



21st Century Schools Programme

Regional Welsh-medium Education

“Formal Consultation to establish a new Welsh-medium secondary school in Newport”

1st March 2016 - 12th April 2016



This document can be made available in Braille. Information can also be made available in other community languages if needed. Please contact us on 01633 656656 to arrange.



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Introduction

The purpose of this consultation exercise is to seek views on the following proposal:

“To establish a seedling Welsh-medium secondary school, sharing the site of Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Teyrnnon on a temporary basis from September 2016 and subsequent transfer to the original site on Duffryn Way, Newport as soon as possible, or to a permanent location yet to be determined, at the earliest available opportunity.”

It is your chance to ask questions and make comments that will be considered when the Council decides how to proceed.

The formal consultation period:

- **commences on Tuesday 1st March 2016 and**
- **ends at midnight on Tuesday 12th April 2016.**

Welsh-medium secondary school provision is currently available across the South East Wales consortium area at Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw in Torfaen and Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymini in Caerphilly. However pupil forecasts show that from September 2016 there will be insufficient places to accommodate Welsh-medium secondary learners across the region.

In July 2015, the Council took the decision to establish a new Welsh-medium secondary school on Duffryn Way to open in September 2016. The build programme included enabling and remodelling works for Duffryn High School and the new Welsh-medium secondary school. The application for planning permission on this site was recently refused however, and therefore the school now needs to be established at another location in order to accommodate the pupils who have already applied for admission to the school.

The school already has a temporary Governing Body, which in turn has appointed a Headteacher elect. The Chief Education Officer has agreed the proposed name put forward by the temporary Governing Body, and the school is therefore to be known as Ysgol Gyfun Gwent Is Coed.

The temporary location of the Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Teyrnnon site will be used for up to two academic years, after which time the school will transfer to the Duffryn Way site if planning permission can be gained following re-submission of the application. If planning permission is not gained, there will be a further consultation on a permanent location at another site.

The school will operate with an admission number of 90 in the first academic year. The proposed catchment area for this school will be the south-Gwent area, encompassing the city of Newport along with the geographical catchment area of Ysgol Y Ffin in Monmouthshire.

What will the consultation process entail?

The consultation process represents an opportunity for people to learn about the proposal, ask questions and make comments that will be recorded and considered when the Council decides on the way forward. You may also provide your views in writing. The consultation will involve a series of drop-in sessions with those most directly affected by the proposal, where Council officers will be on hand to explain the proposals in more detail and answer any questions.

Who will we consult with?

- Parents, guardians and carers of all pupils at the four Welsh-medium primary schools directly affected by the proposal (3 Newport primaries and 1 Monmouthshire primary);
- Parents, guardians and carers of all pupils who are currently attending Maes Ebbw – Brynglas ASD, on the Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Teyrnnon site;
- Headteachers, staff and governors at the above mentioned five schools directly affected by this proposal;
- Pupils / School Councils of the above mentioned five schools directly affected by the proposal;
- Headteachers, staff and governors at Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw and Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymini;
- Headteachers of all schools in Newport and Monmouthshire;
- All Newport and Monmouthshire elected members;
- All Newport and Monmouthshire community councils;
- Welsh Ministers;
- Welsh Government – Schools Management, Post-16 and Welsh Language divisions;
- All Newport and Monmouthshire Welsh Government members, including regional Assembly Members;
- Newport City Council and Monmouthshire County Council Scrutiny Committees;

- All Members of Parliament representing Newport and Monmouthshire;
- Chief Education Officers of all bordering and consortium LAs – Monmouthshire, Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Torfaen, Cardiff;
- Roman Catholic and Church in Wales Diocesan Directors of Education;
- ESTYN;
- South East Wales Education Achievement Service;
- Principals of Coleg Gwent and Coleg Y Cymoedd;
- The University of South Wales
- Newport Governors Association;
- Newport City Council and Monmouthshire County Council Youth Forums;
- Careers Wales;
- Teaching Associations;
- Support Staff Associations;
- Heads of Service within Newport City Council and Monmouthshire County Council;
- Policy Officers for Equalities and Welsh Language within Newport City Council and Monmouthshire County Council;
- Welsh Language Commissioner;
- Regional Welsh Education Forum;
- Local Welsh Education Forum members of both Newport and Monmouthshire;
- Urdd Gobaith Cymru;
- Mudiad Meithrin;
- RHAG;
- Transport departments of Monmouthshire, Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Torfaen, Cardiff;
- Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner;
- Aneurin Bevan Health Board
- All Newport City Council and Monmouthshire County Council Libraries;
- Families First;
- Communities First Development Officer;
- GAVO.

How do you make your views known?

In order to give you the best opportunity to take part in the consultation the following drop-in sessions have been arranged to provide further information and take comments on the proposal.

Location	Date & Time	Session
Civic Centre, Newport, NP20 4UR	7 th March 2016; 3.00pm – 5.00pm	Drop-in event
Civic Centre, Newport, NP20 4UR	11 th March 2016; 10.00am – 12 noon	Drop-in event

A response pro-forma is attached and will also be available at the drop-in sessions. These responses should be returned to Education Service Development Manager, Newport City Council, Room 425W, Civic Centre, Newport NP20 4UR. Alternatively comments can be forwarded by email to school.reorg@newport.gov.uk or via our on-line consultation which can be found at www.newport.gov.uk/wm2

Social media facilities such as Twitter and Facebook will also be available. Please note that responses made to this consultation will not be counted as objections to the proposal, they will be counted as adverse comments. Objections to a proposal can only be registered following the publication of a statutory notice.

