



**Impact Assessment Report
on the Community,
Quality and Standards of Education
and Travel Arrangements**

Ysgol Chwilog

- July 2022

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Community Impact Assessment Report

Ysgol Chwilog

1. INTRODUCTION

During the Summer Term 2021, the governing body and local members of Ysgol Chwilog contacted the Education Department, concerned about the lack of capacity at the school to address the increase in learner numbers as a result of housing developments within the natural catchment area.

An opportunity was seen to submit an application to the Welsh Government's Welsh-medium Education Capital Grant to seek a response to the situation of the school, and package the bid around communities of linguistic significance (communities with over 70% of Welsh speakers).

By means of this bid, the Education Department is eager to support economic, housing and social enterprise developments in some communities of linguistic significance in the county, by increasing the capacity of the school in response to a growth in the population as a result of these developments. By intertwining all of these elements of community regeneration together, it can create solid grounding for the community, and create the best possible conditions for the Welsh language and the community to thrive.

2. YSGOL CHWILOG

The Schools Organisation Code notes that a statutory process must be conducted if *'an enlargement of the premises of a school (excluding nursery and special schools), which would increase the capacity of the school by at least 25% or 200 pupils as compared with the school's capacity on the appropriate date. In determining an increase in capacity all enlargements that have taken place since the appropriate date are to be taken into account together with the proposed enlargement.'*

Adding a classroom to Ysgol Chwilog would increase the capacity to 95, which is an increase of over 25% of the existing 65, namely the school's capacity at the appropriate date in this case, a statutory procedure will need to be conducted before any changes that will lead to increasing the school's capacity can be made.

2.1 The School

Ysgol Chwilog is located in the centre of the village of Chwilog, located between Y Ffôr and Cricieth. The School has capacity from nursery to year 6 of 74, with 76 pupils aged between 3-11 years, attending the school at present (September 2021 Census).

There are 3 classes in the school. The nursery year class, the reception year - year 2 class, and another class that educates years 3-6.

Due to new housing developments and the impact on the projected numbers, it is anticipated that the numbers at the school will increase further over the next 5 years and therefore an additional class would be needed.

2.2 The Catchment Area

Ysgol Chwilog is located in the centre of the village of Chwilog, located between Y Ffôr and Cricieth in Gwynedd. The school's catchment area includes the village and nearby area, located between the catchment areas of Ysgol Bro Plenydd (Y Ffôr), Ysgol Abererch, Ysgol Llanystumdwy and Ysgol Llangybi.

Ysgol Chwilog is located in Dwyfor and in the Llanystumdwy ward. The latest data (2011 census) shows that the population of the Llanystumdwy ward is 2,080.

2.3 The Economy

1,460 people aged between 16 and 74 years of age live within the Llanystumdwy ward. 1,020 are economically active. 440 people in the same age group are economically inactive, with 65 of these being long-term ill or disabled.

The type of industry in which the population is active varies in the area, with the highest rate (13.7%) working in the Education field.

A number of businesses operate in the village, including a pub, post office and caravan park.

2.4 The Community

A number of activities are held in Chwilog, including;

- Cylch Meithrin
- Sunday School
- Merched y Wawr
- Welsh for Adults in The Madryn
- Y Gymdeithas
- Snooker Club
- Annual Eisteddfod
- Fitness Activities
- And other various activities in the Hall

In addition, there are a number of facilities in the village, including Siloh Chapel and Capel Uchaf, Village Hall, Post Office, Butcher, Pub and Children's Playing Field.

2.5 Summary of the school's use outside the school's core hours

Play Groups (School holidays)	
Aelwyd yr Urdd	✓
Drama	
Voluntary Groups	
Coffee Morning/Evening	✓
Community Auction	✓
Community Library	
Choir Practice	
Welsh for Adults	✓
Town/Community Council Meeting	
Cylch/Ysgol Feithrin	✓
Sports Club/Activity	

Breakfast Club	✓
After School Club	
Local Interest Club	

Source: Headteachers June 2022

2.6 Summary of the various facilities in the Communities

The following information has been gathered about the area of the schools in question:

Village Hall Community Centre	✓
Chapel/Church	✓
Public Transport	✓
Shop	✓
Café/Pub	✓
Post Office	✓
Surgery/Pharmacy	X
Library	X
Children's Playing Field	✓
Bank	X
Residential Home for the Elderly	X
Leisure Centre	X
Garage	X
Tourism Attraction	X
Cylch Ti a Fi + Cylch Meithrin	✓

Source: Headteachers June 2022

2.7 Summary of activities or groups that the school is regularly involved with:

Cylchoedd Meithrin/Ti a Fi	✓
Eisteddfodau (Local/Regional/National)	✓
Adrannau'r Urdd	✓
Visits to Glan-llyn / Llangrannog / Cardiff	✓
Other activities (sports, clubs)	✓

Source: Headteachers June 2022

2.8 Deprivation

The Llanystumdwy Ward (which is a broader area than the geographical area of the Ysgol Chwilog's catchment area) is in the 50% most deprived wards in Wales (ranked 1,102 out of 1909 wards).

A number of fields are measured to draw up this general index, including income, employment, health, education, access to services, community safety, physical environment and housing (see the table below).

It is noted that the Llanystumdwy ward is within the 10% of most deprived wards in Wales in the field of 'access to services', i.e. deprivation as people are not able to access a variety of services that are considered essential for everyday living. The indicators include the average public transport and private travel times to a number of services such as supermarkets, surgeries, primary and secondary schools, post office, public library, pharmacy, leisure centre and private travel time to a petrol station.

