

<b>Isle of Anglesey County Council</b>	
Report to:	The Executive
Date:	20 February 2024
Subject:	PROPOSAL PAPER - SCHOOL ORGANISATION  Proposal to: "Transfer pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell and close Ysgol Carreglefn".
Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Dafydd Roberts Education and the Welsh Language Portfolio Holder
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Local Members:	Councillor Jackie Lewis Councillor Llinos Medi Councillor Llio Angharad Owen

#### A –Recommendation/s and reason/s

This proposal paper presents the outcomes of work undertaken to look at a range of options for the future of Ysgol Carreglefn, which has the highest cost per pupil of all Anglesey primary schools for the 2023/24 financial year, and has 80% surplus places as of January 2024.

This proposal paper has been prepared taking account of the revised School Organisation Code (011/2018).

As Ysgol Carreglefn had fewer than 10 registered pupils at the 2024 January Census point (16-1-24), the School Organisation Code allows local authorities to undertake a streamlined procedure to bring about official closure. This consists solely of the issue of the notice of closure (Statutory Notice) – the requirement for general consultation being waived.

**It is recommended that the Executive:**

1. Approves the proposal to "Transfer pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell and close Ysgol Carreglefn".
2. Authorise officers to progress to the next stage noted in the School Organisation Code, which is to publish a Statutory Notice for a period of 28 days (once the Statutory Notice is published, stakeholders will have 28 days to make a statutory objection to the proposal).
3. Authorise officers to respond to any statutory objections (should there be objections), in the form of an Objection Report, for further consideration by the Executive.
4. Authorises officers to hold discussions with the community with a view to provide an opportunity to secure the long-term viability of the present school building as a community resource if required

## A –Recommendation/s and reason/s

The proposal, if realised, would be expected to realise the following benefits:

- Surplus places at Ysgol Carreglefn could be removed, and surplus places at Ysgol Llanfechell could be reduced.
- The variation in cost per pupil across all Anglesey schools could reduce significantly.
- The cost per pupil at Ysgol Llanfechell could reduce and is estimated to be very close to the Anglesey average for primary schools.
- The proposal is estimated to deliver a revenue saving of £126k per annum.
- Carbon emissions would be expected to fall by 12.6 tCO<sub>2</sub>e.
- A greater percentage of the Delegated Schools Budget could be allocated on teaching, with less resources being allocated towards maintaining and running buildings.
- Current and projected maintenance costs could be reduced by £317,350. There could be fewer buildings for the Authority to maintain in future years, which may contribute towards better strategic management of the future school estate.

## B – What other options did you consider and why did you reject them and/or opt for this option?

A number of options have been considered as part of this Proposal Paper.

The Proposal Paper identifies 4 reasonable alternatives to closure, which have been considered in detail. These included:

1. The proposal - Transfer pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell and close Ysgol Carreglefn.
2. One multi-site school (2 sites – current site of Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell).
3. Federate Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell.
4. Review the school and service provision at Ysgol Carreglefn, looking at examples such as:
  - Clustering, collaboration of Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell, i.e., bringing schools together to make better use of resources, pool expertise and allow schools to explore ways of doing things more effectively and efficiently.
  - Using the schools as community hubs to accommodate/support community services, e.g., health, childcare facilities, family and adult learning, community education, sport, recreation, social activity.
  - Co-locating local services within schools.

The Proposal Paper outlines the opportunities and challenges of all these reasonable alternatives.

A further 6 options were also considered, however these were not considered reasonable. Reasons for which have been noted within the Proposal Paper.

As this proposal deals with the potential closure of a rural school (namely Ysgol Carreglefn), the Council has followed a more detailed set of procedures and requirements in formulating this rural school closure proposal. This has been done by assessing what impact the proposal and all the reasonable alternatives would have on the:

- Quality and standards of education
- Community

### B – What other options did you consider and why did you reject them and/or opt for this option?

- Travelling Arrangements for pupils

Council Officers are of the opinion that the proposal to “Transfer pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell and close Ysgol Carreglefn”, is the option which best addresses the key challenges facing Ysgol Carreglefn.

If the proposal is realised, the Authority is committed to:

- Work with the community in Carreglefn with a view to provide an opportunity to secure the long-term viability of the present school building as a community resource if required.
- Provide free transport for eligible pupils from Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell in accordance with the Council’s transport policy for schools, as the route between Carreglefn and Llanfechell isn’t suitable for learners of that age to use to walk to and from school.

