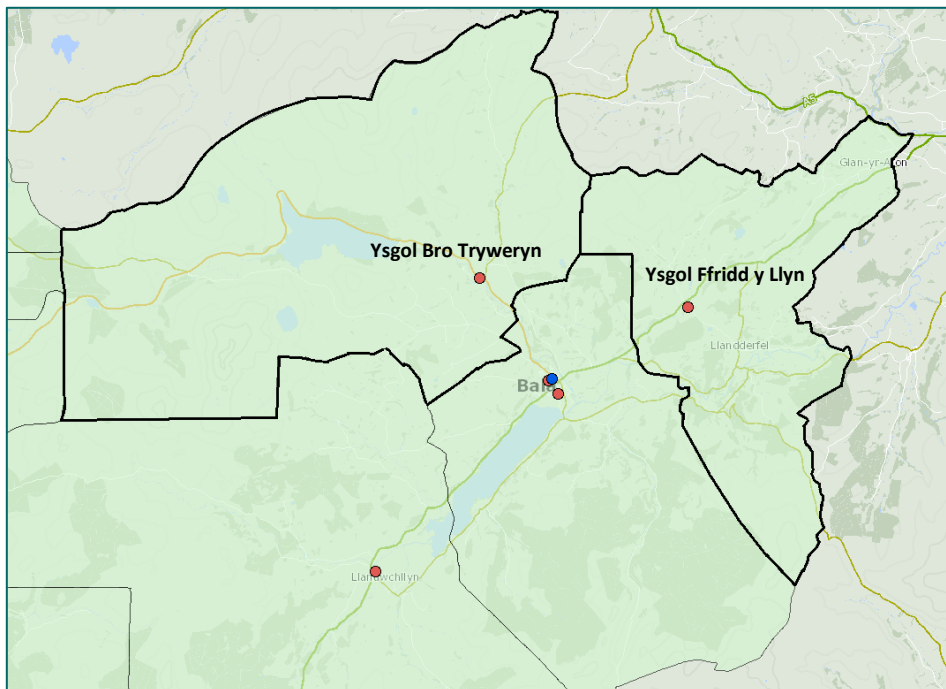




Statutory Consultation Report

...regarding the proposal to federate
Ysgol Bro Tryweryn and Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn



September 2017

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Appendix 1 - Letter to parents, staff and governors regarding the proposal to hold a statutory consultation

Appendix 2 – Response form - Governors

Appendix 3 – Information leaflet for Parents

Appendix 4 – Response Form – School Councils

Appendix 5 – Response of the governing body of Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Gwynedd Council has held a statutory consultation on the proposal to federate Ysgol Bro Tryweryn and Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn by the 30th of October 2017. In accordance with the requirements of the Federation of Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2014 with regards to small schools, the consultation took place with the governing bodies of both schools concerned, as well as the school councils of both schools.
- 1.2 The consultation was held between June 8 and July 6, 2017.
- 1.3 The regulations require any proposer to publish a consultation report following conducting a consultation period - this is the purpose of this document.

2. Background

- 2.1 In May 2016, correspondence was received from the governing bodies of Ysgol Bro Tryweryn and Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn expressing an interest to federate the two schools by September 2017 or January 2018. Subsequently, a working group of governors from both schools was formed to consider and discuss the federalisation options - the Education department were invited to be a part of those discussions.
- 2.2 Following a series of meetings, the working group and the Education department jointly decided to proceed with the formal consultation on the option to federate the two schools. To simplify the process, and to allow the schools to federate at an earlier day, the Education department were invited to lead the statutory consultation process, in accordance with the requirements of the Federation of Maintained Schools in Wales (2014).
- 2.3 Consequently, it was decided to hold a statutory consultation with the governing bodies of Ysgol Bro Tryweryn and Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn on the proposal to federate the two schools by October 30, 2017