In addition, the Llanystumdwy ward is within the 10% of most deprived areas in Wales in the field of 'Housing'. The indicators of this field are the proportion of people who live in an overcrowded home (bedroom use), and the proportion of people living in homes that do not have central heating.

Below is a summary of how the Llanystumdwy ward is placed in the context of other areas in Wales according to the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (2014):

Area	Rank in Wales, out of 1909 areas. 1 = most deprived 1909 = least deprived	Most deprived % in Wales
Income	1,475	in the least deprived 50%
Employment	1,589	in the least deprived 50%
Health	1,485	in the least deprived 50%
Education	1,460	in the least deprived 50%
Access to services	152	in the 10% most deprived
Community safety	1,339	in the least deprived 50%
Physical environment	1,273	in the least deprived 50%
Housing	54	in the 10% most deprived

2.9 Context of the schools according to Estyn Inspection Reports (May 2022)

As part of the Estyn reports, the authors, i.e. the inspectors, will place the schools within their context and will detail their community connections. This is the context given to Ysgol Chwilog by Estyn inspectors.

“The way in which staff promote Welsh culture, heritage and the Welsh language is a significant strength across the school. As a result, pupils’ pride in their Welshness is highly effective. The Welsh and Welsh language ethos within the school spreads successfully to the local community”

“Staff encourage pupils to be responsible citizens who are willing to help others. There are a number of active committees at the school that meet regularly and their contribution to the work of the school and the community is very valuable. They promote the pupil’s voice and encourage them to shoulder responsibilities and make sensible decisions.”

2.10 Assessment of the Probable Impact on the Community

In order to assess the community impact of the potential models, it was decided to create criteria in accordance with the recommendations of the community impact considerations of the School Organisation Code 011/2018.

Positive	Neutral	Negative
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Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and Well-being	No change	Neutral
Implications of the change on public transport provisions	No change	Neutral
Impact on facilities/other services provided at the school	No change	Neutral
The impact on broader community safety	No change	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school-age children to leave the community, or would young families be less likely to move to the community	Increasing the capacity will secure plenty of places at the schools for all children in the catchment area, and will therefore secure them an education in their communities	Positive
Impact on other services provided locally	No change	Neutral
Detrimental effect on the community's broader economy	No change	Neutral
The general impact on the local community	Increasing the capacity will secure plenty of places at the schools for all children in the catchment area, and will therefore secure them an education in their communities	Positive

Quality and Standards of Education Assessment Report Ysgol Chwilog

1. YSGOL CHWILOG

Ysgol Chwilog was inspected by Estyn in May 2022. Estyn changed their method of inspecting schools in 2022 and now, their reports do not include summative gradings, e.g. 'Excellent', 'Good', 'Adequate' and 'Unsatisfactory'. Now, their reports focus and provide detail on how well providers help children to learn. This means that it is not now possible to show an assessment of the likely impact of the proposal on Estyn's five relevant inspection areas as noted in the 'Quality and Standards in Education' in the School Organisation Code (011/2018).

The full report can be seen by following this link:

[Inspection report Y.G. Chwilog 2022 \(gov.wales\)](#)

As can be seen from Estyn's report, Ysgol Chwilog has a number of strengths, including praise of the use made of the Welsh language by the learners.

Estyn's report also refers to elements for improvement, including the use of ICT across the school's activities.

1.1 Assessment of the Impact on the Quality and Standards of Education

Positive	Neutral	Neutral
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Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Standards and general progress of specific groups and in terms of skills	No change	Neutral
Well-being and attitudes to learning	No change	Neutral
Teaching and learning experiences	Adding a classroom will ensure sufficient space in order to educate all children in the catchment area in suitable classes of the correct size.	Positive
Care, support and guidance	No change	Neutral

Leadership and management	No change	Neutral
Vulnerable groups, including children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN)	No change	Neutral
A provision that at least equates to what is available to learners at the time (including those with ALN)	Adding a classroom will ensure sufficient space in order to educate all children in the catchment area in suitable classes of the correct size.	Positive

2. CONCLUSION

As a result of conducting an assessment of the impact of the proposal on the quality and standards of education, we are of the opinion that increasing the capacity at Ysgol Chwillog by adding a classroom will ensure sufficient space to educate all children in the catchment area in suitable classes of the correct size.

Assessment of the Impact on Travel Arrangements

Ysgol Chwilog

1. GWYNEDD COUNCIL TRANSPORT POLICY

In accordance with Gwynedd Council's transport policy, free transport is available:

- for learners who live two or more miles from the school in their catchment area, or the closest school (excluding nursery pupils).
- when learners who receive a primary education live less than two miles from the catchment area school they therefore are not entitled to free transport, but if traveling to the school along a road that is considered by the Council to be especially dangerous, free transport is offered.

The transport policy can be seen in the parents' handbook:

(<https://www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/en/Residents/Documents-Residents/Schools-and-learning-documents/School-Admissions/Guide-Book.pdf>)

2. THE CURRENT SITUATION

At present, four receive free transport to Ysgol Chwilog.

3. CONCLUSION

As we are considering increasing the capacity of Ysgol Chwilog in response to the projected increases within the catchment area, and anticipate that the homes of the majority of the children will be located within two miles of the school, and considering the existing numbers who receive free transportation as a benchmark, it is not anticipated that there will be any significant impact on transport arrangements as a result of increasing the capacity of the schools in question.