The deadline for all responses is midnight on Tuesday 12th April 2016.

Following consultation, Newport City Council’s Cabinet Member for Education & Young People will consider the views expressed and then decide whether to proceed with the proposal. If the decision is taken to proceed, a statutory notice will be published in the local press in both Newport and Monmouthshire, on the Newport City Council website and Monmouthshire County Council website and displayed at those schools directly affected by the proposal. The regional partners of Torfaen, Caerphilly and Blaenau Gwent authorities will also be invited to publish this statutory notice on their respective web sites. The statutory notice period will last for 1 month from the date of publication and enables people to express their views in the form of supporting or objecting to the proposals.

If no objections are received following the publication of the statutory notice, Newport City Council’s Cabinet Member for Education & Young People will make the final decision as to whether to proceed.

Proposed Timescales

Formal Consultation Process	1 st March 2016 – 12 th April 2016
Consideration of the feedback from the Formal Consultation Process by Cabinet Member for Education & Young People, Newport City Council	w/e 15 th April 2016
Publication of the Statutory Notice	18 th April 2016 – 15 th May 2016
Final Decision by Newport City Council	By 27 th May 2016

What do you have to consider?

The remainder of the consultation document sets out the rationale for the proposed new Welsh-medium secondary school. We would like you to consider the information contained within the document and to hear your views as to whether or not you support the proposal.

The Way Forward and the Reasons Why

This project is being funded via the 21st Century Schools Programme as a joint enterprise through Welsh Government, Newport City Council and Monmouthshire County Council. The establishment of a new Welsh-medium secondary school in Newport from September 2016 will deliver against the 21st Century School Programme investment priorities and:

- Achieve greater economy and efficiency through appropriate sized schools, collaboration and better use of resources to improve the cost effectiveness of the education system, and in

doing so will ensure that the South East Wales Consortium has Welsh-medium secondary schools of the right type and right size in the right place to support regional demand;

- Develop a sustainable education system progressing towards a position where schools meet national building standards and by reducing the recurrent costs and carbon footprint;
- Create safe learning environments for school and communities that will enable the successful implementation of strategies for school improvement and better educational outcomes and life chances for children and young people that are aligned to the Council's key strategies;
- Achieve inspirational settings appropriate for new educational developments, new technologies, adaptable to cater for the changing needs of the future;
- Secure places for Welsh-medium learners across the region through security of admission, and;
- Achieve inclusive settings, providing for the individual learning needs for all pupils, providing pleasant and appropriate spaces for all school users, and spaces in which pupils including those with additional learning needs and disabilities feel that their needs are respected.

Background – Welsh in Education Strategic Plan

Newport City Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan has been developed in conjunction with Blaenau Gwent, Caerphilly, Monmouthshire and Torfaen Local Authorities (LAs) and the South East Wales Education Achievement Service (EAS). The five LAs and the EAS work together in partnership to plan and deliver Welsh-medium education across the region and the plan details how the Council and its consortia colleagues will aim to achieve the Welsh Government's outcomes and targets as outlined in the national Welsh Medium Education Strategy at a local and regional level.

The vision and aim is that the South East Wales consortia will lead the development of Welsh standards in education to equip a bilingual Wales with a skilled bilingual workforce supporting the Welsh Government's vision for Welsh in Education. The region will work together to equip schools and education providers across age ranges and linguistic sectors, with the capacity and sustainability to increase standards in Welsh and promote the use of the Welsh language within families, communities and workplaces. The Council will also aim to stimulate and provide local accessible and sustainable community-focussed provision to meet the growing demand for Welsh-medium education.

As part of the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan, Newport City Council is committed to working with colleagues across the South East Wales LAs to ensure sufficient Welsh-medium secondary provision by September 2016 when Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw is expected to reach its full capacity.

Current Situation

Welsh-medium secondary school provision is currently available across the South East Wales Consortium area at Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw in Torfaen and Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni in Caerphilly. However pupil forecasts show that from September 2016 there will be insufficient places to accommodate Welsh-medium secondary learners across the region.

Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw

Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw is an 11-18 Welsh-medium community secondary school. The school is the regional provider for parents / carers residing in the greater Gwent area who are seeking Welsh-medium secondary education for their children. This area covers the Local Authorities of Blaenau Gwent, Monmouthshire, Newport and Torfaen. The school is situated in Trevethin in Pontypool in 22 acres of school grounds and has access to on-site leisure facilities at the Bowden Active Learning Centre. There is also a community facility on site at the Life Station.

In 2009, in collaboration with the greater Gwent Local Authorities, Torfaen County Borough Council published a statutory notice to extend the refurbish the school. This proposal resulted in the development of the school to meet current and projected short to medium-term demand for Welsh-medium education in the region.

