

Formal Consultation to increase the capacity of Tredegar Park Primary School with effect from September 2024

**25 September 2023 –
12 November 2023**

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Portuguese

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Russian

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Slovak

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Urdu

Information can also be arranged in other community languages if needed. Please contact us on 01633 656656 to arrange.

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Introduction

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

“To increase the capacity of Tredegar Park Primary School from 420 to 525 places with effect from September 2024”

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

This formal consultation period:

- **Begins on 25 September 2023**
- **Ends at midnight on 12 November 2023**

Background

Tredegar Park Primary School is a 2 form entry community maintained English-medium school providing education for pupils between 3 and 11 years. The school has a published admission number of 60, with the total capacity for pupils of statutory school age of 420. There is also a 40 place Nursery class able to accommodate a maximum of 80 children over either a morning or afternoon session.

As of January 2023, the school is currently operating at 89% of total available capacity. The demand for pupil places in the area is expected to increase following new housing developments established in the area including two large housing developments recently completed with over 750 dwellings and another development nearby with 500 homes currently under construction.

This proposal will support the increasing demand for primary pupil places in the Tredegar Park, Gaer and Pillgwenlly wards. It is proposed that the school capacity will be increased incrementally with effect from September 2024.

The Consultation Process

As part of the 'School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013', before a proposal is published, first it must be subject to consultation. The consultation process is made up of a number of stages, as presented in the table below:

Stage	Description	Duration
1	<p>Consultation</p> <p>Before a school organisation proposal is published, first the proposal must be subject to consultation. The consultation period represents an opportunity for people to learn about the proposal, ask questions and tell the Council what they think.</p>	Usually 6-8 weeks
2	<p>Consultation Report</p> <p>All responses submitted during the consultation period are recorded and summarised into a consultation report, which includes the Council's responses and is published on the Council's website. The report will be considered when the Council decides on the way forward.</p>	Published at least 2 weeks prior to publication of the statutory notice
3	<p>Statutory Notice</p> <p>If the Council decides to proceed, a statutory notice is published on the Council's website and posted at the gates of the affected schools for a minimum of 28 days. This stage represents the formal objection period which allows people to object to the proposal.</p>	Minimum of 28 days (including 15 school days)
4	<p>Objection Report</p> <p>If no objections are received, the proposal moves straight to determination. If objections are received, these are summarised in an objection report which includes the Council's responses and is published on the Council's website. The report is then considered when the Council decides on the way forward.</p>	Published within 28 days of the end of the objection period
5	<p>Determination</p> <p>The Council will consider any objections received and make the final decision on the proposal.</p>	Decision is made within 16 weeks of the end of the objection period
6	<p>Decision Notification</p> <p>Following the decision being made, stakeholders will then be informed of the outcome by way of a decision letter, which will also be published on the Council's website.</p>	

Consultation

The consultation period represents stage 1 of the consultation process and is an opportunity for people to learn about the proposal, ask questions and make comments that will be recorded and summarised in a consultation report. This report will be published on the Council's website and will be considered when the Council decides on the way forward.

The consultation will involve 2 drop-in sessions with those affected by the proposal, where Council officers will be on hand to explain the proposal in more detail and answer any questions:

Location	Date & Time	Session
Tredegar Park Primary School	Tuesday 3 rd October 2023 @ 08.45-09.45	Drop-in
Tredegar Park Primary School	Monday 9 th October 2023 @ 14.45-15.45	Drop-in

Consultation responses

Consultation responses should be submitted using the online response pro-forma available at www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation. Responses can also be submitted by email to school.reorg@newport.gov.uk. Consultation responses submitted via this e-mail address should be clearly identified as consultation responses, otherwise they will be treated as a query and not formally registered. Alternatively, the pro-forma enclosed can be returned to the Education Information and Development Officer, Room 425w, Newport City Council, Civic Centre, Newport NP20 4UR. **Only responses submitted using these methods will be considered as a response to the consultation.**

Social media platforms such as X (formerly Twitter) and Facebook will also share information on the proposed changes.

Please note that negative responses received during the consultation period 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. **The deadline for all consultation responses is midnight on 12 November 2023.**

Arrangements for the participation of children and young people

A Children and Young People's Everyday Summary Version of this consultation document has been produced. The Children and Young People's Everyday Summary Version and the full version are available via the NCC website at www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation. Hard copies can also be requested by emailing school.reorg@newport.gov.uk or by telephoning 01633 656656.

Who will we consult with?

