 8 Greenhill School pupil representatives, Rosalie Phillips (SOP), Rachel Burgess Willis (SOP)

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

SOP officers met with a group of Year 8 Greenhill School pupil representatives regarding the proposed changes to school:

- Increase Greenhill School from 64 to 160 places
- Transfer Greenhill School to new build accommodation across 2 sites at the Dutch Garden Centre site and Ty Glas Road (Llanishen)

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Rachel Burgess Willis (RBW) opened the meeting and welcomed pupils. The Headteacher outlined details of the proposed changes to the pupils. RBW & RP advised pupils that we were seeking their views on behalf of Cardiff Council as part of the public consultation.

### **Discussion Points**

The pupils were aware of the proposed changes and the following points were raised:

- Some of the boys said that they did not welcome the proposal to offer places at Greenhill School to girls in future
- Of the 8 pupils that contributed, 6 said that they didn't mind, and 2 said that they didn't want to mix with girls.
- They all liked the idea of a new building
- They enjoy playing Four Squares (ball games played in the hall)
- All pupils enjoy Cooking
- Many enjoy working out at the Gym and using the Punchbags
- They did not like the proposed Dutch Garden Centre site due to it being next to a motorway; they had safety concerns if pupils run away into oncoming traffic and noise concerns for those with sensory issues.

The pupils were asked to think of things that they would like at a new school. The pupils and the Headteacher listed the following:

- An outdoor climbing area – Trees with rope slides, zip wires, climbing frames & treehouse
- Dog grooming facilities/Animal Care (with opportunities to gain a vocational qualification)
- Football pitches
- Bigger hall
- Gym areas on both sites



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- Boxing facilities
- Trampolines indoor and outdoor
- Swimming Pool
- Emergency dorms to sleep in for any pupils experiencing homelessness
- Music Production Studio
- School radio rooms
- Better toilets/washrooms
- Sinks in all the classrooms
- A chef on both sites
- BMX/scooter/skate park with ramps
- Basketball Court
- A sensory pool (like the one at Bryn Y Deri School, VOG)
- A sensory/chill out room(quiet space)
- Cinema room
- Horse riding facilities
- Good Wi-Fi connection in all rooms
- Laser tag rooms
- Paintballing in the forest
- Play stations /X Boxes/ Gaming consoles
- MUGA's
- Parkour
- Hair Salon to learn hair styling/cutting skills
- Building/Construction area to learn a trade
- Café to practice making things
- Mechanics workshop
- Covered area outside
- Art Room
- Chickens and Cows
- Aquarium/ Fish Tanks
- School Minibuses
- Science labs for experiments

**Concerns/worries:**

- Will there be new teachers?
- Worried there might be too many pupils
- Want large classrooms, don't want to feel claustrophobic
- Will there be separate classes for boys and girls?

The pupils would like to be involved in the development of any plans taken forward. RBW & RP set out what would happen next, thanked the pupils for their input and the session ended.



**Schools Programme**  
**Record of Year 10 Pupil Engagement Meeting**  
**Greenhill School**  
**20 January 2022**



**Present:** Headteacher & Staff (Greenhill School), Year 10 Greenhill School pupil representatives, Rosalie Phillips (SOP), Rachel Burgess Willis (SOP), Sarah Pritchard (SOP)

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

SOP officers met with a group of Year 10 Greenhill School pupil representatives regarding the proposed changes to school:

- Increase Greenhill School from 64 to 160 places
- Transfer Greenhill School to new build accommodation across 2 sites at the Dutch Garden Centre site and Ty Glas Road (Llanishen)

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Rachel Burgess Willis (RBW) opened the meeting and welcomed pupils. The Headteacher outlined details of the proposed changes to the pupils. RBW & RP advised pupils that we were seeking their views on behalf of Cardiff Council as part of the public consultation.

### **Discussion Points**

The pupils were aware of the proposed changes and the following points were raised:

- Some of the boys said that they hadn't been to school with girls before and were unsure about how this would work but thought that it would help with inclusion for all genders e.g., non-binary.
- All of the pupils liked the idea of a new building
- They enjoy playing Four Squares (ball games played in the hall)
- All pupils enjoy Cooking
- Many enjoy working out at the Gym and using the Punchbags
- They did not like the proposed Dutch Garden Centre site due to it being next to a motorway; they had safety concerns if pupils run away into oncoming traffic and noise concerns for those with sensory issues.
- They thought that nurture provision should be on a 1:1 basis
- The pupils wanted post-16 options at the school

The pupils were asked to think of things that they would like at a new school. The pupils and school listed the following:

- Hair salon facilities with 2 chairs/2 sinks
- Self care facilities
- Nurture provision with easy access to toilet facilities
- 4G pitch for football – full size with half size markings
- Full size basketball court with school logo