The project was jointly funded by the four Local Authorities, and with a £3 million contribution from the Welsh Government resulted in a £12.1 million investment at the school. In addition to this, Torfaen County Borough Council was able to secure an additional £900,000 grant for the development of a technology rich plaza style learning facility.

The school has capacity for 1100 students and there are currently 972 pupils on roll (as at September 2015), including a post-16 cohort of 189 students. Current projections suggest that by September 2018 the school will have 1236 pupils on roll, including 180 Post-16 students. These also indicate that capacity is likely to be exceeded by September 2017.

Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni

Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni operated from one site in Fleur-de-Lys near Blackwood until 2013. The site is an 11-19 school with a total capacity of 1448.

Since September 2013, the school has operated over two sites, the second one being Y Gwyndy in Caerphilly town. Phase 1 of the Y Gwyndy development was completed to accommodate pupils in Year 7 and 8 from the Caerphilly town area with a capacity of 200. The 2nd phase was completed in the Autumn of 2015 and now provides places for 900 11-18 year olds.

A replacement primary school for Ysgol Gymraeg Caerffili was completed for September 2015, also on the Y Gwyndy site. The development of the Y Gwyndy site is an integral part of Caerphilly County Borough Council's 21st Century Schools strategy to ensure that sufficient provision is in place to both meet and promote demand for Welsh-medium education.

It is projected that there will be 2353 Welsh-medium pupils in the secondary sector by 2025. This number broadly corresponds with the capacity of Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni over the two sites.

There is therefore a predicted capacity issue, in the medium to long term, for Welsh-medium secondary education provision in the Gwent region.

Welsh-medium secondary school pupil numbers 2011-2015 (inc. 6th form)					
School	No. on Roll 2011	No. on Roll 2012	No. on Roll 2013	No. on Roll 2014	No. on Roll 2015
YG Gwynllyw	977	987	999	989	972
YG Cwm Rhymni	1,369	1,397	1,378	1,439	1,500

Welsh-medium secondary school forecast numbers 2016-2020 (inc. 6th form)					
School	September 2016	September 2017	September 2018	September 2019	September 2020
YG Gwynllyw	1,015	1,120	1,236	1,369	1,469
YG Cwm Rhymni	1,573	1,712	1,852	1,988	2,086

Regional Solution

The four LAs of Blaenau Gwent, Monmouthshire, Newport and Torfaen have all included a commitment within their 21st Century Schools Strategic Outline Programme (SOP) to work together to secure additional and sufficient Welsh-medium secondary provision within the region in the medium to longer term. In July 2014, Newport City Council received approval for an extension to the 21st Century Schools Strategic Outline Programme of approximately £12 million, specifically targeted at delivering Welsh-medium secondary education for the region, serving the city of Newport and south Monmouthshire. A summary of the regional Welsh-medium education investment objectives are as follows:

- To achieve greater economy and efficiency;
- To develop a sustainable education system;
- To create safe learning environments;
- To achieve inspirational settings;
- To secure places for Welsh-medium learners across the region;
- To achieve inclusive settings.

Future Demand on Provision

The development of regional Welsh-medium secondary education provision in Newport will deliver up to 900 school places in future years. It will consolidate and expand provision within the region and allow sustainable education provision at both Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw and Ysgol Cwm Rhymni to continue, and meet the demand that exists across the region.

Pupils will benefit from a local provision with reduced travelling times, therefore allowing energy to be focussed on learning. Community cohesion will quickly be established on a site that allows for integration between two schools. The expansion of Welsh-medium provision will also cater for linguistic continuity across the region.