- The Headteacher, teachers, staff and the governing body of Tredegar Park Primary School;
- Pupils at Tredegar Park Primary School;
- Parents, carers and guardians of pupils attending Tredegar Park Primary School;
- The Headteachers and Governing Bodies of all Newport schools;
- All Newport City Council elected members;
- All Newport Community Councils;
- The Welsh Ministers;

- Assembly Members (AMs) and Members of Parliament (MPs) representing the area served by the school subject to the proposal;
- Other Local Authorities across the South East Wales Consortium region, including relevant Transport departments;
- The South East Wales Education Achievement Service;
- The Church in Wales, Diocese of Monmouth;
- Roman Catholic Archdiocese;
- Estyn;
- Teaching and staff trade unions representing teachers and staff at all Newport schools;
- The Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership
- The Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent;
- Gwent Police;
- South Wales Fire and Rescue Service;
- Aneurin Bevan University Health Board;
- Public Health Wales;
- Newport Serennu Centre;
- SNAP Cymru;
- Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations;
- Preventative Services.

What do you have to consider?

The remainder of this document sets out the rationale for the proposal. 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 Proposal

This is a proposal to increase the capacity of Tredegar Park Primary School, Partridge Way, Duffryn, Newport, NP10 8WP to 2.5 form entry with effect from September 2024.

Tredegar Park Primary School, located in the ‘Tredegar Park and Marshfield’ ward is a 2 form entry community maintained English-medium primary school. The school currently has a published admission number of 60, with a total capacity of pupils of statutory school age at 420. There is also a 40 place nursery class which is able to accommodate a maximum of 80 children over either a morning or afternoon session.

The proposal will allow the school to increase the published admission number from 60 to 75 and increase the total capacity for pupils of statutory school age from 420 to 525. The nursery admission number would not change under the proposal. The capacity increase will be made possible by using an area in the Forest Family Centre recently vacated by Duffryn Community Link. Some changes to the use of existing spaces in the main school building will also be necessary.

From September 2024, each new reception year group at Tredegar Park Primary School will have a maximum of 75 places. Full capacity of the school will be realised in September 2030 when all year groups will operate under a 2.5 form entry arrangement. The table below shows how the capacity of the school will grow.

Year	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	R-Y6 Places
2024/25	75	60	60	60	60	60	60	435
2025/26	75	75	60	60	60	60	60	450
2026/27	75	75	75	60	60	60	60	465
2027/28	75	75	75	75	60	60	60	480
2028/29	75	75	75	75	75	60	60	495
2029/30	75	75	75	75	75	75	60	510
2030/31	75	75	75	75	75	75	75	525

As of January 2023, the school was operating at 89% of total available capacity. The demand for pupil places in the school is expected to increase following new housing developments established in the surrounding area of the school.

There are a number of large new housing developments in the surrounding area. This includes the Panasonic development completed with 250 dwellings in the Tredegar Park Primary School catchment area. The Mon Bank development, less than 2 miles away, has also recently been completed with over 500 dwellings. A further development is under construction on the Whiteheads site in Pillgwenly, and this development is expected to deliver another 500 homes to the area. Ultimately, it is anticipated that the scale of development in the area will result in more than 300 additional primary school-age pupils in the cluster, placing significant pressure on the availability of school places. Although some of these additional pupils are already in our schools, the pressure is expected to continue with the recent commencement of a 500-home development at Whiteheads. There are currently only 43 primary school places (2.1%) available across the remainder of The John Frost School cluster.

Pillgwenly Primary School will move to the new school build on the Whiteheads site in 2025 which will increase the capacity of that school from 546 to 630. However it is noted that the additional 84 places proposed will not be sufficient to meet anticipated demand in the local area. Ysgol Gymraeg

Nant Gwenlli will also move to the current Pillgwenlly Primary school site in 2025 and will ultimately provide a total of 420 mainstream Welsh-medium school places in the area, providing additional local capacity for families wishing to choose Welsh-medium education.

The pressure on school places is not just within The John Frost School cluster but within the whole of the west of the city. The Bassaleg School cluster primary schools are also experiencing pressure with currently 0.9% surplus places across the cluster. By 2028, the Bassaleg School cluster is expected to have no available places and if the pressure continues, it is likely that pupils who are unable to secure places within the Bassaleg School cluster will apply for places at primary schools within The John Frost School cluster.

Due to site constraints across the cluster, Tredegar Park Primary School has been identified as the site most suited to expansion. The proposed expansion of Tredegar Park Primary School will assist in meeting the pupil demand from the Panasonic, Mon Bank and Whiteheads housing developments.

