

DECISION NOTICE OF AN INDIVIDUAL MEMBER OF GWYNEDD COUNCIL CABINET

DATE OF DECISION 3 April 2019

DATE DECISION PUBLISHED 4 April 2019

DATE DECISION WILL COME INTO FORCE and implemented,
unless the decision is called in, in accordance with section 7.25 of
the Gwynedd Council Constitution 11 April 2019

Cabinet Member: Councillor Cemlyn Williams, Cabinet Member for Education

SUBJECT

Implement the proposal to change the age range of Ysgol Dyffryn Ardudwy from 4-11 to 3-11 so that children can be admitted to the nursery class in the September following their third birthday, and implement the change on 1 September 2019.

DECISION

To approve the proposal to change the age range of Ysgol Dyffryn Ardudwy from 4-11 to 3-11 so that children can be admitted to the nursery class in the September following their third birthday, and implement the change on 1 September 2019.

REASON WHY THE DECISION IS NEEDED

Please see attached officer report

DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL'S STANDARDS COMMITTEE


None

ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

Consultation with
Gwynedd Council Statutory Officers
Local Member

The results of the consultations are reported upon in the attached report

**DECISION NOTICE OF AN INDIVIDUAL MEMBER OF GWYNEDD COUNCIL'S CABINET –
OFFICER'S REPORT**

Name and title of Cabinet Member :	Councillor Cemlyn Williams, Cabinet Member for Education
Name and title of the Report's Author:	Owen Owens Senior Resources Service Manager (Education)
Date Decision was Taken :	3 April 2019
Signature of Cabinet Member:	

1. Subject :

Implement the proposal to change the age range of Ysgol Dyffryn Ardudwy from 4-11 to 3-11 so that children can be admitted to the nursery class in the September following their third birthday, and implement the change on 1 September 2019.

2. Recommendation for the Decision :

To approve the proposal to change the age range of Ysgol Dyffryn Ardudwy from 4-11 to 3-11 so that children can be admitted to the nursery class in the September following their third birthday, and implement the change on 1 September 2019.

3. The reason for the need for a decision :

After conducting an objection period on the above proposal, the Authority is required to determine whether or not it will proceed to implement the proposal.

4. Rationale and justification for reaching the decision

4.1 Nearly all primary schools in Gwynedd admit children to nursery class in the September following their third birthday. At present, the age range of Ysgol Dyffryn Ardudwy is 4-11. The Governing Body of Ysgol Dyffryn Ardudwy submitted an application to Gwynedd Council's Education Department to amend the age range to 3-11 so that it can also admit children in the September following their third birthday. After giving consideration to the application, the Education Department agreed to undertake a

statutory process on the proposal to change the age range of Ysgol Dyffryn Ardudwy from 4-11 to 3-11.

4.2 A decision notice was published on 3 August 2018, stating the decision of Gwynedd Council's Cabinet Member for Education to undertake a statutory consultation process on the proposal to change the age range of Ysgol Dyffryn Ardudwy from 4-11 to 3-11 from September 2019 onwards.

4.3 In accordance with the Schools Organisation Code 006/2013, Gwynedd Council published a consultation document and held a statutory consultation with all relevant consultees between 17 September and 29 October 2018.

In addition to the consultation document, a background pack was published and this included the impact assessments of the proposal on the Welsh language, the community and equality. All documents can be seen at www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/modernisingeducation

4.4 After holding the consultation, in accordance with the requirements of the Schools Standards and Organisation Act (Wales) 2013 and Schools Organisation Code guidelines 006/2013, a report was created and uploaded onto the Council website on 30 November 2018 and the link (www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/modernisingeducation), along with hard copies, were shared with relevant beneficiaries. The report included the Council's response to all observations received during the consultation period.

4.5 After giving consideration to the consultation report, a decision notice was published on 8 January 2019, stating the decision of Gwynedd Council's Cabinet Member for Education to:

- i. Approve the proposal to change the age range of Ysgol Dyffryn Ardudwy from 4-11 to 3-11 so that children can be admitted to a nursery class in the September following their third birthday, implementing the change on 1 September 2019.
- ii. Approve the publication of a statutory notice on the proposal in (i) above in accordance with the requirements of the Schools Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and Schools Organisation Code guidelines 006/2013.

Undertake an objection process on the proposal to amend the age range of Ysgol Dyffryn Ardudwy from 4-11 to 3-11 from September 2019 onwards. This means that the school will be able to admit children to the nursery class in the September following their third birthday.

4.6 In accordance with the Schools Organisation Code 006/2013, Gwynedd Council published a statutory notice and displayed it on the gate of Ysgol Dyffryn Ardudwy and hard copies were distributed to all staff, parents and members of the Governing Body of Ysgol Dyffryn Ardudwy.

A link to the statutory notice was placed on the Council's website (www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/modernisingeducation) for all other relevant consultees, in accordance with the Schools Organisation Code guidelines 006/2013.

The statutory notice was published on 16 January 2019 allowing 28 days for anyone to object to the proposal.

No objection were received to the proposal.

5. The next step

Subject to a decision to approve the proposal to change the age range of Ysgol Dyffryn Ardudwy from 4-11 to 3-11 so that children can be admitted to the nursery class in the September following their third birthday, and implement the change on 1 September 2019.

6. Record of any interest declared by any Cabinet Member consulted and any dispensation by the Standards Committee:

None

7. Any consultations undertaken prior to making the Decision:

Chief Finance Officer

As the author has noted in part 4.1 of the report, almost every primary school in Gwynedd admits children to a nursery class in the September following their third birthday. Implementing this decision will not mean a 'net' financial implication for the Council, as the increase in the budget will be allocated to primary schools (the equivalent of the cost of those children attending the school). Funded through a proportionate reduction in the budget which funds 'non-maintained nursery groups'.

Monitoring Officer

I draw attention to the conclusion of the objection period and note that no objections to the proposal were received. The recommendation in the report is appropriate.

Local Member

I support the proposals.