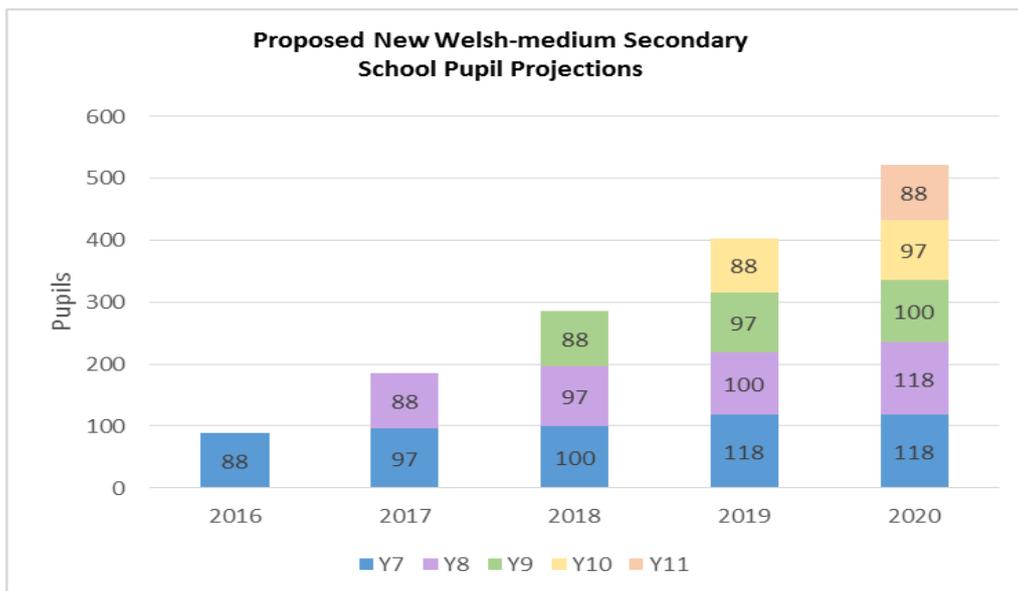
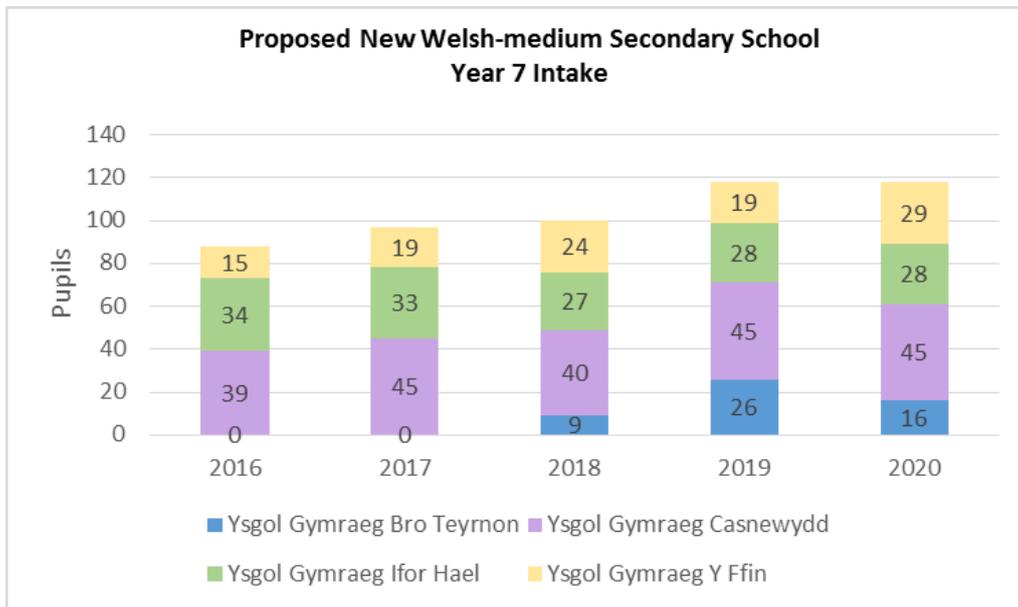
The proposal to develop a new regional Welsh-medium secondary school will not de-stabilise Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw or Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni, neither is it intended to have a detrimental impact on local English-medium schools. It will underpin the delivery of the regional approach to Welsh-medium provision as a whole.

The proposed new school is projected to open with an indicative Year 7 intake of circa 88 pupils from the four Welsh-medium primary schools in Newport and south Monmouthshire. This intake is projected to increase to 118 in 2019. The school is expected to grow from the initial intake of 88 pupils in 2016 to a total of 521 pupils in 2020 when the school will include year groups 7-11.

Welsh-medium primary school numbers on roll 2011-2015 (excluding nursery)					
School	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Teyrnnon	-	10	41	52	70
Ysgol Gymraeg Casnewydd	350	343	346	319	299
Ysgol Gymraeg Ifor Hael	92	115	140	167	187
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin	101	109	116	134	137

Welsh-medium nursery class numbers on roll 2011-2015					
School	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Teyrnnon	-	10	20	24	19
Ysgol Gymraeg Casnewydd	41	44	44	37	31
Ysgol Gymraeg Ifor Hael	17	24	23	25	24
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin	24	21	26	21	15

Welsh-medium primary school projected numbers on roll 2016-2020 (excluding nursery)					
School	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Teyrnnon	92	112	135	146	140
Ysgol Gymraeg Casnewydd	297	296	290	289	287
Ysgol Gymraeg Ifor Hael	203	195	189	189	188
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin	137	140	136	136	123



The South East Wales Consortium regional planning group of representative officers from all five authorities continue to meet to plan solutions for future demands on Welsh-medium education provision.

Proposed Location

Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Teyrnion opened as Newport’s third Welsh-medium primary school in September 2011. It was initially established as a growing school and is currently able to take children from nursery age up to Year Four. In September 2016 there will be two vacant classrooms within the main school building.

In addition, the school houses Maes Ebbw – Brynglas ASD, a satellite provision of Maes Ebbw School providing specialist support to 12 primary school age pupils with Autistic Spectrum Disorder. These pupils are taught in an annexe on the school site.

Under this proposal, Welsh-medium primary provision will be retained on the site for up to 210 pupils (plus nursery). The proposal to temporarily provide Welsh-medium secondary education on this site for up to two years will serve up to 90 pupils in the first year and up to a further 120 pupils in the second year. This will be provided through re-modelling of the current site and additional temporary provision.

The two schools will function entirely separately on their own sites. Both schools will have exclusive use of education classroom curriculum facilities, although the school canteen and dining area will be shared, albeit on a timetabled basis.

Current building condition

The Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Teyrnion site was surveyed in 2010 as part of the WG commissioned 21st Century Schools Estate Surveys. The school was deemed to be in condition 'C' grade. Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Teyrnion has since benefited from significant capital investment, including the creation of a new nursery class facility.