All primary schools in The John Frost School cluster have been considered for expansion, however the schools are either not suitable, or are already being considered for expansion under alternative projects. The conclusions are presented below:

Table 3: Other Schools Considered for Expansion	
School	Considerations/Conclusion
Clytha Primary School	1FE school occupying a confined site – not suitable for expansion
Gaer Primary School	2FE school occupying a listed building. The school site is also listed and is shared with Ysgol Bryn Derw –not suitable for expansion
Glasllwch Primary School	1FE school potentially able to accommodate expansion but located c.2 miles from the identified housing developments
St. Woolos Primary School	1.5FE school occupying a listed building on a confined site – not suitable for expansion
Pillgwenlly Primary School	2.5FE school on a confined site. in 2025 the school will relocate and grow to 3FE
Maesglas Primary School	Small school (just over 1FE), on a site shared with Maes Ebbw School – therefore limited scope for expansion.
Tredegar Park Primary School	2FE school with ability to accommodate small scale expansion to 2.5FE with remodelling/repurposing of existing space.

Affected Schools

Tredegar Park Primary School, Partridge Way, Duffryn, Newport, NP10 8WP is a 2 Form-entry community maintained primary school with an admission number of 60, and a nursery admission number of 80. The school will be affected directly due to the proposed capacity increase, meaning the pupil admission number will increase, allowing the school to admit more pupils. The expansion of the school will provide more opportunities for both pupils and staff.

Tredegar Park Primary School sits within The John Frost School cluster. The John Frost School is an English-medium community maintained secondary school located in the Tredegar Park ward. The agreed published admission number for the school is 248.

Six other community maintained English-medium primary schools also make up The John Frost School cluster, which are:

- Clytha Primary (located in the Allt-Yr-Yn ward)
- Gaer Primary (located in the Gaer ward)
- Glasllwch Primary (located in the Allt-Yr-Yn ward)

- Maesglas Primary (located in the Gaer ward)
- Pillgwenlly Primary (located in the Pillgwenlly ward)
- St Woolos Primary (located in the Stow Hill ward)

These six schools are currently almost full. The proposed expansion of Tredegar Park Primary School is intended to absorb some of the forecast pressures on schools which cannot themselves be expanded. There are no proposed catchment area changes, and these schools will not be affected by the proposal.

This proposal is not expected to impact The John Frost School as the proposed increase in the admission number at Tredegar Park Primary School will have no direct impact on the number of pupils residing in the catchment area of The John Frost School.

Past and Projected Numbers – Tredegar Park Primary School

Currently, Tredegar Park Primary School provides education for 372 children of statutory school age as per the January 2023 Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) submission. The following tables detail the past and projected mainstream pupil numbers for the school:

Table 4: Tredegar Park Primary School Pupil numbers 2019-2023 - Reception to Year 6 (excluding nursery)										
Tredegar Park Primary	Capacity (2023)	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total	Surplus places 2023
2018/19	420	53	57	60	59	55	51	59	394	26
2019/20	420	52	53	57	57	59	48	51	377	43
2020/21	420	60	53	54	58	60	59	49	393	27
2021/22	420	59	57	50	54	59	59	60	398	22
2022/23	420	31	58	59	50	56	59	59	372	48

Pupil numbers are January PLASC submission for Reception to Year 6

Table 4, above shows that the number of places available at the school more than doubled between 2022 and 2023, from 22 to 48. This is due to the low Reception class intake in September 2022. This low intake is due to an unusually low birth rate in the corresponding birth year. Birth rates for the catchment area are shown below and suggest Reception class numbers will return to normal from September 2023. This is supported by school admissions data which shows all 60 Reception places at Tredegar Park Primary School have been allocated for September 2023.

Over the past 7 years, the average Reception uptake rate compared to in-catchment births at Tredegar Park Primary School is 51.7%. The table below shows the individual year uptake rate for Reception pupils.

Table 5: Tredegar Park Primary School Reception Uptake Rates						
2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
47.20%	51.75%	52.48%	46.02%	56.07%	56.73%	51.67%

The graph below shows the number of children born in the Tredegar Park Primary School catchment area, over a ten year period. The low birth rates in 2018 resulted in a low Reception intake in September 2022 (PLASC 2023).

Graph I: Birth rates for children born in the Tredegar Park Primary School catchment area