### C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?

The Executive is responsible for school organisation matters.

### Ch – Is this decision consistent with policy approved by the full Council?

Yes – It is consistent with the Modernising Learning Communities and Developing the Welsh Language Strategy which was adopted by the Executive in July 2023. It will also contribute towards the ‘Towards Net Zero Plan: 2022-2025’.

### D – Is this decision within the budget approved by the Council?

There are no capital costs associated with this proposal.

The proposal is expected to generate a revenue saving of approximately £126k per annum through the delegated schools formula.

There may be some potential short term transitional costs, which are estimated to be:

2024/25 - £35,000  
2025/26 - £4,000  
2026/27 - £4,000  
2027/28 - £4,000

Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):		
1	How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island?	<p>The proposal is likely to increase pupil numbers at Ysgol Llanfechell, which could result in additional funding for the school. This could make the school more sustainable and resilient in the long term. Pupil numbers have fallen at Ysgol Carreglefn. This would have reduced the budget for the school to operate with, making it more challenging for the school to set a balanced budget. The proposal also contributes towards better strategic management of the school estate. As there could be less schools to maintain, there could be more budget available to maintain the schools that will continue, making them more sustainable in the long term.</p>
2	Is this a decision which it is envisaged will prevent future costs / dependencies on the Authority? If so, how?	<p>The proposal will help secure the future of education in the area by improving sustainability and resilience.</p> <p>The proposal will deliver a revenue saving of approximately £126k per annum.</p> <p>The proposal will reduce schools' current and projected maintenance cost by £317,350.</p>
3	Have we been working collaboratively with other organisations to come to this decision? If so, please advise whom.	<p>Collaboration and information received from Estyn, GwE, community councils and the schools has formed part of this proposal.</p> <p>The following stakeholders will be notified when the Statutory Notice is published:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parents</li> <li>• Governing bodies of Ysgol Carreglefn, and Ysgol Llanfechell</li> <li>• Staff of Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell</li> <li>• Local Elected Members</li> <li>• Local Member of Parliament</li> <li>• Local Assembly Member</li> <li>• Regional Assembly Members</li> <li>• GwE</li> <li>• Estyn</li> <li>• Police and Crime Commissioner</li> <li>• The Welsh Government</li> <li>• Welsh Language Commissioner</li> <li>• Neighbouring local authority</li> <li>• Local community councils</li> <li>• Teacher trade unions representing Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell</li> </ul>

Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cylch Meithrin Llanfechell</li> <li>• Isle of Anglesey County Council - senior officers</li> <li>• Isle of Anglesey County Council - Principal Youth Officer</li> <li>• Other interested parties</li> </ul> <p>All the above (as well as any other stakeholder) will have an opportunity to make a statutory objection should they wish, within 28 days of the Council publishing the Statutory Notice.</p> <p>The Council will consider and respond to any statutory objection in the form of an Objection Report before making a final decision to either approve, reject or amend the proposal.</p>
4	<p>Have Anglesey citizens played a part in drafting this way forward, including those directly affected by the decision? Please explain how.</p> <p>A proposal paper is presented to the Executive of Anglesey County Council to seek a decision to publish a Statutory Notice for this proposal, in line with the process outlined within the School Organisation Code. From the date of publishing the Statutory Notice, stakeholders will have 28 days to object to the proposal (referred to as the objection period). The Council will publish a summary of statutory objections, and its response to those objections, before the Executive decides to either approve, reject or amend the proposal</p>
5	<p>Note any potential impact that this decision would have on the groups protected under the Equality Act 2010.</p> <p>See Appendix 1 – Impact Assessment on Equality, Community and the Welsh Language.</p>
6	<p>If this is a strategic decision, note any potential impact that the decision would have on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage.</p> <p>Ysgol Carreglefn is classed in the School Organisation Code as a rural school. Therefore, it is possible that the proposal could have more of an effect on individuals due to social and economic circumstances.</p> <p>The Council will attempt to mitigate this risk by working with the community in Carreglefn with a view to providing an opportunity to secure the long-term future of Ysgol Carreglefn's building as a community resource if required.</p>
7	<p>Note any potential impact that this decision would have on opportunities for people to use the</p> <p>See Appendix 1 – Impact Assessment on Equality, Community and the Welsh Language.</p>

**Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):**

	Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language.	
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E – Who did you consult?		What did they say?
1	Chief Executive / Senior Leadership Team (SLT) (mandatory)	Included within this document.
2	Finance / Section 151 (mandatory)	Included within this document.
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	Included within this document.
4	Human Resources (HR)	Any human resources issues that may arise from the recommendations will be dealt with in accordance with the recognised consultation and other HR processes.
5	Property	Included within this document.
6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	Not applicable to this proposal.
7	Procurement	There are no procurement activities related to this proposal.
8	Scrutiny	To be discussed by the Corporate Scrutiny Committee on 13 February 2024 and their comments to be conveyed verbally to the Executive at its meeting on 20 February 2024.
9	Local Members	

**F - Appendices:**

Proposal Paper

Appendix 1: Impact Assessment

**Ff - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):**

School Organisation Code 011/2018

**PROPOSAL PAPER  
SCHOOL ORGANISATION**

**Proposal to:**

**“Transfer pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell and close Ysgol Carreglefn”.**

**February 2024**

**Mae’r ddogfen hon hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg / This document is also available in Welsh.**

**Hard Copies of this report are available by emailing  
[angleseyschools@ynysmon.gov.wales](mailto:angleseyschools@ynysmon.gov.wales)**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This paper presents the outcomes of work undertaken to look at a range of options for the future of Ysgol Carreglefn, which has the highest cost per pupil of all Wales primary schools for the 2023/24 financial year, and has 80% surplus places as at January 2024.

This proposal paper has been prepared taking account of the revised Schools' Organisation Code (011/2018) ([school-organisation-code-second-edition.pdf \(gov.wales\)](#)). It will be used to seek the Executive's approval to proceed to publish a statutory notice to close Ysgol Carreglefn.

The key drivers for change(Section 3) include:

**Standards** – Providing the best education for young people in the financial climate we are in so that education can thrive following Covid-19 and respond to the future needs of Anglesey's citizens.

**Leadership and Management** - Increasing capacity to develop effective leadership at our schools and to plan succession.

**Buildings and Resources** – Ensuring high quality and fit for purpose buildings and learning environments.

**Pupil Numbers / Surplus Places** – Providing education that corresponds to the requirements of the island's population. A reduction in surplus places to make efficient use of resources.

**Financial** – Ensuring that schools can operate effectively within the available budget. Aiming towards reducing the range in expenditure per pupil, ensuring more equal opportunity across schools

**Wellbeing, Care and Health** – Improving access to ensure wellbeing, care and health at our schools.

**Curriculum for Wales** – Ensuring that schools have the resources and the capacity to drive Curriculum for Wales forward successfully.

**The Welsh Language** – Offering Welsh-medium and bilingual provision to all our learners

**Community Use** – Expanding use of school buildings and facilities by parents, the community and older inhabitants.

**Decarbonisation** – Ensuring that our schools are sustainable and contribute to the Council's Net Zero agenda.

These criterias will need to be addressed.

The key challenges facing Ysgol Carreglefn (Section 5) are listed below.

- Ysgol Carreglefn has the highest cost per pupil of all Wales primary schools at £17,200 per pupil, which is over three times higher than the average cost per pupil for Anglesey of £5,240.
- Ysgol Carreglefn has 80% surplus places, with only 9 pupils currently attending the school, 4 of which are in year 6.
- The school's forecast predicts 5 or less pupils attending the school from September 2024 onwards.
- Ysgol Carreglefn have had difficulty in appointing a headteacher, and currently share a headteacher with another school. The headteacher is only on the school site for 2 days per week. The deputy leads the school for the remaining 3 days of the week
- Ysgol Carreglefn has the second highest carbon emissions per pupil of all Anglesey primary schools, at 1,167kgCO<sub>2</sub>e per pupil, which is significantly higher than the average of 217kgCO<sub>2</sub>e per pupil.
- There is current and projected future maintenance cost of £317,350 at Ysgol Carreglefn.
- All pupils at Ysgol Carreglefn are taught in a single class, with pupils of age 4-11 being taught together. This can be challenging in terms of meeting the needs of pupils of different ages.