Site Location

This site is a suitable and sufficient education environment for pupils in both the primary and secondary sectors. This is a dynamic situation however, and therefore arrangements for year two are still being discussed and will be confirmed in due course, after considering the associated factors relevant to this school site.

Proposed Facilities at the temporary location of the Welsh-medium Secondary School

The temporary location for the new school will have all the usual facilities you would expect in a secondary school in order to deliver the full spectrum of the curriculum. These will include general teaching classrooms, science and technology facilities, administrative offices and dedicated toilets. Sports provision will be delivered at the nearby Newport High School where facilities include a swimming pool, Astroturf and grass sports pitches, a sports hall and dance studio / gymnasium. There will be shared use of the school hall, including the delivery of lunch-time catering services, but this will be specifically timetabled.

Special Education Needs at the New Welsh-medium secondary School

It is anticipated that children with Special Education Needs will be educated within the school setting. The arrangements will be put in place following the assessment of the child. This provision can be within mainstream education provision if appropriate, with additional support, according to their needs. Sufficient facilities will be available to support this within the new Welsh-medium secondary school.

Post 16 Curriculum at the New Welsh-medium Secondary School

The proposed new Welsh-medium secondary school for the region is to be based in Newport to cater for pupils from four Welsh-medium primary schools across Newport and south Monmouthshire.

The demand is increasing through the primary sector and additional secondary sector provision is now required. It is expected that future Post 16 students will therefore emerge from additional primary / secondary year groups by 2021/2022.

In identifying and determining the permanent location of the Welsh-medium Secondary School, the approach taken by Newport City Council will be for 11-18 education provision on the basis that all Newport secondary schools have 6th forms. The English medium Post 16 curriculum is being delivered in collaboration with other providers including further education and work-based learning.

Until there is a critical mass for Welsh-medium secondary education at the proposed Newport school (year group 12 & 13 by 2021/2022) the Welsh-medium Post 16 arrangements for the region will continue to be delivered collaboratively by Gwynllyw and Cwm Rhymni with further education sector colleagues under Partneriaeth 6. This arrangement is supported in full by both Newport City Council and Monmouthshire County Council and is seen as a progressive wholly regional model of collaboration.

Looking to the future, by the time the proposed new Welsh-medium secondary school is full with a Post 16 cohort, it is expected that the platform of Post 16 collaboration would be continuing, extending those tried and tested curriculum delivery arrangements into the south of the region.

Implementation Timetable

This marks the statutory consultation process **“to establish a seedling Welsh-medium secondary school, sharing the site of Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Teyrnnon on a temporary basis from September 2016 and subsequent transfer to the original site on Duffryn Way, Newport as soon as possible or to a permanent location yet to be determined, at the earliest available opportunity.”**

The school, now named Ysgol Gyfun Gwent Is Coed, already has a temporary Governing Body and a Headteacher elect. The temporary Governing Body and the Headteacher elect will work together to determine a staffing structure, recruitment of those staff and the set up and organisation of the school in readiness for September 2016 on the Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Teyrnnon site. This will include hosting meetings for parents and families and arranging transition events so that all children are appropriately supported through this process.

Admissions to the new Welsh -medium secondary school will be the responsibility of the Chief Education Officer for Newport City Council in accordance with the Welsh Government statutory School Admissions Code and the Council’s admissions policy. Offer letters are due to be issued on 1st March 2016 and will award a place at the new school for September 2016, subject to establishment of that school by the Council.

It is anticipated that approximately 88 pupils will be admitted to the first Year Seven group in September 2016. The catchment area for this school will be the south-Gwent area, encompassing the city of Newport along with the geographical catchment area of Ysgol Y Ffin in Monmouthshire. A copy of the proposed catchment area is included within this consultation pack.

The key timelines for the implementation of this proposal are as follows:

Implementation Timetable	Provisional Dates
Formal Consultation period to establish a new Welsh-medium secondary school	1 st March 2016 – 12 th April 2016
Publication of Statutory Notice	18 th April 2016 – 15 th May 2016
Determination of Proposal	May 2016
New Welsh-medium Secondary School opens at a temporary location on the site of Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Teyrn	September 2016

Financial Summary

The level of capital funding for this project is as follows:

Newport City Council	£8m
Monmouthshire County Council	£500k
Welsh Government	£8.5m
Total	£17m

There will be an increase in whole authority staff costs through the creation of a new school. There would be a requirement to set up the staffing team in advance of the open date for the school. These costs will be over and above those associated with normal running costs for a school.

Newport City Council has a policy of awarding a sum of £35,000 start-up costs to any newly established school, and this would support organisational development issues as part of the implementation programme.