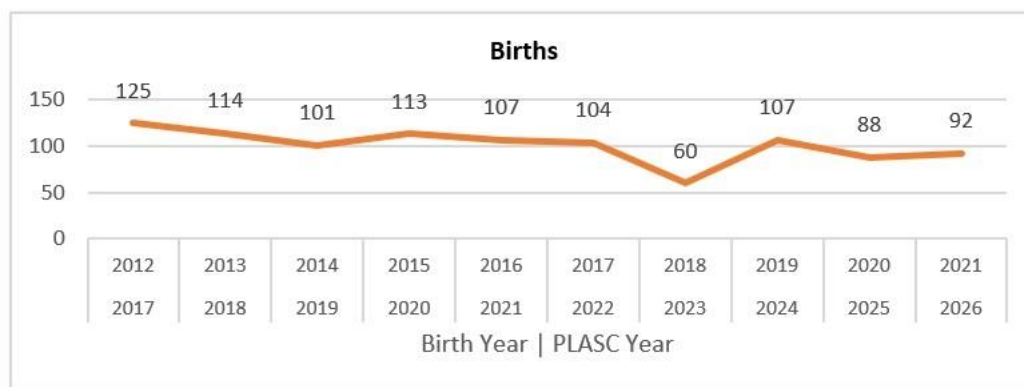


Table 5, above, shows that the uptake rate at the school compared to in-catchment births is fairly low. Pupil census information tells us that, on average, 18% of pupils from the catchment area go to local faith schools, while 10% go to Marshfield Primary School, and 7% choose Welsh-medium education. Marshfield Primary School is 4 miles away from Tredegar Park Primary School and is not the catchment school. The Council is not the admissions authority for any faith schools as this responsibility sits with the relevant governing body.

The Office of National Statistics (ONS) census data tells us that the population of Newport grew by over 22,500 people in the twenty years from 2001 to 2021, and predicts that the population will continue to rise by another 6,500 people by 2030. This suggests that the pressure on school places in the area will continue for the foreseeable future.

**Table 6: Tredegar Park Primary School
Pupil numbers 2019-2023 - Nursery**

School	Capacity (2023)	2018 - 2019	2019 - 2020	2020 - 2021	2021 - 2022	2022 - 2023	Surplus places 2023
Tredegar Park Primary	80	74	73	75	48	64	16 (20%)

Pupil numbers are January PLASC submission

**Table 7: Tredegar Park Primary School
Pupil projections 2023-2030 – Reception - Year 6 (excluding Nursery)**

School	Capacity (2023)	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	Surplus places 2030
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Tredegar Park Primary	420	387	385	387	386	383	386	385	35 (8.3%)

These forecasts do not include impact of future housing developments

The pupil projections for the school show pupil numbers remaining level at around 385, which is 8.3% surplus places. However, forecasts for the cluster show a far lower surplus, which is expected to be exacerbated by the population growth and completion and occupation of new housing developments outlined above.

Past and Projected Numbers – Other Local Primary Schools

Currently, the primary schools in The John Frost School cluster provide education for 2,296 children of statutory school age as per the January 2023 Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) submission. The following table details the current mainstream pupil numbers for all of the schools in the cluster:

Table 8: The John Frost School Cluster Primary Schools Pupil numbers 2019-2023 – Reception - Year 6 (excluding Nursery)							
<i>School</i>	<i>Capacity (2023)</i>	<i>2018 - 2019</i>	<i>2019 - 2020</i>	<i>2020 - 2021</i>	<i>2021 - 2022</i>	<i>2022 - 2023</i>	<i>Surplus places 2023</i>
Clytha Primary	210	209	205	204	202	202	8
Gaer Primary	420	410	411	410	411	418	2
Glasllwch Primary	210	209	207	212	208	208	2
Maesglas Primary	266	252	237	238	246	246	20
Pillgwenlly Primary	546	558	530	540	538	542	4
St Woolos Primary	315	304	301	300	312	308	7
Total	1,967	1,942	1,891	1,904	1,917	1,924	43 (2.1%)
Tredegar Park Primary	420	394	377	393	398	372	48
Total	2,387	2,336	2,268	2,297	2,315	2,296	91 (3.8%)
<i>Pupil numbers are January PLASC submission for Reception to Year 6</i>							

The table below displays pupil projection figures for the primary schools in The John Frost School cluster, although these figures do not consider future pressures from new housing developments in the area.

Table 9: The John Frost School Cluster Primary Schools Pupil projections 2022-2030 – Reception - Year 6 (excluding Nursery)									
<i>School</i>	<i>Capacity (2030)</i>	<i>2023 - 2024</i>	<i>2024 - 2025</i>	<i>2025 - 2026</i>	<i>2026 - 2027</i>	<i>2027 - 2028</i>	<i>2028 - 2029</i>	<i>2029 - 2030</i>	<i>Surplus places 2030</i>
Clytha Primary	210	204	203	203	203	203	203	203	7
Gaer Primary	420	412	412	413	413	414	413	413	7
Glasllwch Primary	210	209	209	209	209	209	209	209	1
Maesglas Primary	266	244	242	243	244	244	243	243	23
Pillgwenlly Primary	630*	542	538	540	540	540	540	540	6
St Woolos Primary	315	305	305	306	307	306	306	306	9
Tredegar Park Primary	420	387	385	387	386	383	386	385	35
Total	2,471	2,303	2,294	2,301	2,302	2,299	2,300	2,299	172 (7%)
<i>These forecasts do not include impact of future housing developments</i>									
<i>*Pillgwenlly Primary School capacity will increase by 84 places in 2025 following its relocation</i>									

Currently The John Frost School cluster is at 3.8% surplus places. By 2029/30, due to the planned capacity increase at Pillgwenlly Primary School, the cluster is forecast to have 7% surplus places. This remains below the Welsh Government recommendation of 10% and the forecasts do not account for the likely increase in pupil numbers arising from the new Whiteheads housing development.