3. The statutory consultation

- 3.1 Electronic and hard copies of the statutory consultation document, along with a background letter (Appendix 1) for parents, staff and governors of both schools were distributed on Thursday, 8 June 2017.
- 3.2 The consultation document, along with the information sheet for parents was published on Gwynedd Council's website on June 8 2017. (www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/modernisingeducation)
- 3.3 As Ysgol Bro Tryweryn and Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn are defined as small schools in accordance with The Education (Small Schools) Wales Order 2014, the requirements of the consultation process is slightly less than the standard process. Therefore, in accordance with the requirements of the Federation Regulations, a consultation was held with members of the relevant governing bodies and school councils only, for a period of 20 days, from 8 June to 6 July 2017.
- 3.4 In addition, a simpler version of the consultation document was prepared for primary children. Copies of the document was distributed to both schools; the document was also published on the Council website. The Head Teachers of both schools facilitated the consultation with the school council members. The consultation was held with pupils at Ysgol Bro Tryweryn on the 5th of July 2017 and Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn on the 30th June 2017.
- 3.5 A response form was prepared, specifically for the governing bodies, to facilitate the process of submitting the comments (Appendix 2). Electronic and hard copies of the response form was distributed to the governing bodies of both schools. A questionnaire was also prepared for the school councils. (Appendix 4)
- 3.6 Bilingual versions of all the documents referred to above were issued.

4. Meetings

4.1 Prior to the commencement of the statutory consultation period, meetings were held with the working group on **March 29, 2017** and **April 24, 2017**.

4.2 In addition to Education Department officials representing Gwynedd Council, Head Teachers, Chairs of governors and parent governors at both schools attended the meetings mentioned above.

5. Response to the consultation

5.1 Response of the governing bodies




5.1.1 A response was received by the governing body of Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn (appendix 5). It was stated in their response that the governing body is supportive of the proposal to federate Ysgol Bro Tryweryn and Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn by the 30th October 2017. In addition to this, it was noted as follows:

"The governing body believes that a federation with Ysgol Bro Tryweryn offers the most prosperous future for Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn, and would benefit from working together and sharing expertise, resources and procedures."

5.1.2 No comments were received from the governing body of Ysgol Bro Tryweryn.

5.2 Response from the School Council

5.2.1 34 individual responses were received from the pupils at Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn and 1 response on behalf of the School Council at Ysgol Bro Tryweryn. Below is a summary of comments / responses received from Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn and Ysgol Bro Tryweryn pupils:

| School | 1. How do you feel about this? | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| |  |  |  |
| Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn | 12 | 15 | 7 |
| Ysgol Bro Tryweryn | 17 | 7 | 0 |
| Total | 29 | 22 | 7 |
| Any further comments? | | | |
| Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One response was received indicating that the proposal was a good idea. | | |
| Ysgol Bro Tryweryn | - | | |
| 2. Does anything about this concern you? | | | |
| Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 25 responses were received indicating that they had no concerns, and 1 response stating that he / she had concerns. There were some responses indicating a concern that the change would result in more pupils, with one being concerned that there would be too many pupils on school trips or sports teams One respondent noted that he / she did not understand what would change at Ysgol Bro Tryweryn / Ffridd y Llyn School as part of the proposal. One individual indicated that he / she liked activities as an individual school. | | |

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Ysgol Bro Tryweryn | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerns regarding the eisteddfod's arrangements if the schools were federated were noted. In addition, pupils asked what the arrangements would be with a sports tournament and school trips . |
| 3. | 4. What would you like to see happen as part of this change? |
| Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Several responses were received which indicated the prospect for better and joint school trips. In addition, some respondents hoped that the change would have a positive effect on activities such as sports and Rugby. One respondent noted to the contrary, stating that he/she did not want to take part in joint activities. One response was received indicating that he / she did not want the change to happen, and another response indicated that he / she would prefer to do separate activities. Several individuals pointed out that they were hoping to get new friends as a result of the change, with one respondent indicating the hope that everyone would be happy. |
| Ysgol Bro Tryweryn | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was noted that pupils would get to know each other better, and would also know each other already before transferring to the secondary school It was proposed that it would give the opportunity to share new ideas for tasks in the classroom . In addition, it was noted that it would give the opportunity to share workshops between the two schools. |