Alternative Options Considered

The South East Wales regional planning group considered other options for the delivery of a Welsh-medium secondary school to support increasing demand:

Other Options Considered	Reasons for discounting the option
Continued expansion of Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw	Further expansion of this school has been deemed impossible by Torfaen County Council
Build a new school on an existing site in Blaenau Gwent	Demand for Welsh-medium education is less here than in other areas such as Newport. This option would not alleviate transport issues experienced by many learners. It is unlikely that the new school would be completed before September 2016.
Create a new Welsh-medium school through remodelling an area of an existing English-medium school in Monmouthshire (co-location)	Demand for Welsh-medium education is less here than in other areas such as Newport. This option would not alleviate transport issues experienced by many learners. Some of the existing buildings may not be suitable for renovation or remodelling.
Creating a new Welsh-medium school through remodelling an area of Duffryn High School in Newport	<p>This was the preferred option and significant work has been undertaken to support this. Unfortunately however planning permission was turned down by Newport City Council's Planning Committee in February 2016 due to the risk of flooding following concerns raised by Natural Resource Wales.</p> <p>The planning application to support this option is now going to be re-submitted to Full Council, Newport City Council for a determination, if this is refused then a permanent location will be determined and fully consulted upon.</p>

Impact of the proposal on other schools

After considering pupil projections across the region, it is not anticipated that there will be any significant impact on outcomes or provision at other Welsh-medium secondary schools across South East Wales. There will be a beneficial impact to the transition planning for primary school age pupils within the following schools:

- Ysgol Gymraeg Casnewydd;
- Ysgol Gymraeg Ifor Hael;
- Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Teyrnnon;
- Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin.

A full Fairness & Equality Impact Assessment (FEIA) has been carried out and updated to support this consultation.

Quality and Standards

The proposal would mean that pupils would be educated in what is a currently fit for purpose school on a temporary basis for up to two years pending the establishment of a permanent location. This would support the delivery of a broad and balanced curriculum to the small cohort, including the requirements of the National Curriculum. This proposal includes transfer to the previously consulted upon site of Duffryn Way – subject to planning permission.

If planning permission is refused by Full Council, the education of the children will continue at Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Teyrnnon, whilst a formal consultation will emerge for all stakeholders on a statutory reorganisation proposal to transfer to a new permanent location capable of delivering the same quality and standards of education.

The proposed establishment of the new Welsh-medium Secondary School would offer an exciting and attractive career proposition and it is therefore expected that the new school would attract high quality leadership, management and teaching.

Quality and standards in schools in Newport are monitored by Estyn and the Local Authority (LA). Estyn is the office of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education and Training in Wales. It is a Crown body, established under the Education Act 1992. Estyn is independent of the National Assembly for Wales but receives its funding from the Welsh Government under Section 104 of the Government of Wales Act 1998. Estyn inspects quality and standards in education and training providers in Wales.

The outcomes of Estyn's inspections of the schools concerned within this proposal are shown below. The Estyn Inspection framework changed in 2010. Thus the inspection outcomes are presented in two tables.

School	Inspection date	Grade – How well do learners achieve?	Grade – How effective are leadership and strategic management
YG Casnewydd	February 2010	1	1
YG Ifor Hael	February 2010	3	2
YG Cwm Rhymni	May 2010	1	1
Grades attributed from 1 (best) to 5 (worst)			

School	Inspection date	Grade – Performance	Grade – Prospects for improvement
YG Bro Teyrnnon	September 2015	Good	Good
YG Y Ffin	March 2011	Good	Good
YG Gwynllyw	March 2014	Good	Good

In September 2012 the South East Wales Consortium (SEWC) was established as an Education Achievement Service (EAS). The LA has commissioned the EAS to support and enable improvement in Newport schools. Any newly established schools would also benefit from these services to support the delivery of high quality teaching and learning opportunities.