The pressure on pupil places is not just in The John Frost School cluster but across the whole of the west of the city. The table below shows the Bassaleg School cluster pupil numbers over the past 5 years and as of 2023 the cluster has less than 1% surplus places. The numbers show the cluster is

experiencing pressure and as a result temporary additional capacity in the form of ‘bubble classes’ were added at Mount Pleasant Primary School in September 2020 and at High Cross Primary School in September 2021 to absorb this pressure. It was noted on page 10 that a number of pupils from The John Frost School cluster catchment areas attend Bassaleg cluster schools in line with parental preference under the Council’s School Admissions Policy.

**Table 10: The Bassaleg School Cluster Primary Schools
Pupil numbers 2019-2023 – Reception - Year 6 (excluding Nursery)**

School	Capacity (2023)	2018 - 2019	2019 - 2020	2020 - 2021	2021 - 2022	2022 - 2023	Surplus places 2023
Bassaleg School Cluster Total	2,055*	1,972	2,016	2,031	2,037	2,037	18 (0.9%)

*Pupil numbers are January PLASC submission for Reception to Year 6
Includes bubble classes at High Cross Primary and Mount Pleasant Primary

The table below shows the forecasts for the next 7 years for the Bassaleg School and The John Frost School clusters. The Bassaleg cluster is forecast to have very little surplus places between 2023 and 2030. By September 2028 the two bubble classes will no longer be at High Cross Primary and Mount Pleasant Primary, reducing the total cluster capacity by 60 to a capacity of 1,995. On this basis, therefore, in the years 2028/29 and 2029/30 the cluster is forecast to have a shortfall of 35 places.

**Table 11: The Bassaleg School & The John Frost School Cluster Primary Schools
Pupil Projections 2023-2030 – Reception - Year 6 (excluding Nursery)**

School	Capacity (2030)	2023 -2024	2024 -2025	2025 -2026	2026 -2027	2027 -2028	2028 -2029	2029 -2030	Surplus places 2030
Bassaleg School Cluster Total	1,995	2,019	2,028	2,030	2,029	2,029	2,029	2,030	-35 (-1.8%)
The John Frost School Cluster Total	2,471*	2,303	2,294	2,301	2,302	2,299	2,300	2,299	172 (7%)
Total	4,466	4,322	4,322	4,331	4,331	4,328	4,329	4,329	137 (3.1%)

*These forecasts do not include impact of future housing developments
Pillgwenilly Primary School capacity will increase by 84 places in 2025 following its relocation

Although the pressure is on places is within the Bassaleg cluster, the proposed expansion at Tredegar Park Primary School is considered an appropriate response to the anticipated impact of the Whiteheads development. The school capacity can be fairly easily increased through minor remodelling of the existing buildings and presents a cost efficient solution. The proposed expansion would provide 105 additional places and increase the forecast surplus of places across the two clusters in the west of the city to 5.4%.

Past and Projected Numbers – The John Frost School

Currently, The John Frost School provides education for 1,374 pupils as per the January 2023 Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) submission. The formal published admission number for the school is 248 which has been determined by a capacity assessment following the replacement of the oldest building on site in 2018. The following tables detail the past and projected mainstream pupil numbers for the school:

**Table 12: The John Frost School
Pupil numbers 2018-2023 – Year 7 to Year 13**

School	Capacity (2023)	2018 - 2019	2019 - 2020	2020 - 2021	2021 - 2022	2022 - 2023	Surplus places 2023
The John Frost School	1,440	1,136	1,187	1,286	1,331	1,374	66 (4.6%)

Pupil numbers are January PLASC submission for Year 7 to Year 13

**Table 13: The John Frost School
Pupil projections 2022-2027 – Year 7 to Year 13**

School	Capacity (2023)	2023 - 2024	2024 - 2025	2025 - 2026	2026 - 2027	2027 - 2028	Surplus places 2028
The John Frost School	1,440	1,413	1,404	1,420	1,407	1,413	27 (1.9%)

These forecasts do not include impact of future housing developments

This proposal is not expected to impact The John Frost School as the proposed increase in the admission number at Tredegar Park Primary School will have no direct impact on the number of pupils residing in the catchment area of The John Frost School.