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Record of Year 10 Pupil Engagement Meeting  
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20 January 2022**



- Three walled court for squash
- Four Square space in the school hall
- Classrooms with different seating areas/kitchen and washing up area. This would allow for breakfast/morning nurture (shared areas won't work for those with anxiety)
- Quiet areas
- Gym including boxing facilities and free weights
- Changing facilities / shower facilities
- Area to develop IT skills e.g., VR
- Music room including instruments and IT equipment
- Cooking facilities – a large kitchen area and a number of small cooking areas
- Temperature controlled rooms
- Vending machines for drinks in the sports area
- A home for the horses
- Construction/mechanical spaces
- Garden/vegetable area
- Dog grooming area/animal care
- Outside space including a wooded area and nature walk
- Rope swings/zipline/treehouse
- Skateboard/scooter/parkour area
- Social area outside with a firepit / outside cooking area
- Medical/Welfare/Wellbeing/prayer room
- School respite area where pupils could stay over if needed
- Mobile classroom for Coed – van with awning/motorhome
- Covered outdoor area
- Door to the outside for each classroom with outside breakout areas
- Family/visiting professional's room
- Area for learning life skills/grown up learning

The pupils would like to be involved in the development of any plans taken forward. RBW & RP set out what would happen next, thanked the pupils for their input and the session ended.



**Present:** Rosalie Phillips (SOP), Ceri Tanti (SOP), Greenhill School Y12/13 pupils

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

SOP officers met with a group of Year 12 and Year 13 Greenhill School pupil representatives regarding the proposed changes to school:

- Increase Greenhill School from 64 to 160 places
- Transfer Greenhill School to new build accommodation across 2 sites at the Dutch Garden Centre site and Ty Glas Road (Llanishen)

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Officers explained the requirement for additional ALN spaces across the city. The proposals being discussed for Greenhill School were to establish two 80-place settings in new build accommodation. One on part of a site the Council owns at Ty Glas Road in Llanishen, and the other on the site of the Dutch Garden Centre, Maes y Bryn Road. Seeking their views on behalf of Cardiff Council as part of the public consultation.

### **Discussion Points**

The learners said that they were sorry to hear that it was proposed that the school move from the current site as they wouldn't like to see the school change. The learners agreed that they had all made progress due to attending Greenhill School and wouldn't have made the same progress elsewhere. They also felt that it was a benefit that the school now offered a sixth form.

The pupils agreed that Greenhill has a lot of good facilities, such as a gym, basketball hall, Four Square, football facilities etc which they would like to see at any new site.

The learners said that the outside space at Greenhill is very important, both for learners to have space to themselves when they need it, but also the space allows for games.

There is a garden which the learners said would be needed at a new school, plus a shed for tools etc.

Greenhill School has 'safe' areas in the classrooms in the main school where pupils can withdraw to calm down if they need to, either by themselves or with the school dogs. The learners felt these would be needed in any new school, as the spaces are particularly important for the younger pupils.

Currently Greenhill School has a separate area for the sixth form in the former caretaker's house where the sixth form have the opportunity to learn useful life skills. The learners all agreed that it was important to have a separate space for the sixth form away from the younger pupils to give the sixth form time away from them, and to



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allow the sixth form pupils an opportunity to do activities that may not be suitable for the younger pupils whose behaviours can be less controlled.

Some former learners come back and visit the school and one former pupil now works at the school as a teaching assistant. The students said they would still come back to visit the staff if they moved to a new site, but it wouldn't be the same as a new site wouldn't have the same memories or connection with them.

The learners said they would like the current staff all in one school and new staff in the other location. The learners supported the idea of increasing the number of spaces available, with one learner adding that he'd struggled to get a space and had to wait for a space to become available in Greenhill.

There was concern expressed about the school providing spaces for girls. Currently all the Greenhill School pupils are boys, many of whom have not been in school with girls. Some of the pupils attended primary schools with girls, but they felt it was different as the pupils become older, as there is the possibility of relationships between the pupils which could cause difficulties.

The Llanishen site was discussed. The learners didn't mind the location in terms of travel - currently the sixth formers travel to Greenhill independently, to help ready them for moving on to college or work and to build confidence. The current location allows them to travel either by bus or other active means (walk, cycle etc) and it was considered that travel to the site would be much the same in terms of needing to take two buses or bus and walk.

There is a possibility that the other part of the site be used in the future for a secondary school. The learners didn't consider the idea of having a Greenhill site close to another school to be a good idea, saying that Greenhill doesn't mix well with other schools, and there could be fighting and disruption.

The learners liked the idea of having a more rural site for a Greenhill replacement, especially if there would be a lot of outside space, however they felt that the proposed Dutch Garden Centre site was not suitable given its proximity to the motorway. The pupils agreed that there was a high risk of pupils accessing the motorway or trying to throw stones onto the cars. The learners also agreed that there being no safe walking route was an issue due to the site being close to the motorway.