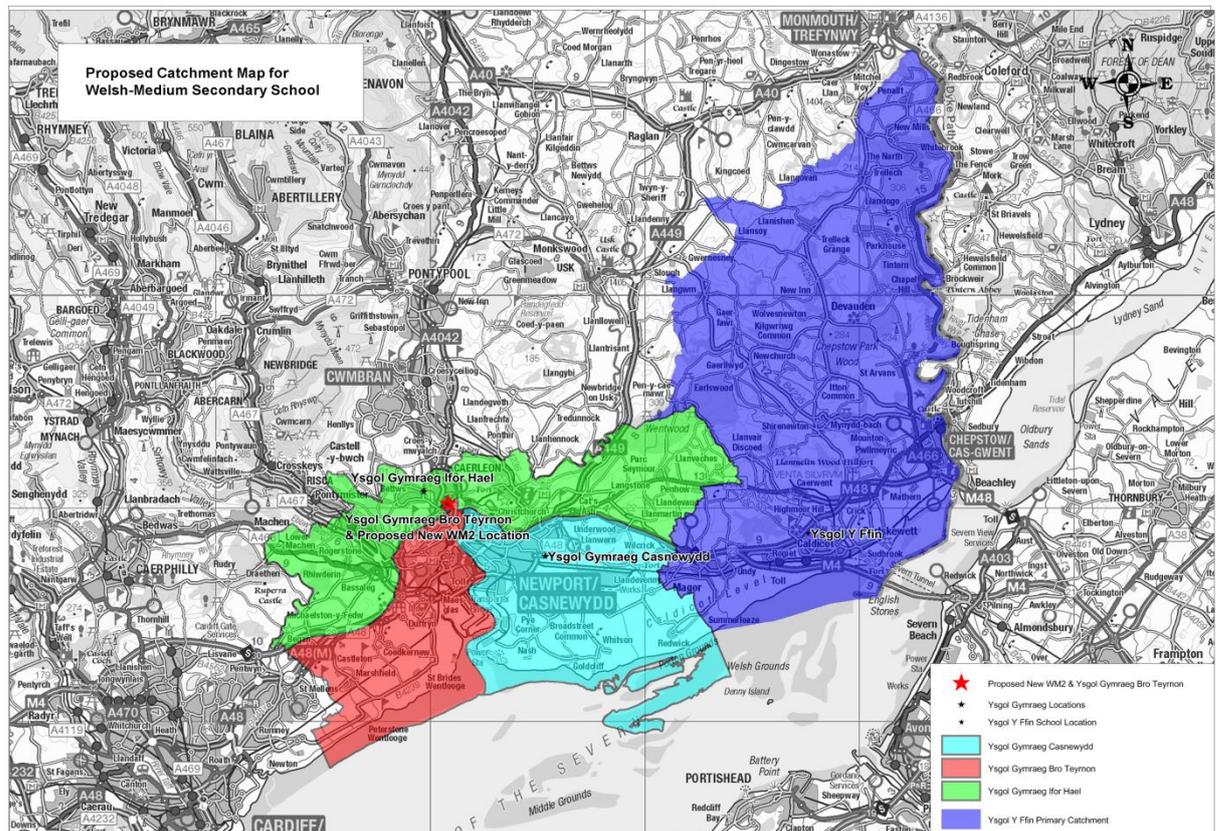
Catchment Area

The catchment area for the new Welsh-medium secondary school is proposed as the whole of the city of Newport, plus the area of south-Monmouthshire denoted as the catchment area for Ysgol Y Ffin.

The catchment area for Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw will be re-designated as the whole areas of Torfaen and Blaenau Gwent and that part of Monmouthshire served by the catchment area of Ysgol Y Fenni.

A copy of the proposed catchment area for the new Welsh-medium secondary school is included within this consultation pack. These catchment areas will be applied to those applications received for the September 2016 admissions round and beyond with priority of admission given to those residing within the catchment areas of the respective schools.

Proposed Catchment Map for the Welsh-medium Secondary School



Proposed New Admission Arrangements

There are no plans to change Newport's policy on admission of children to secondary school as a result of this proposal. Detailed information regarding admission arrangements is contained in the Council's Parents Information Handbook and on the Council website (www.newport.gov.uk).

Parents can express a preference for any secondary school, but there is no guarantee of admission to the chosen school, even if it is the catchment school. Admission to the school will be made in accordance with parental preference, subject to availability. Where a school is oversubscribed, preference request will still be considered, but the Council's over-subscription criteria will be applied to determine priority.

Given that the new school will open for Year Seven age pupils only in September 2016, families with older children already attending another Welsh-medium secondary school across the region will be unable to also transfer these children to this new school. As a new school, this school will grow through the year groups, gradually filling up and all applications for admission will fall under the Newport City Council admission policy supporting a growing model.

As Welsh will be the official language of the school in all activities, and all teaching and assessment with the exception of English as a specific subject will be through the medium of Welsh, applications from children who are not currently attending a Welsh-medium primary school will need to be separately assessed before being processed.

Proposed Transport Arrangements and Accessibility

Any applications for assistance with home to school transport costs and arrangements will be considered in accordance with the same criteria which apply across all other Newport secondary schools. The Council currently provides free transport for pupils resident in Newport whose home address is more than three miles from their catchment or next nearest available school. Any pupils resident in Monmouthshire and deemed as living in the catchment area for this school, must make any application for home to school transport to Monmouthshire County Council, and these will be assessed in accordance with Monmouthshire County Council's Home to School Transport policy.

Staffing and Human Resources

There would be a number of staffing-related implications arising from the proposal to establish the new Welsh-medium secondary school. Initially the school will only open to Year 7 pupils in September 2016. Staff will be appointed by the Temporary Governing Body following the appointment of a Headteacher. The Temporary Governing Body would need to consider the timescales for the appointment of a Headteacher in order that an appropriate staffing structure can be created and recruitment to take place. The Headteacher and the Temporary Governing Body would also need to consider Human Resources policies and procedures that it would need to adopt in relation to recruitment and once the school is established, in relation to the management of staff. The Council would advocate the adoption of Newport City Council's Human Resource policies as these have been subject to consultation with trade union representatives.

Community Impact Assessment and Sustainability

Community Impact Assessments are a structured way for the Council to fully understand the implications of its decisions and whether they are detrimental or discriminatory to certain groups or sections of the community. They help us to consider the impact of Council decisions and policies within and between communities more generally. The Community Impact Assessment process ensures that the decision making process is robust, and that impacts upon all communities within the Council area are fully considered within the Council business. By carrying out these Community Impact Assessments, the Council is working to promote equality for all: our service users, employees and the wider community that we serve. Factors such as public open spaces, parkland, noises and traffic congestion are taken into account when considering a proposal. Council officers will work with schools and any community group to ensure that the proposal avoids any negative impacts wherever possible.

