

DECISION NOTICE OF AN INDIVIDUAL MEMBER OF GWYNEDD COUNCIL CABINET

DATE OF DECISION	07 January 2019
DATE DECISION PUBLISHED	08 January 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	16 January 2019

NAME AND TITLE OF CABINET MEMBER

Councillor Gareth Thomas, Cabinet Member for Education

SUBJECT

Permission to publish a statutory notice on the proposal to change the age range of Ysgol Llanbedr from 4-11 to 3-11.

DECISION

- i. To approve the proposal to change the age range of Ysgol Llanbedr 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 from 1st September 2019
- ii. To approve the publication of a statutory notice on the proposal in (i) above in accordance with the requirements of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and School Organisation Code guidance 006/2013.

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

Statutory consultation and responses were received from the following

- Parents
 - Representative cfor the Cylch Meithrin
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- NASUWT
 - Estyn
 - Pupils of Ysgol Llanbedr

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

**INDIVIDUAL MEMBER DECISION NOTICE FROM GWYNEDD COUNCIL
CABINET - OFFICER'S REPORT**

Name and title of Cabinet Member/s :	Councillor Gareth Thomas
Name and title of Author of Report :	Owen Owens Senior Education Resources Service Manager
Date the Decision was taken :	07/01/2019
Signature of Cabinet Member/s:	

1. Subject :

Permission to publish a statutory notice on the proposal to change the age range of Ysgol Llanbedr from 4-11 to 3-11.

2. Recommendation for the Decision :

- (i) To approve the proposal to change the age range of Ysgol Llanbedr 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 from 1st September 2019.
- (ii) To approve the publication of a statutory notice on the proposal in (i) above in accordance with the requirements of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and School Organisation Code guidance 006/2013.

3. Reason for the need of the Decision:

Following a statutory consultation on the above proposal, the authority needs to decide if it is to proceed with the proposal. If so, a statutory notice on the proposal will be required in accordance with the requirements of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and School Organisation Code guidance 006/2013.

4. Rationale and justification for reaching the decision

4.1 Almost all primary schools in Gwynedd receive pupils to a nursery class in the September following their third birthday. Currently the age-range of Ysgol Llanbedr is 4-11. The Governing Body of Ysgol Llanbedr submitted a request to the Gwynedd Council Education Department to change the age-range to 3-11 so that they can

also accept pupils in the September following their third birthday. Having considered the request the Education Department agreed to conduct a statutory process on the proposal to change the age range of Ysgol Llanbedr from 4-11 to 3-11.

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

A statutory consultation document was produced and consultation was held on the proposal with all relevant consultees between 17 September - 29 October 2018, in accordance with the requirements of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and School Organisation Code guidance 006/2013.

4.3 Responses to the consultation were received from the following:

- 2 responses to the statutory consultation from parents
- 1 by a representative from the Cylch Meithrin
- 21 from pupils of Ysgol Llanbedr
- NASUWT
- Estyn

4.4 In accordance with the requirements of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and School Organisation Code 006/2013 guidelines, following the consultation, a report was produced and put on the Council website on 30 November 2018 and a link to the report or a hard copy was shared with relevant consultees.

4.5 The main observations from parents, the nursery group and NASUWT and the Council's response to them can be seen in the following table:

Comments		Gwynedd Council's Response
1	Support	
1.1	We are looking forward to the changes in the age change of Ysgol Llanbedr.	
2.	Impact on the Cylch Meithrin	
2.1	I am very happy to know that we at the cylch will not lose our funding and I am pleased that parents will be able to have a choice as to whether they send their children to school or to the cylch for those afternoons. The Cylch will put no objections to the proposal.	Every Cylch receives core funding of £2,027.06 per term from Gwynedd Council and if there are more than 8 children attending 80 hours or more there is an additional payment. In 2017/18 this was an additional £52 per weekly hour over 80 hours, each term. As the number of children, attending Cylch Llanbedr who were eligible to receive this funding last year was less than 8