The group agreed that it was likely that learners would try to cross the motorway if they left the site, with younger pupils not seeing the danger of trying to cross the road, and that even the older pupils, who ordinarily would have a better understanding of risks, may decide to try to walk across, particularly if they were angry or upset, and there is a chance they could get hit by a car.

There were no further questions, officers explained what will happen next, thanked the pupils for their time and comments and the session ended.



**Schools Programme**  
**Record of Year 9 Pupil Engagement Meeting**  
**Greenhill School**  
**27 January 2022**



**Present:** Rosalie Phillips (SOP), Year 9 Greenhill pupil representatives, Staff (Greenhill School)

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

SOP officers met with a group of Year 8 Greenhill School pupil representatives regarding the proposed changes to school:

- Increase Greenhill School from 64 to 160 places
- Transfer Greenhill School to new build accommodation across 2 sites at the Dutch Garden Centre site and Ty Glas Road (Llanishen)

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Rosalie Phillips (RP) opened the meeting and welcomed pupils. RP explained the requirement for additional ALN spaces across the city. The proposals being discussed for Greenhill School are to establish two 80-place settings in new build accommodation. One on part of a site the Council owns at Ty Glas Road in Llanishen, and the other on the site of the Dutch Garden Centre, Maes y Bryn Road.

### **Discussion Points**

The pupils thought it would be good idea to expand the school to allow for more pupils to attend and benefit from the support the school provides.

They had mixed feeling about having girls at the school. Currently all the Greenhill School pupils are boys, many of whom have not been in school with girls. Some of the pupils attended primary schools with girls, but they felt it was different as the pupils become older, as there is the possibility of relationships between the pupils which could cause difficulties.

They were in favour of new school provision in Llanishen but did not support the use of The Dutch Garden site. They thought that the location of the site close to the motorway was too noisy and that some of the pupils were likely to run onto the motorway if they were angry or upset.

The outdoor space available on the current site was very important to them and they suggested that the site in Llanishen be developed alongside the existing school site.

Access to cookery spaces was also important.

The pupils agreed that Greenhill has a lot of good facilities, such as a gym, basketball hall, Four Square, football facilities etc which they would like to see at any new site.

They would like to see the following facilities at any new school:



**Schools Programme  
Record of Year 9 Pupil Engagement Meeting  
Greenhill School  
27 January 2022**



- Bigger hall
- 3G football pitch
- Better gym
- Cookery room
- Better IT
- Quiet spaces available to withdraw to when necessary
- Kitchen area and sink in each classroom
- Upgraded toilets (these should be single sex only)
- Good sports facilities
- Conference room for when parents/support workers visit
- Outside gym
- Outside space

There were no further questions. RP explained what would happen next, thanked the pupils for their time and comments and the session ended.



**Present:** Rosalie Phillips (SOP), Ceri Tanti (SOP), Cardiff West Community High School pupil representatives

*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**

Officers welcomed pupils and set out details of the proposed changes. There was a requirement for additional ALN spaces across the city. The proposals being discussed for Cardiff West Community High School are to establish a 20-place specialist resource base within existing accommodation. Other options for additional places have been put forward across the city.

The pupils were asked whether they had any queries, concerns or questions.

### **Questions and answers**

#### **Q - when would this decision be finalised?**

A – consultation report to be considered by Council Cabinet in March 2022; if proceeding to statutory notice this would be in May 2022, with a final decision between June and September 2022.

#### **Q - Would the SRB be open for the whole school day?**

A - Yes, would run all day. Main difference would be that currently the children that attend live locally, whereas children from outside the area may attend in future

**Comment - Good idea for children who need more help, worry about increased traffic. Think it's a good idea as know some pupils who are struggling and need extra help. When the students come in, feel that the times should be scheduled so it doesn't affect CWCHS students.**

**Suggestion that start/finish times staggered to prevent there being more traffic arriving or leaving site at the same time.**

**Learners confirmed that they understood what emotional health and wellbeing meant.**

**The learners said that the building and facilities at Cardiff West are good, and that the features will be put to good use by this sort of base.**

#### **Q - Will this provision be open to children already attending Cardiff West?**

A - Children who get a place at the SRB would be assessed as needing to attend an SRB and those children may currently be attending Cardiff West or may be attending another school. An additional benefit to the school would be that the proposal would



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Record of Virtual Pupil Engagement  
Cardiff West Community High School  
21 January 2022**



allow for recruitment of staff with specialist skills, meaning that there would be an opportunity for those staff to share their skills with other CWCHS staff.

There were no further questions.

RP thanked the learners and teacher for their time, comments and attention, and said that if any of them thought of any questions after the end of the meeting or would like further information, please let the teacher know and they would be able to contact SOP with these queries.

The meeting came to a close.