Welsh Language Impact Assessment

The development of regional Welsh-medium secondary education provision in Newport will consolidate and expand provision and assist in meeting the demand that exists for this provision across the region. Pupils will benefit from a local provision with reduced travelling times, therefore allowing energy to be focussed on learning. The proposal will underpin the delivery of the regional approach to Welsh-medium provision as a whole.

Fairness and Equality Impact Assessment

The Council recognises that people have different needs, requirements and goals and works actively against all forms of discrimination by promoting good relations and mutual respect within and between its communities, residents, elected members, job applicants and workforce.

It also works to create equal access to everyone to its services irrespective of ethnic origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, gender reassignment, religious beliefs or non-beliefs, use of the Welsh language or other languages, nationality, responsibility for any dependents, or any other reason which cannot be shown to be justified.

The development of the Fairness and Equality Impact Assessment (FEIA) has assisted the Council in determining the proposal and preferred option to date.

It was originally devised in November 2013 when regional planning work included this option for Newport City Council. It will continue to be updated and revised at each stage of the decision making process. It can be viewed at www.newport.gov.uk/wm2

Benefits to Children and Young People

The proposal will:

- Develop a sustainable education system with progressing towards a position where schools meet national building standards and by reducing the recurrent costs and carbon footprint;
- Create safe learning environments for school and communities that will enable the successful implementation of strategies for school improvement and better educational outcomes and life chances for children and young people that are aligned to the Council's key strategies;
- Achieve greater economy and efficiency through appropriate sized schools, collaboration and better use of resources to improve the cost effectiveness of the education system, and in doing so will ensure that the South East Wales Consortium has Welsh-medium secondary schools of the right type and right size in the right place to support regional demand;
- Achieve inspirational settings appropriate for new educational developments, new technologies and adaptable to cater for the changing needs of the future;
- Secure places for Welsh-medium learners across the region through security of admission, and;
- Achieve inclusive settings, providing for the individual learning needs for all pupils, providing pleasant and appropriate spaces for all school users, and spaces in which pupils including those with additional learning needs and disabilities feel that their needs are respected.

The Welsh Government, Newport City Council and Monmouthshire County Council have adopted the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child which is expressed in seven core aims that all children and young people:

1. Have a flying start in life;
2. Have a comprehensive range of education and learning opportunities;
3. Enjoy the best possible health and are free from abuse, victimisation and exploitation;
4. Have access to play, leisure, sporting and cultural activities;
5. Are listened to, treated with respect, and have their race and cultural identity recognised;
6. Have a safe home and a community which supports physical and emotional wellbeing;
7. Are not disadvantaged by poverty.

We consider that this proposal benefits the children in Newport and Monmouthshire in accordance with the seven core aims set out above.

Advantages of the Proposal

- Welsh-medium secondary education locally
- Welsh-medium school cluster working for smooth transition planning
- Meeting the demand for Welsh-medium education where the population reside
- Efficient use of school premises
- Transport links
- Appropriate geographical location within the region balancing provision
- Partnership / collaboration across the region with WG on delivery and funding
- Ability to enter into collaboration with other providers in the region on Post 16 curriculum

Disadvantages of the Proposal

- Not a new build scheme
- Limited total finance envelope

Risks

- Demand for Welsh-medium education diminishes – in which case the proposed school capacity for 900 would be suitable for current numbers emerging from the four south Gwent primary schools but could include adult learning and community services through the medium of Welsh if surplus capacity developed over future years.
- Demand for Welsh-medium education increases further – the SEWC regional planning group will continue to plan for future Welsh-medium education provision across the entire region.

Surplus Places

This is a new secondary school being proposed to meet increasing demand across the region. The surplus position within other Welsh-medium secondary schools is short term – as the Caerphilly sites are also growing schools and predicted to fill in future years. There are no surplus places in the Torfaen site – hence this proposal.

Consultation with Children & Young People

The consultation and engagement on this proposal will be taken forward including contact with children & young people at every opportunity. An everyday summary version of this document has been prepared specifically with current Year 5 and 6 pupils in mind. It is available under separate cover and through our website at <http://www.newport.gov.uk>.

Frequently Asked Questions are in a separate document which will be updated weekly and uploaded onto the Newport City Council web site.

Consultation Response Pro-Forma – Welsh-medium secondary school

Your views matter. Please tell us what you think about the proposal by completing this questionnaire and returning it to the Education Service Development Manager, Newport City Council, Room 425W, Civic Centre, Newport NP20 4UR.

Alternatively you can complete and submit this form online through the Council's School Reorganisation web page at www.newport.gov.uk/wm2 or send comments by email to school.reorg@newport.gov.uk

The closing date for the submission of responses to this consultation is midnight on Tuesday 12th April 2016.

Please note that responses made to this consultation will not be counted as objections to the proposal, they will be recorded as adverse comments. Objections can only be registered following the publication of a statutory notice.

Do you support the proposal to establish a new Welsh-medium secondary school in Newport at a temporary location on the site of the current Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Teyrnnon?

Yes No

Please use the box below to give any reasons or comments.

Please indicate who you are (e.g. parent/carer of a pupil at an affected school)

If you wish to be notified of the publication of the consultation report, please supply your contact details:

e-mail: _____

Postal address: _____