5.2.2 It appears from the responses to the consultation with pupils that the majority of pupils are generally satisfied with the proposal to federate the two schools. Gwynedd Council appreciates that views of pupils, and are pleased to see all the positive and supportive comments regarding the proposed change. In addition, the Council will take into account any identified concerns and make every effort to alleviate those concerns should the proposal be implemented.

6. Conclusion

6.1 After considering and evaluating the responses to the consultation, which were generally supportive, it was concluded that the proposal to federate Ysgol Bro Tryweryn and Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn should be approved. Gwynedd Council remains to be fully supportive of the proposal to federate the two schools and believes that this proposal will strengthen the collaboration between the two schools by sharing one head teacher and one governing body. In addition, it will lead to stability in the future leadership of schools as well as financial benefits for both schools.

Addysg / Education



Pennaeth Addysg (Dros Dro) /
Head of Education (Interim) – Garem Jackson

Gofynnwch am/Ask for: **Garem Jackson**
 ☎ (01286) 679467 Ein Cyf / Our Ref: **GJ/AS**
 📄 (01286) 677347 Eich Cyf / Your Ref:
 ✉ GaremJackson@gwynedd.llyw.cymru

8 June 2017

To: Governing Bodies of Ysgol Bro Tryweryn and Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn

Re: Consultation on the proposal to federate Ysgol Bro Tryweryn and Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn

Between **8 June** and **13:00** on **6 July**, we shall be holding a statutory consultation on a proposal to federate Ysgol Bro Tryweryn and Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn. Gwynedd Council would like you to put forward your views so that these can be considered before a decision is reached.

At the end of the consultation period, we shall prepare a report on the consultation in order to respond to your comments and decide whether or not to proceed with the proposal.

A copy of the consultation document is attached with this letter for your attention. I would be grateful if you could please submit your comments on the proposal by **July 6, 2017**. As noted in the document, in accordance with the requirements of the Federation Regulation 2014 for small schools, this consultation is being held with the governing bodies and school councils of both schools.

A copy of this document, and other background papers, are available on the Council's website www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/schoolorganisation and in your local school and library. For further information regarding the consultation process, please contact Gwenno Haf Evans, Education Modernising Officer, on the following e-mail: school.organisation@gwynedd.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,

Garem Jackson

Garem Jackson
Head of Education (Interim)

Addysg / Education



Pennaeth Addysg (Dros Dro) /
Head of Education (Interim) – Garem Jackson

Gofynnwch am/Ask for: **Garem Jackson**
☎ (01286) 679467 Ein Cyf / Our Ref: **GJ/AS**
📄 (01286) 677347 Eich Cyf / Your Ref:
✉ GaremJackson@gwynedd.llyw.cymru

8 Mehefin 2017

At: Cyrff Llywodraethol Ysgol Bro Tryweryn ac Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn

Par: Ymgynghori ar y cynnig i ffederaleiddio Ysgolion Bro Tryweryn a Ffridd y Llyn

Rhwng **8 Mehefin** a **13:00** ar **6 Gorffennaf**, byddem yn cynnal ymgynghoriad statudol ar y cynnig i ffederaleiddio Ysgol Bro Tryweryn ac Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn. Hoffai Cyngor Gwynedd i chi gyflwyno eich barn fel bod modd eu hystyried cyn dod i benderfyniad ar y cynnig.

Ar ddiwedd y cyfnod ymgynghori byddwn yn paratoi adroddiad ar ganlyniad yr ymgynghoriad er mwyn ymateb i'ch sylwadau a phenderfynu os dylid parhau â'r cynnig i ffederaleiddio ai pheidio.