		<p>the Cylch only received the core funding of £2,027.06 per term. This means that if the number had reduced they would have received the same amount.</p> <p>Therefore, if a similar situation existed following changing the age range of Ysgol Llanbedr and the number of children attending the Cylch was to reduce, under the current circumstances, the Cylch would not lose any income from the Council.</p> <p>Parents have the right to choose if they wish to send their child to school when they are 3 or not. They can also send their child to school and the Cylch.</p>
2.2	<p>The union has no objection to this proposal in principle. It is clear that there will be an impact on the local Cylch Meithrin, but since as it is next door to the school it will be possible to work together in a way that will ensure the existence of the Cylch. For example, nursery pupils can go to the Cylch at the end of their 2 hours of school to have a Lunch Club at the Cylch. If there are parents eligible to receive 30 Hour Care then the Cylch can claim the residual hours by offering hours of care after the school session.</p>	<p>As the Union has noted, Cylch Meithrin Llanbedr meets next door to the school site, in Llanbedr's village hall, therefore transferring the children from the Cylch to the school, or the school to the Cylch, would be very convenient.</p> <p>The school will also take into consideration when the Cylch meets in order to allow the option for the children to attend the Cylch as well as the school if the parents wish.</p>
3	Impact on the age range of classes	
3.1	<p>There are no "spare" classes in the school for the younger children. To add them to the already varied age + abilities of Class 1 I feel would be to the detriment of the children in the older years of that group and stretching teachers even further.</p>	<p>In 2017/18 Ysgol Llanbedr provided education to 20 children from Reception to Year 2 in one class. According to our projections, we envisage around 6 children of nursery age joining the school after introducing a nursery class. According to our projections for</p>

	<p>I also feel that this would effectively close down the Cylch next door which would be very sad & to the detriment of the village community. The Cylch's intake is currently from 2½ years old.</p> <p>(Perhaps a compromise would be to go back to the old-fashioned intake way (or perhaps it was England only I'm not sure) of allowing a January intake as well as September for the older and brighter kids of the Cylch.)</p>	<p>September 2019, we estimate there will be around 22 children from nursery to Year 2.</p> <p>As the projected increase in numbers is small and a very experienced teacher we do not envisage that introducing a nursery class in the school will be detrimental to any child teaches the class.</p> <p>Introducing a nursery class in the school will mean that children will receive 10 hours of education in the school from September following their 3rd birthday. The school has considered the possible impact on the Cylch and intends to hold the sessions in the afternoon in order to give the children the opportunity to attend the Cylch in the morning.</p> <p>Gwynedd Access Policy is to allow pupils to access a school nursery class in the September following their 3rd birthday. Cylchoedd Meithrin provides the statutory nursery education for pupils who are entitled to nursery education during the term following their 3rd birthday where this means starting the education in January or after Easter. Following this policy helps to ensure the numbers of children in Cylchoedd Meithrin.</p>
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A copy of the full responses can be seen in **appendix 1** - personal information on some of the responses have been blacked out to comply with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018.

4.6 The response of Estyn

4.6.1 Observations were received from Estyn as part of the consultation. Their full response can be seen in **appendix 2**.