Building Condition

All existing Newport schools have been subject to a Building Condition survey. The schools affected by the proposal have been judged to be in the following condition on a scale of A (excellent) to D (poor):

Table 14: Building Condition

School	Current Condition
Tredegar Park Primary School	C

Quality and Standards

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 most recent inspection results for Tredegar Park Primary School (October 2022) are outlined below together with consideration of the potential impact of this proposal on each area of inspection:

Consideration of the potential impact of the proposal on quality and standards is aligned with the Estyn Inspection framework:

Learning – Estyn noted that during their time at school, pupils generally make very good overall progress in their development as learners and confident young people.

The proposal will not affect the learning in the school. The school will continue to receive the appropriate level of challenge and support to ensure that a high quality standard of learning is provided.

Wellbeing and attitudes to learning – Estyn concluded that Tredegar Park Primary is a caring school with support for pupil well-being at its heart and that the school places a strong emphasis on supporting the well-being of pupils and providing them with the vital skills they need for their futures. The behaviour of pupils in all classes is good and this is a strength of the school. Nearly all pupils have good relationships with their peers and with staff. Most pupils display positive attitudes to learning, work at their tasks and are keen to complete them well.

The provision of additional pupil places at Tredegar Park Primary School is expected to enable more children to benefit from this positive nurturing environment. Pupil wellbeing is a priority which is monitored and reported through school self-evaluation and improvement plans and also by the local authority's wellbeing monitoring group.

Teaching and learning experiences – Estyn reported that the school has developed a local curriculum that meets the needs and interests of its pupils and the community it serves. It also matches the principles and ethos of the Curriculum for Wales. The curriculum is effective in encouraging pupils' aspirations and supporting continual development of their personal, social and life skills. There are appropriate opportunities for pupils' to have a say in what they learn.

The quality of teaching will be unaffected by this proposal. The learning experiences may be improved by having newer/updated facilities in the newly remodelled parts of Tredegar Park Primary School.

Care support and guidance – Estyn identified care, support and guidance as one of the main strengths of the school and noted the staff's excellent work commenting that 'Staff implement a wide-range of strategies skilfully to support pupils, particularly those who struggle to regulate their own behaviour. They ensure that most pupils behave well and engage positively with each other. The school is highly responsive to the needs of its community, and this is evident through its carefully considered and inclusive curriculum'.

The proposal will have no significant impact on the care support and guidance provided, but may offer opportunities for the further development of the good practice noted. The school will continue to be supported by the local authority and the Education Achievement Service to provide high quality care, support and guidance.

Leadership and management – Estyn reported that leaders and staff work well together to create a purposeful curriculum for their pupils and their wide-ranging needs. There is a strong focus on well-being and the development of important life skills, particularly for the oldest pupils who learn these skills in Y Cartref. Leaders work with staff to monitor the school's performance and pupil outcomes, and leaders encourage staff to engage with professional learning to improve their skills and effectiveness in supporting pupils.

There will be no change to how the quality and effectiveness of leaders and managers will perform in Tredegar Park Primary School as a result of this proposal.

What Will the Proposal Provide?

The proposal will provide an additional 105 pupil spaces at Tredegar Park Primary School, equating to an additional 15 places per year group (Reception to Year 6). The capacity increase will be made possible by repurposing an area of the Forest Family Centre and parts of the existing Tredegar Park Primary School to create additional teaching space. Much of the facilitating works for this expansion were completed in 2018-19, when the school reception and office areas were remodelled, classrooms were reconfigured, and a link corridor was provided between the Foundation Phase and

Key Stage 2 buildings. An improved staffroom, multi-use area and nurture room were also provided at that time.

The proposed expansion will ultimately require the school to run mixed-age classes where the number of pupils in a year group exceeds 60 pupils, as is normal in 2.5 Form-entry schools. An illustration of what this could look like is shown below:

Table 15 – Illustrative class structure at Tredegar Park Primary School								
	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Nursery Class	40							
Reception Classes A/B		45						
Reception Class C		30						
Year 1 Class A			30					
Year 1 Class B			30					
Mixed Year 1/2 Class			15	15				
Year 2 Class A				30				
Year 2 Class B				30				
Year 3 Class A					30			
Year 3 Class B					30			
Mixed Year 3/4 Class					15	15		
Year 4 Class A						30		
Year 4 Class B						30		
Year 5 Class A							30	
Year 5 Class B							30	
Mixed Year 5/6 Class							15	15
Year 6 Class A								30
Year 6 Class B								30

When Will This Be Effective?