Gweler ynghlwm gopi o'r ddogfen ymgynghori i'ch sylw. Byddwn yn ddiolchgar petaech yn gallu cyflwyno eich sylwadau ar y cynnig erbyn 6 Gorffennaf 2017 os gwelwch yn dda. Fel nodir yn y ddogfen, yn unol â gofynion y Rheoliadau Ffederaleiddio 2014 ar gyfer ysgolion bach, mae'r ymgynghoriad yn cael ei gynnal gyda chyrrff llywodraethol a chynghorau ysgol y ddwy ysgol yn unig.

Mae copi o'r ddogfen hon, a phapurau cefndirol eraill, ar gael ar wefan y Cyngor www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/trefniadaethysgolion ac yn eich ysgol a'r llyfrgell leol. Am unrhyw wybodaeth bellach ynglŷn â'r broses ymgynghori, gallwch gysylltu â Gwenno Haf Evans, Swyddog Moderneiddio Addysg, ar y cyfeiriad e-bost canlynol: trefniadaeth.ysgolion@gwynedd.llyw.cymru

Yn gywir,

Garem Jackson

Garem Jackson
Pennaeth Addysg (Dros Dro)

Ffurflen Ymateb

Cynnig i Ffederaleiddio Ysgol Bro Tryweryn ac Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Eich Manylion | | Dyddiad: <input style="width: 150px;" type="text"/> |
| Enw (Cadeirydd y Llywodraethwyr): | | |
| Arwyddwyd: | | |
| Ar ran... <i>(Cylchwch yr ymateb perthnasol)</i> | Corff Llywodraethol Ysgol Bro Tryweryn | Corff Llywodraethol Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn |

Yn unol â gofynion y Ddeddf Diogelu Data 1998, 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. Gyda'ch caniatâd, mae'n bosib y bydd eich sylwadau yn cael eu rhyddhau fel rhan o unrhyw adroddiad fydd yn deillio o'r ymgynghoriad hwn. **Os nad ydych yn dymuno i'r Cyngor gyhoeddi eich ymateb**, nodwch isod trwy roi ✓ yn y blwch perthnasol o.g. 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.

1. Ydych chi'n gefnogol o'r cynnig i ffederaleiddio Ysgol Bro Tryweryn ac Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn erbyn 30 Hydref 2017? *(Rhowch ✓ yn y blwch perthnasol o.g. yn dda)*

Ydw

Nac Ydw

2. Nodwch eich rhesymau yn y blwch isod (neu atodwch daflen ychwanegol/ar wahân) o.g. yn dda?

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

Dyddiad cau: Dydd Iau, 6 Gorffennaf 2017

Federation – Information for parents

What is Federation?

- A federation is a legal governance structure where between two and six schools share a single governing body.
- The decision to federate is made either by the school governing body or by the Local Authority.
- **All schools within the federation remain open within their communities; retain their budget, individuality, their own name, school uniform and ethos, and will be inspected individually by Estyn**

What advantages does federation offer the pupils?

A Federation can bring many benefits –

- continue to have access to teaching expertise, team sports, wider curriculum expertise and a wider choice of after curricular or out of school activities and clubs
- continue to share best practice, preparation materials and resources
- continue to provide the best social opportunities for pupils
- continue to plan exceptional opportunities for the pupils when transitioning
- continue to share and develop knowledge and skills
- schools that federate stay in their communities and keep their individual identity
- adding to the overall benefit, welfare and achievement of all pupils

How is federation going to work?

- There will be little change in day to day school arrangements. How a federation is structured and would operate will be decided by the governing body and the headteacher. These people are best placed to ensure the federation activities and arrangements match the needs of all the schools.

Do the teachers and children move from school to school?

- Children and existing staff are not obliged to travel to other school sites within the federation.

Is federation about financial savings?