4.6.2 The Council's response to the observations presented by Estyn can be seen in the following table:

Comments	Gwynedd Council's Response
<p>1. It is unclear whether the proposal is likely to at least maintain the standards of education in the area.</p>	<p>As introducing a Nursery Class to Ysgol Llanbedr will mean that around six additional children will be admitted annually (based on historical figures) to the school, there is no reason to doubt that the school's current standards will not continue the same or even improve. The document states that the proposal will enable the school to assess pupils earlier and offer differentiated learning activities to better satisfy the needs of all pupils.</p> <p>It goes on to note that the proposal will give extended opportunities for Foundation Phase teaching staff to plan the curriculum with huge potential to positively impact the school's general standards.</p> <p>Pupils will also be able to benefit from Welsh language education from an earlier age, especially those who did not attend the cylch meithrin, taking advantage of the time that young children are most willing to acquire language.</p> <p>This should lead to achieving better outcomes by pupils at the end of the Foundation Phase and in turn, at the end of their time in primary school.</p>
<p>2. It is not clear how the following proposed benefits will improve on the current nursery provision available locally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase pupil numbers at school. • Ability to offer the same provision as the majority of the county's primary schools. • No capital investment is required. • The Governing Body supports the proposal. 	<p>The benefits noted in the consultation document are broader than only the nursery provision and include benefits to the pupils, the school and the Council.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More opportunities for children to be immersed in experiences and activities in the Welsh language. 	
3.	The proposal and supporting documentation do not consider the current nursery provision available adjacent to the school when evaluating potential improvements in Welsh language opportunities for pupils.	The document notes that pupils will be able to benefit from Welsh language education in school from an earlier age, emphasising 'particularly those who did not attend the cylch meithrin'. The Council acknowledges the good work the cylch meithrin does and anticipates that there will be opportunities to continue to work with the cylch in future.
4.	The proposal does not refer to a projected increase in the proportion of three-year-olds engaging with nursery education if this provision were offered by the primary school.	The five year forecasts in the consultation document are based on projections of six children joining the Nursery Class annually from September 2019 onwards.
5.	The proposal accurately identifies a possible negative effect on Cylch Meithrin Llanbedr. It helpfully notes that assistance is available from the Gwynedd Children & Family Support Team Business Officer to analyse any impact that the proposed change could have on the Cylch Meithrin, and to plan to respond to any negative impact. However, the proposal does not clearly state the likely extent of this negative impact, or how the council and the primary school intend to work with the Cylch Meithrin in order to maintain the standards of nursery provision in the area.	<p>It is very likely that the cylch meithrin will be affected following amending the school's age range and this is why the Council has stressed to the cylch that there is support available via the Business Officer and the Gwynedd Children and Families Support Team.</p> <p>One possible impact could be the impact on the Cylch's finance, as shared with them (and noted in the response to comments in 4.5 above) If a situation similar to 2017/18 exists following amending the age range of Ysgol Llanbedr and that the number of children who attend the Cylch is reduced, under current circumstances, the Cylch would not lose any funding from the Gwynedd Council Nursery Education Payment.</p> <p>The school will also take into consideration when the Cylch meets to ensure that the children have the option to attend the Cylch as well as the school if their parents wish.</p>
6.	The proposer helpfully provides the primary school's most recent (2016) Estyn inspection judgments of	The Council is aware of the good work the local cylch meithrin achieves and the good standard of

<p>adequate for current performance, prospects for improvement and leadership and management. The proposal also states the school's 'yellow' status in relation to the National School Categorisation system. However, the proposer does not provide a concise analysis of the performance of the school or the nursery setting involved. The proposal does not explain how the standards of nursery education for the area will be maintained or improved. It does not suitably consider the Cylch Meithrin's strengths and good inspection judgments across all key questions (Estyn 2018).</p>	<p>their service. The intention is that the children will be able to benefit from this good service in the cylch before they start Nursery Class and, if their parents wish, by continuing to attend the cylch as well as school. It is therefore hoped that the area's children will flourish by getting the best nursery education standards in both locations.</p>
<p>7. The proposer appropriately identifies the following risks associated with the proposed change:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is not enough room in the school for additional children. • Standards will be lowered following change. <p>However the mitigation steps outlined are too superficial and do not make sufficient reference to current nursery provision or any potential costs. The proposal is not clear on the accommodation arrangements for the intended nursery group.</p>	<p>The consultation document states 'Currently there are 49 pupils in the school which has capacity for 81. This means that there will be enough room for any growth in school population as a result of admitting children to a nursery class following their third birthday.</p> <p>Risk mitigation measures if standards fall following this change will be the responsibility of the school in accordance with its responsibility to ensure usual education standards. As noted in the document, Foundation Phase current standards give confidence that this will not be a problem.</p>
<p>8. The proposer clearly states that no capital investment is required to realise this proposal, and that there are unlikely to be any revenue savings from the proposal. However, it is not clear whether this has taken into account the costs of current nursery provision for the area. The proposal also states that it is possible the primary school will require additional staff to offer the proposed nursery provision. No reference is made to any associated potential costs.</p>	<p>It is very difficult to plan at the moment what the additional costs of admitting children to the Nursery Class will be and if any additional staff will be required to cope with any increase until children have been registered. As noted in the consultation document, the governing body will need to forward plan regarding classroom arrangements and staffing structure to deal with the nursery class and additional children within the budget.</p>

4.7 Responses to the consultation with the children

The headteacher of Ysgol Llanbedr conducted a consultation session with a representation of the pupils at the school. The headteacher's analysis of this session is available in **appendix 3** of this report.

These were the main points raised during the consultation with the school's pupils with the responses of the Council/school to them:

Comments		Gwynedd Council/School's Response
1.	Are there enough tables?	Yes, there are enough tables for additional children who will attend the Nursery Class.
2.	Is the school yard large enough?	Yes, the school yard is large enough for the additional children who will attend the Nursery Class.
3.	Outdoor area with a fence to keep them safe?	The wall/fence is high enough to ensure that Nursery Class children are safe.
4.	Perhaps start school at the same time and go home earlier?	Receiving the Nursery Class children in the afternoon will mean that they will finish school at the same time as the rest of the children in the school. This will also give children an opportunity to go to the Cylch Meithrin in the morning if they wish.