Work to create an additional classroom in the former Forest Family Centre has already been completed, and this can be used to accommodate a third Reception class. Other areas of the school will be remodelled as necessary during the 2023/2024 school year. The capacity increase at Tredegar Park Primary School will be applied incrementally admitting 15 additional pupils to each Reception class effective from September 2024.

Cost of the Proposal

The total budget for the project is £1m via approved Welsh Government grant funding.

Revenue Costs

The project will provide additional employment opportunities across the city, leading to an increase in Local Authority staff costs. The expansion of Tredegar Park Primary School will see the need for new teachers and teaching assistants.

Revenue Funding Implications

The expansion of an existing school will, of course, mean additional cost pressures for the Local Authority. The council has considered these additional pressures and has factored them into our financial planning as necessary. Due to the proposed incremental increase in capacity, it will take 8 years for the full capacity, and therefore cost, to be realised. Ultimately, the 105 additional places will cost approximately £360,000 per year and the cost increase will be funded through the school's delegated budget. The expected revenue costs of the proposal are outlined below:

	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32
	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000
Tredegar Park Primary	60	108	151	195	236	278	319	360

Alternative Options Considered

1) Do nothing and leave Tredegar Park Primary School at a capacity of 420 pupils

This would result in a potential increase in the number of pupils not being able to secure a place at a local school due to rising pupil numbers, many coming from new housing developments. It could potentially lead to siblings being split into different schools.

Advantages

- No construction disruption to the pupils and school
- No additional pupils at pick-up and drop-off times

Disadvantages

- Some pupils may not get a place in their catchment school
- Siblings may be split due to insufficient space in the school
- Other schools across Newport and in The John Frost School cluster will have more pupil pressures
- The John Frost School cluster capacity may not be large enough to accommodate additional children coming from the three nearby housing developments

2) Expand a different primary school in The John Frost School cluster

This would result in additional school places being added in The John Frost School cluster to support additional pupils coming from the new housing developments in the area.

Advantages

- An increase in available school places per year group within the cluster
- Sufficient space for pupils coming from the new nearby housing developments
- Increased opportunities for staff in the expanded primary school

Disadvantages

- The potential options at other schools are very limited due to confined school sites
- Other suitable primary schools in the cluster are further away from the new housing developments
- Some of the other primary schools already have plans to expand in the future

- Potential construction disruption to pupils/school at another site
- No identified funding available to cover cost of potential works

The option of increasing the capacity of another primary school in a neighbouring secondary school cluster area was considered and discounted at an early stage. This is because analysis of birth and pupil postcode data identifies the pressure on primary school places in the west of the city is predominantly arising from The John Frost School Cluster area. Pupil population forecasts showing future oversubscription in the Bassaleg Cluster is specifically due to a history of successful out-of-catchment applications in accordance with parental preference.

What Will the Preferred Option Achieve?

Following considerations of the alternative options, the Council has identified that the option to expand Tredegar Park Primary School to accommodate an additional 105 pupils is the preferred option.

The preferred option will allow the school to grow to 2.5 form entry and provide an additional 105 English-medium places in the Duffryn area, specifically to deal with future pressure from new housing developments in the locality. The preferred option will be funded by approved grant funding.

School Organisation Arrangements

Catchment Area

There will be no changes to the current primary and secondary catchment areas under this proposal.

Admissions

Newport City Council is the admission authority for all community-maintained schools across the city.

Applications for admission to all community-maintained schools will be assessed in accordance with the Council's School Admissions Policy. In accordance with this policy, parents can express a preference for any 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 requests will still be considered, but the Council's over-subscription criteria will be applied to determine priority.

Admission to Nursery – September 2024

Applications can be made using the Council's on-line admissions service between 12th July 2023 and 6th September 2023. Decision notifications for on-time applications will be issued on 6th December 2023.

Admission to Reception – September 2024

Applications can be made using the Council's on-line admissions service between 6th November 2023 and 9th January 2024. Decision notifications for on-time applications will be issued on 16th April 2024.

Further information on the School Admissions policy and processes can be found on the Newport City Council's website at www.newport.gov.uk/schooladmissions.

Home to School Transport

Safe walking routes to the existing school sites are already established. Under the Council's policy, free home to school transport is provided to all primary aged pupils of statutory school age who live 2 miles or more from their catchment school, or nearest available school. Free home to school transport is not provided for pupils attending nursery classes. This proposal will not affect this arrangement.

More information with regards to the local authority's school transport policy can be found here: <http://www.newport.gov.uk/en/Schools-Education/Schools/School-transport/School-transport.aspx>

Governance

There will be no changes to school governance arrangements at Tredegar Park Primary School as a result of this proposal. The governing body will continue in its current form.