- No. It is about schools pooling resources in order to continue to maintain performance and excellent standards of attainment and achieving more for the children whether that is through providing access to opportunities and facilities children would not normally be able to access, or jointly funding, for example, a full time teacher or support teachers.

Does federation mean that our school will receive less money from the local Authority?

- No. The way in which an individual school's budget is calculated is not affected by federation - each school in the federation should continue to receive its own budget based on the number of registered pupils at the school plus any other factors. However, schools will be able to pool or share their budgets. For example, if the schools wished to employ a full time teacher or to purchase or upgrade sports equipment they would each contribute a share of the costs from their budget.

What are the financial benefits of federation?

Federation can increase the school's ability to achieve higher standards. Some of the benefits include:

- sharing the costs of purchasing goods and facilities etc.
- purchasing to achieve economies of scale and avoiding duplication
- More opportunities e.g. release the headteacher to plan strategically across the federation

Are parent governors elected by the parents from their school only or from parents across all schools in the federation?

- Each school must have at least one parent governor elected by the parents at that school (or appointed by the governing body if no parent is standing for election), **but it is not permitted for a school to have more than two parent governors.**
- If it is decided that all schools have two parent governors, and if no parent is standing for election in a particular school, or if only one stands, the governing body may appoint a federal parent governor.

What evidence do you have that Federations are successful?

- A document from the Welsh Government sets out several case studies that outline how schools have benefited from the federation process. An Ofsted report was published in England in 2011 'Leadership of more than one School - An evaluation of the impact of federated schools'. The report states, "in every federation visited, the fact that the schools were federated was a factor which contributed to the improvement."

How will admission applications for pupils be administrated?

- Admissions will not be affected - parents will continue to apply for each school separately and the Local Authority (Cyngor Gwynedd) will continue to determine admissions.

For more information regarding the federation process visit the Welsh Government website by following the link below: (Federation process of maintained schools in Wales)

<http://gov.wales/topics/educationandskills/schoolshome/fundingschools/school-governance/federation-of-maintained-schools/?lang=en>

What do you think?

The proposal:

To federate

Ysgol Bro Tryweryn and Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn

1. How do you feel about this (Tick one box)



Any other additional comments?

2. Does anything about this worry you?

3. What would you like to see happen as part of this change?



Ffurflen Ymateb
Cynnig i Ffederaleiddio Ysgol Bro Tryweryn ac Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Eich Manylion | | Dyddiad: 5 Gorffennaf 2017 |
| Enw (Cadeirydd y Llywodraethwyr): | Rhys Llwyd Davies | |
| Arwyddwyd: | | |
| Ar ran... (Cylchwrch yr ymateb perthnasol) | Corff Llywodraethol Ysgol Bro Tryweryn | Corff Llywodraethol Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn |

Yn unol â gofynion y Ddeddf Diogelu Data 1998, mae'n ofynnol i ni eich hysbysu o'r canlynol:

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- 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.

1. Ydych chi'n gefnogol o'r cynnig i ffederaleiddio Ysgol Bro Tryweryn ac Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn erbyn 30 Hydref 2017? (Rhowch ✓ yn y blwch perthnasol o.g. yn dda)

Ydw

Nac Ydw

2. Nodwch eich rhesymau yn y blwch isod (neu atodwch daflen ychwanegol/ar wahân) o.g. yn dda?

Mae'r corff yn credu mai ffedraisiwn gyda Ysgol Bro Tryweryn sy'n cynnig y dyfodol mwyaf llewyrchus i Ysgol Ffridd y Llyn ar gyfer y dyfodol, gan elwa o gydweithio a rannu arbenigeddau, adnoddau a threfniadau.

Anfonwch eich ffurflen ymateb at: Swyddfa Moderneiddio Addysg, Adran Addysg, Cyngor Gwynedd, Caernarfon LL55 1SH *neu* trefniadaeth.ysgolion@gwynedd.llyw.cymru
Dyddiad cau: Dydd Iau, 6 Gorffennaf 2017