4.8 An impact assessments on the Welsh language, Community and Equality were conducted as part of the consultation.

The Equality Impact Assessment was conducted in accordance with the Equality Act 2010. The assessments note the current situation and show that policies and procedures are in place to ensure that the proposal considers and is in accordance with equal rights. Having weighed up the relevant factors, it was concluded that the proposal positively ensures equal opportunities and that measures are in place to ensure there is no unlawful discrimination or harassment. Arrangements are also in hand to monitor and review the situation.

No observations were received on the contents of these assessments.

The Council believes that the proposal will have a positive impact, as children will be able to start at the school in the September following their third birthday, in line with most primary schools in the county.

The assessments can be seen on www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/modernisingeducation

4.9 Following consideration of the comments received during the consultation, the Council is confident that the proposal will improve education in the Ysgol Llanbedr catchment area.

The Council acknowledges concerns regarding the Cylch Meithrin and has referred the Cylch to help and advice available from the Business Officer and the Gwynedd Children and Families Support Team. The Council will also encourage the school and Cylch to continue to work together for the good of the children.

As the projected increase in numbers are small and that there are robust procedures in place in the Foundation Phase it is not anticipated that, the introduction of a nursery class at the school will be detrimental to school standards.

The Governing Body will need to plan the structure of classes and staffing structure for the introduction of a nursery class and receiving additional children and put into place steps to ensure that the school's good standards continue following the change.

The Council is confident that these comments will receive due and proper attention from the Governing Body.

Because of this it is recommended to approve the proposal to change the age range of Ysgol Llanbedr from 4-11 to 3-11 from September 2019 onwards and to publish a statutory notice on the proposal.

5. Next Steps

5.1 Publish the statutory notice allowing an objection period of 28 days from 16 January - 13 February 2019. Anyone can object to the proposal during this period.

5.2 Following the objection period, a report will be presented to the Cabinet, or the Cabinet Member for Education, to make a final decision on the proposal. It must be remembered that there are some instances where the Cabinet's final decision can be referred to the Welsh Government's Minister for Education and Skills, in accordance with the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 with the School Organisation Code (006/2013).

5.3 Subject to Cabinet decisions, here are the next stages of the process with an outline timetable:

Date	Steps
16 January 2019	Publication of statutory notice
13 February 2019	Closing date for receiving objections to the proposal

Within 16 weeks of the closing date of the statutory objection period	Cabinet of Gwynedd Council, or the Cabinet Member for Education, to consider any objections and make a final decision on the proposal
	Announce the decision
September 2019	Implement the proposal or continue with the current situation

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

None

7. Any consultations carried out before making the Decision:

Chief Finance Officer

As the author has noted in section 4.1 of the report, nearly all primary schools in Gwynedd accept children to a nursery class in September following their 3rd birthday. Implementing this decision will not have a 'net' financial implication to the Council, as the increase in the budget allocated to the primary schools (equivalent to the cost of those children attending the school) is financed through proportional cuts in the budget which finances 'non-maintained nursery schools'.

Monitoring Officer

The report summarizes the considerations and results of the consultations in an appropriate way. No further comments regarding propriety.

Local Member

Pleased that this is going to happen because it will be a large boost to the primary school because children will have become used to the school when they go to the reception class full time. Because of this, the school and nursery group will continue to flourish in the village.

Ffurflen Ymateb

Cynnig i newid ystod oedran Ysgol Llanbedr o 4-11 i 3-11
yn unol ag adran 48 Deddf Safonau a Threfnladaeth Ysgolion 2013



Eich Manylion		Dyddiad: 18/9/18.		
Enw	Helen Jennings			
Cyfeiriad	Cilcychwyn, Llanbedr, Gwynedd. LL45 2PK			
Cyfeiriad E-bost	seren15@aol.com.			
Rwy'n ymateb fel... (Cylchwch yr ymateb perthnasol)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rhiant	<input type="checkbox"/> Llywodraethwr	<input type="checkbox"/> Staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Disgybl
	Arall (nodwch):			

Yn unol â gofynion deddfwriaeth diogelu data, mae'n ofynnol i ni eich hysbysu o'r canlynol:

Mae Cyngor Gwynedd yn ceisio eich barn ar y cynnig hwn fel rhan o broses ymgynghori statudol. Defnyddir y manylion a ddarparir gennych i'r pwrpas hwn yn unig. Efallai y bydd y wybodaeth yn cael ei rannu gydag asiantaethau sy'n ymwneud a'r ymgynghoriad (e.e. Llywodraeth Cymru) ond dim ond at ddiben ymateb i faterion penodol gall eich bod wedi eu nodi yn eich ymateb. Byddwn yn parhau i ystyried eich sylwadau pa bynnag opshwn a ddewisir. Cedwir eich manylion personol am 7 mlynedd.

Gyda'ch caniatâd, mae'n bosib y bydd eich sylwadau yn cael eu rhyddhau, yn llawn neu heb gynnwys manylion personol fel enwau a chyfeiriadau, mewn adroddiad i'r Cabinet ar yr ymgynghoriad. Os nad ydych yn dymuno i'r Cyngor gyhoeddi eich ymateb, nodwch isod trwy roi ✓ yn y blwch perthnasol os gwelwch yn dda:

- Cytunaf i'r Cyngor gyhoeddi fy ymateb yn llawn gan gynnwys fy ngwybodaeth bersonol.
- Cytunaf i'r Cyngor gyhoeddi fy ymateb, heb gynnwys fy ngwybodaeth bersonol.
- Nid wyf yn cytuno i'r Cyngor gyhoeddi fy ymateb.

Am fwy o wybodaeth am eich hawliau a manylion Swyddog Diogelu Data'r Cyngor ewch i'r adran Preifatwydd ar wefan y Cyngor.

Anfonwch eich ymateb at:
Swyddfa Moderneiddio Addysg,
Adran Addysg, Cyngor Gwynedd,
Caernarfon
LL55 1SH
neu Moderneiddioaddysg@gwynedd.llyw.cymru

Dyddiad cau: 13:00 ar ddydd Lun, 29 Hydref 2018

Nodwch mai sylwadau yw'r ymatebion ac nid gwrthwynebiad i'r cynnig.

Bydd cyfle i wrthwynebu'r cynnig os bydd rhybudd statudol yn cael ei gyhoeddi.

Sylwadau:

Rydym yn edrych ymlaen
i'r newidiadau newid
oedran ysgol Llanbedr 3-11

Ffurflen Ymateb
Cynnig i newid ystod oedran Ysgol Llanbedr o 4-11 i 3-11
yn unol ag adran 48 Deddf Safonau a Threfnladaeth Ysgolion 2013



Sylwadau:

Response Form

Proposal to change the age-range of Ysgol Llanbedr from 4-11 to 3-11
in accordance with section 48 of the School Standards and Organisation Act 2013



Your Details		Date: <input type="text"/>		
Name				
Address				
Email Address				
I'm responding as... (Please circle the relevant response)	Parent	Governor	Staff	Pupil
	Other (please specify):			

In accordance with data protection legislation requirements, we are required to inform you of the following:

Gwynedd Council is seeking your views on this proposal as part of a statutory consultation process. The details you provide will be used for this purpose only. The information may be shared with agencies involved in the consultation (e.g. the Welsh Government) solely in order to respond to specific matters that you may have raised. We will continue to consider your comments, whichever option is chosen. Your personal details will be kept for 7 years.

With your permission, we may reproduce responses, in full or having taken out personal details such as names and addresses, in a report to the Cabinet on the statutory consultation. If you do not wish the Council to publish your response, please state below by placing a ✓ in the relevant box, please:

- I agree that the Council can publish my response in full including my personal information.
- I agree that the Council can publish my response, after removing my personal information.
- No, the Council should not publish my response.

For further information about your rights and the Council's Data Protection Officer visit the Privacy section on the Council website.

Please return your response to:
Modernising Education Office,
Education Department, Gwynedd Council,
Caernarfon
LL55 1SH
or Modernisingeducation@gwynedd.gov.uk

Closing Date: 13:00 on Monday, 29 October 2018

Please note that these responses are comments and not
objections to the proposal.

There will be an opportunity to object to the proposal should a
statutory notice be published.

Comments:

I am very happy to know that we at the Cylch will not lose our funding and I am pleased that parents will be able to have a choice as to whether they send their children to school or to the

Response Form

Proposal to change the age-range of Ysgol Llanbedr from 4-11 to 3-11
in accordance with section 48 of the School Standards and Organisation Act 2013



Comments:

Cylch for those afternoons. The Cylch will
put no objections to the proposal.