Staffing

Additional staff will need to be appointed at Tredegar Park Primary School to accommodate the additional pupil numbers. The Headteacher and the Governing Body will manage this in line with agreed recruitment processes.

Benefits

The key benefits of the proposal are:

- 1) Increased number of pupil places at the school
- 2) Increased opportunities for pupils to attend their catchment school
- 3) Prepared for future pupil demand from new housing developments in the area
- 4) Increased opportunities for staff development

Disadvantages

No disadvantages associated with the proposal have been identified.

Risks

The risks associated with this proposal, and mitigating factors are listed below:

Table 17: Risks	
Risk	Mitigating factor
Proposed expansion is insufficient to meet demand	The Planning of School Places group will continue to monitor projections and act accordingly.
Demand for school places decreases	This is unlikely due to pupil projection figures and considering the new housing developments in the local area. The Planning of School Places group will continue to monitor projections and act accordingly.

Funding is not available	If the funding from the Capital Grant becomes unavailable due to delays, the capacity increase may not be achievable.
Increased primary pupil numbers will lead to greater pressure on secondary school places	The Planning of School Places group will continue to monitor projections and act accordingly. As there are no proposed changes to catchment boundaries, the proposed capacity increase will not directly affect secondary school pressures.

Impact Assessments

A fairness and equalities impact assessment has been completed for this proposal and is available on the council website.

Impact on Welsh Language Provision

The proposal has no impact on the Council's plans for growing Welsh-medium education provision across Newport as outlined in our 10-year Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP).

This proposal is to increase the capacity of an English-medium school and will have no detrimental impact on Welsh-medium provision in the city. A learner in a school of this category will be able to read, write, speak and listen in English according to age and ability, and will have some understanding of Welsh. Welsh will be taught and assessed as part of the Area of Learning and Experience (AoLE) for languages, literacy and communication. At least 15% of the learners' school activities (both curricular and extra-curricular) will be in Welsh.

Newport City Council's 4th Welsh-medium primary school, Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli opened in September 2021 as a seedling school in its temporary base in Caerleon. There are currently 90 statutory age primary places available for 2023/24 across Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 classes. As per PLASC 2023, the school had 13 pupils on roll across Reception and Year 1, leaving a surplus of 78.3%.

Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli is due to move to its permanent base in the vacant Pillgwenlly Primary School building on Capel Crescent in 2025. The Tredegar Park Primary School catchment area, as part of The John Frost School cluster, is within the Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Gwenlli catchment area. This will provide sufficient number of local, high quality Welsh-medium school places in each area of the city.

Consultation Response Pro-forma

This response relates to the proposal to increase the capacity of Tredegar Park Primary School to 2.5 form entry with effect from September 2024.

Your views matter. Please tell us what you think about the proposal by completing this questionnaire and returning it to the Education Information and Development Officer, Newport City Council, Room 425W, Civic Centre, Newport NP20 4UR. Alternatively, you can complete this form online at www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation or email your response to school.reorg@newport.gov.uk

The closing date for the submission of responses to this consultation is midnight on 12 November 2023. Please note that negative 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.

1) Do you support the proposal to:

Increase the capacity of Tredegar Park Primary School to 2.5 form entry with effect from September 2024.

Yes No In part

Please use the box below to provide comments or explain which element of the proposal you do/do not support.

The Council has a duty to consider and identify all the possible effects a policy decision may have on opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language or treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language.

2) Do you believe that the proposal will have a positive or negative effect on opportunities to use the Welsh language?

Positive Negative No effect

3) If you think it will have a negative effect, what steps could we take to lessen or remove this and improve positive effects?

4) Do you believe that the proposal will treat the Welsh language less favourably than the English language?

Yes No

Please indicate who you are (e.g. parent/carer of a child attending a local nursery)

--

Please select your Ethnic group			
White British		Asian-Bangladeshi	
White Irish		Asian-Indian	
Any other White background (please state): _____		Asian-Pakistani	
		Any other Asian background	
Gypsy or Irish Traveller		Black Caribbean	
White and Asian		Black African	
White and Black African		Any other Black background	
White and Black Caribbean		Arab	
Any other Mixed background (please state): _____		Chinese	
		Any other ethnic group (please state): _____	
Asian-Bangladeshi		Prefer not to say	
Asian-Indian			
Asian-Pakistani			

Welsh language			
Do you consider yourself a Welsh speaker?			
Yes		No	Prefer not to say

Caring Responsibilities			
Do you care for children of school age?			
Yes		No	Prefer not to say
Do you care for children of pre-school age?			
Yes		No	Prefer not to say
Do you care for a dependent adult or child above school age?			
Yes		No	Prefer not to say

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

E-mail: _____

Postal address: _____