Response Form

Proposal to change the age-range of Ysgol Llanbedr from 4-11 to 3-11
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or Modernisingeducation@gwynedd.gov.uk

Closing Date: 13:00 on Monday, 29 October 2018

Please note that these responses are comments and not
objections to the proposal.

There will be an opportunity to object to the proposal should a
statutory notice be published.

Comments: PT

Response Form

Proposal to change the age-range of Ysgol Llanbedr from 4-11 to 3-11
in accordance with section 48 of the School Standards and Organisation Act 2013



Comments:

There are no 'spare' classes in the School for the younger children.

To add then to the already varied age & abilities of Class 1, I feel
would be to the detriment of the children in the older years of that
group, and stretching teachers even further.

I also feel that this would ~~be~~ effectively close down the Cylch
next door, which would be very sad & to the detriment of the village community.
The Cylch's intake is currently from 2 1/2 years old

Perhaps a compromise would be to go back to the old fashioned
intake way (or perhaps it was England only I'm not sure) of allowing
a January intake as well as September for the older & brighter kids
of the Cylch.

Ffurflen Ymateb

Cynnig i newid ystod oedran Ysgol Llanbedr o 4-11 i 3-11
yn unol ag adran 48 Deddf Safonau a Threfniadaeth Ysgolion 2013



Eich Manylion		Dyddiad: 19/10/18		
Enw				
Cyfeiriad	NASUWT Cymru, Cwrt Bowen, Parc Busnes Llanelwy, Llanelwy			
Cyfeiriad E-bost	nasuwt.gwynedd@gmail.com			
Rwy'n ymateb fel... (Cylchwch yr ymateb perthnasol)	Rhiant	Llywodraethwr	Staff	Disgybl
	Arall (nodwch):		Ysgrifennydd NASUWT Gwynedd	

Yn unol â gofynion deddfwriaeth diogelu data, mae'n ofynnol i ni eich hysbysu o'r canlynol:

Mae Cyngor Gwynedd yn ceisio eich barn ar y cynnig hwn fel rhan o broses ymgynghori statudol. Defnyddir y manylion a ddarperir gennych i'r pwrpas hwn yn unig. Efallai y bydd y wybodaeth yn cael ei rannu gydag asiantaethau sy'n ymwneud a'r ymgynghoriad (e.e. Llywodraeth Cymru) ond dim ond at ddiben ymateb i faterion penodol gall eich bod wedi eu nodi yn eich ymateb. Byddwn yn parhau i ystyried eich sylwadau pa bynnag opsiwn a ddewisir. Cedwir eich manylion personol am 7 mlynedd.

Gyda'ch caniatâd, mae'n bosib y bydd eich sylwadau yn cael eu rhyddhau, yn llawn neu heb gynnwys manylion personol fel enwau a chyfeiriadau, mewn adroddiad i'r Cabinet ar yr ymgynghoriad. Os nad ydych yn dymuno i'r Cyngor gyhoeddi eich ymateb, nodwch isod trwy roi ✓ yn y blwch perthnasol os gwelwch yn dda:

- Cytunaf i'r Cyngor gyhoeddi fy ymateb yn llawn, gan gynnwys fy ngwybodaeth bersonol.
- Cytunaf i'r Cyngor gyhoeddi fy ymateb, heb gynnwys fy ngwybodaeth bersonol.
- Nid wyf yn cytuno i'r Cyngor gyhoeddi fy ymateb.

Am fwy o wybodaeth am eich hawliau a manylion Swyddog Diogelu Data'r Cyngor ewch i'r adran Preifatrwydd ar wefan y Cyngor.

Anfonwch eich ymateb at:

Swyddfa Moderneiddio Addysg,
Adran Addysg, Cyngor Gwynedd,
Caernarfon
LL55 1SH
neu Moderneiddioaddysg@gwynedd.llyw.cymru

Dyddiad cau: 13:00 ar ddydd Llun, 29 Hydref 2018

Nodwch mai sylwadau yw'r ymatebion ac nid gwrthwynebiad i'r cynnig.

Bydd cyfle i wrthwynebu'r cynnig os bydd rhybudd statudol yn cael ei gyhoeddi.

Sylwadau:

Ffurflen Ymateb
Cynnig i newid ystod oedran Ysgol Llanbedr o 4-11 i 3-11
yn unol ag adran 48 Deddf Safonau a Threfniadaeth Ysgolion 2013



Sylwadau:

Mae NASUWT Gwynedd yn croesawu y cyfle i ymgynghori ar y bwriad hwn. NASUWT Cymru yw undeb athrawon mwyaf Cymru.

Nid oes gan yr undeb wrthwynebiad i'r bwriad hwn mewn egwyddor. Mae'n amlwg bydd effaith ar y Cylch Meithrin lleol, on gan ei bod ddrws nesaf i'r ysgol bydd modd cydweithio mewn ffordd fydd yn sicrhau bodolaeth y Cylch. Er enghraifft fe all y disgyblion Melthrin fynd draw at y Cylch ar ddiwedd eu 2 awr o ysgol i gael Clwb Cinio yn y Cylch. Os oes rhieni cymwys i dderbyn Gofal 30 Awr yna fe all y Cylch hawlio yr oriau gweddilliol gan gynnig oriau gofal ar ôl y sesiwn ysgol.

Estyn response to the proposal to extend the age range of Ysgol Gynradd Llanbedr from 4-11 to 3-11

This report has been prepared by Her Majesty's Inspectors of Education and Training in Wales.

Under the terms of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and its associated Code, proposers are required to send consultation documents to Estyn. However Estyn is not a body which is required to act in accordance with the Code and the Act places no statutory requirements on Estyn in respect of school organisation matters. Therefore as a body being consulted, Estyn will provide their opinion only on the overall merits of school organisation proposals.

Estyn has considered the educational aspects of the proposal and has produced the following response to the information provided by the proposer and other additional information such as data from Welsh Government and the views of the Regional Consortia which deliver school improvement services to the schools within the proposal.

Introduction

The proposal is by Gwynedd Council and Ysgol Gynradd Llanbedr.

The proposal is to extend the age range of Ysgol Gynradd Llanbedr from 4-11 to 3-11 as of September 2019.

Summary

Nearly all primary schools in Gwynedd admit children in September following their third birthday. Ysgol Gynradd Llanbedr is one of the very few schools in the county not admitting three-year-old pupils. Nursery provision for the area is currently provided by Cylch Meithrin Llanbedr at the village hall adjacent to the school.

It is Estyn's opinion that it is unclear whether the proposal is likely to at least maintain the standards of education in the area.

Description and benefits

The proposal includes a useful overview of pupil numbers, surplus places, projected pupil numbers, building condition categorisation and cost per pupil for the area's primary schools. The proposal also includes detailed information on the number and

ages of the children engaging with nursery education at the local Cylch Meithrin in 2018.

The proposer has presented seven potential benefits to the introduction of 10 hours per week of nursery provision at the primary school. Three of these, corresponding to the same key feature, are likely to benefit the community's children:

- Children can start school, part-time, a year earlier.
- Facilitate the preparation of children and make them ready to join the reception class.
- Provide seamless education from nursery to year 6, thereby ensuring continued teaching and learning methods and better curriculum planning.

However, it is not clear how the following proposed benefits will improve on the current nursery provision available locally:

- Increase pupil numbers at school.
- Ability to offer the same provision as the majority of the county's primary schools.
- No capital investment is required.
- The Governing Body supports the proposal.
- More opportunities for children to be immersed in experiences and activities in the Welsh language.

The proposal and supporting documentation do not consider the current nursery provision available adjacent to the school when evaluating potential improvements in Welsh language opportunities for pupils. Estyn's inspection (2018) of Cylch Meithrin Llanbedr found that the provision and the use of the Welsh language by practitioners at the Cylch Meithrin nursery setting were excellent.

The proposer also states that pupils will be able to take advantage of Welsh-medium education in school at an earlier age; especially those who did not attend the Cylch Meithrin. The proposal does not refer to a projected increase in the proportion of three-year-olds engaging with nursery education if this provision were offered by the primary school.

The proposal accurately identifies a possible negative effect on Cylch Meithrin Llanbedr. It helpfully notes that assistance is available from the Gwynedd Children & Family Support Team Business Officer to analyse any impact that the proposed change could have on the Cylch Meithrin, and to plan to respond to any negative impact. However, the proposal does not clearly state the likely extent of this negative impact, or how the council and the primary school intend to work with the Cylch Meithrin in order to maintain the standards of nursery provision in the area.

The proposer helpfully provides the primary school's most recent (2016) Estyn inspection judgments of adequate for current performance, prospects for improvement and leadership and management. The proposal also states the school's 'yellow' status in relation to the National School Categorisation system. However, the proposer does not provide a concise analysis of the performance of the school or the nursery setting involved. The proposal does not explain how the standards of nursery education for the area will be maintained or improved. It does not suitably consider the Cylch Meithrin's strengths and good inspection judgments across all key questions (Estyn 2018).

The proposer appropriately identifies the following risks associated with the proposed change:

- There is not enough room in the school for additional children.
- Standards will be lowered following change.

However the mitigation steps outlined are too superficial and do not make sufficient reference to current nursery provision or any potential costs. The proposal is not clear on the accommodation arrangements for the intended nursery group.

The proposer clearly states that no capital investment is required to realise this proposal, and that there are unlikely to be any revenue savings from the proposal. However, it is not clear whether this has taken into account the costs of current nursery provision for the area. The proposal also states that it is possible the primary school will require additional staff to offer the proposed nursery provision. No reference is made to any associated potential costs.

The proposer has undertaken an appropriate equality impact assessment, which considers the impact of the proposal on vulnerable groups including those with a disability or special educational needs. The proposer is accurate in assessing the impact on transport and the community as minimal. The proposal includes suitable arrangements for consultation.



Cynnig i newid ystod oedran Ysgol Llanbedr i 3-11

Dogfen Ymgynghori

Fersiwn plant cynradd

Medi 2018

CYFLWYNIAD

Mae Corff Llywodraethol Ysgol Llanbedr wedi gofyn i Gyngor Gwynedd ystyried newid oedran plant sy'n gallu mynd i'r ysgol o 4-11 i 3-11.

Cyn gwneud y penderfyniad, mae rhaid i Gyngor Gwynedd roi gwybod i disgyblion yr ysgol am y cynnig a rhoi cyfle iddynt gynnig sylwadau ar y syniad.

Beth mae'r newid yma yn ei olygu?

- Bydd plant yn gallu cychwyn yr ysgol yn 3 oed
- Bydd dosbarth newydd yn yr ysgol, sef dosbarth meithrin
- Mi fydd yna ychydig mwy o blant yn yr ysgol



Beth wyt ti yn meddwl o'r syniad?

Cyn i Gyngor Gwynedd benderfynu os ydynt am newid yr oedran, rydym eisiau clywed dy farn di am y syniad.

Sut mae gwneud hyn?

Mae croeso i unrhyw ddisgybl anfon sylwadau i roi eu barn.

Er mwyn gwneud hyn gellir cwblhau yr holiadur isod.

Mae angen i'r Cyngor dderbyn sylwadau erbyn 29 Hydref 2018.

Holiadur

Mae Cyngor Gwynedd ac Ysgol Llanbedr yn meddwl newid oedran plant fydd yn gallu mynd i'ch ysgol.

Mi fydd hyn yn golygu cael dosbarth meithrin fel bod plant yn gallu cychwyn yr ysgol yn 3 oed.

- Sut wyt ti'n teimlo am hyn? (Ticia un dewis)



17



4



• Oes yna unrhyw beth yn dy boeni am hyn?

Oes digon o fyrddau?

Ydi iard ddigon mawr?

Ardal tu allan efo ffens i gadw nhw'n saff?

• Oes yna unrhyw beth arall wyt ti eisiau ei ddweud am y syniad?

Syniad da achos mae plant yn dod i arfer efo ni yn yr ysgol.

Ella cychwyn ysgol yr un amser a mynd adref yn gynt?

Cyfle da i'r plant bach i gael dysgu'n gyflymach a dysgu Cymraeg.

Ella buasai plant derbyn a meithrin yn cael bod efo'i gilydd.

Mi fedri di ddefnyddio tudalen ychwanegol os wyt ti eisiau ysgrifennu mwy.

Diolch yn fawr am roi amser i lenwi'r holiadur yma.

Angen mwy o wybodaeth?

- Am fwy o wybodaeth ewch ar safle wê'r Cyngor www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/moderneiddioaddysg
- Gallwch gysylltu â'r Cyngor drwy e-bostio: Moderneiddioaddysg@gwynedd.llyw.cymru
- Gallwch anfon llythyr/sylwadau/holiadur drwy'r post at:
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