Reasonable alternatives for Ysgol Carreglefn have been considered and analysed against the key drivers (Section 6). Each reasonable alternative has also been assessed in relation to the likely impact on standards, the community and travelling arrangements for pupils, as Ysgol Carreglefn is listed in the Schools Organisation Code (011/2018) as a rural school.

The consideration of the reasonable alternatives has led the Council to present the following proposal for the future of Ysgol Carreglefn :

**“Transfer pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell and close Ysgol Carreglefn”**

And would if agreed by the Executive progress to publish a statutory notice on such a proposal in accordance with the School Organisation Code.

The catchment area of Ysgol Llanfechell would be extended to include the current catchment area of Ysgol Carreglefn.

The proposal, if realised would be expected to realise the following benefits (Section 5):

- Surplus places at Ysgol Carreglefn could be removed, and surplus places at Ysgol Llanfechell could be reduced.
- The variation in cost per pupils across all Anglesey schools could reduce significantly.
- The cost per pupil at Ysgol Llanfechell could reduce, and is estimated to be very close to the Anglesey average for primary schools.
- The proposal is estimated to deliver a revenue saving of £126k per annum
- Carbon emissions would be expected to fall by 12.6 tCO<sub>2</sub>e
- A greater percentage of the Delegated Schools Budget could be allocated on teaching, with less resources being allocated towards maintaining and running buildings
- Current and Projected Maintenance cost could be reduced by £317,350. There could be fewer buildings for the authority to maintain in future years, which may contribute towards better strategic management of the future school estate.

An analysis of the likely impact of the proposal on standards, the community and travelling arrangements for pupils is largely positive. This is underpinned by the Authority’s commitment to:

- provide transport for eligible pupils from Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell in accordance with the Council’s transport policy for schools, as the road between Carreglefn and Llanfechell is unsuitable for learners of that age to walk to and from school.
- work with the community in Carreglefn with a view to providing an opportunity to secure the long-term future of the Carreglefn school building as a community resource if required.

An analysis of the likely impact of the proposal against the key drivers for change is also largely positive, as highlighted in Section 6.1.

An Impact Assessment has also been prepared, which assesses the impact of the proposal on Equality, the Welsh Language and on the Community, as well as how the proposal meets the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. This is a live document which will be updated regularly as we progress with the proposal.

Ysgol Llanfechell would have sufficient capacity to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn (see section 5.7 for more detail). **If the proposal is implemented, it is anticipated that Ysgol Carreglefn would close in August 2024, and the pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn would transfer to Ysgol Llanfechell in September 2024.**

Should the proposal be implemented, the Council will continue to review the performance of Ysgol Llanfechell, and may revisit the school in the future, if required.

## 1. BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION

This paper presents the outcomes of work undertaken to look at a range of options for the future of Ysgol Carreglefn, which has the highest cost per pupil of all Wales primary schools for the 2023/24 financial year, and has 80% surplus places as at January 2024 (PLASC).

This proposal paper has been written in accordance with the expectations of the revised School Organisation Code (011/2018).

As Ysgol Carreglefn has fewer than 10 registered pupils at the 2024 January Census Point (16-1-24), the school organisation code allows local authorities to undertake a streamlined procedure to bring about official closure. This consists solely of the issue of the notice of closure – the requirement for general consultation being waived.

This proposal paper will therefore be presented to the Executive, seeking its decision to proceed to publish a statutory notice for the proposal.

### 1.1 Education provision in the Carreglefn Area

This paper focuses on attempting to identify a solution for the future of Education within the Carreglefn area, to address the key challenges facing Ysgol Carreglefn.

1.2 Before arriving at the proposal (Section 2) below, the Council has considered the following:

- Key drivers for change (Section 3)
- Key drivers for Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell (Section 4)
- Key challenges faced by Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell (Section 5)
- Reasonable alternatives to the proposal for Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell (Section 6)
- Presumption against the closure of Ysgol Carreglefn (Section 7)

## 2. THE PROPOSAL

The proposal is to:

**“Transfer pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell and close Ysgol Carreglefn.”**

The catchment area of Ysgol Llanfechell would be extended to include the current catchment area of Ysgol Carreglefn. Ysgol Llanfechell is the nearest school to Ysgol Carreglefn, and is located 2.2miles from Ysgol Carreglefn

There is sufficient capacity within Ysgol Llanfechell to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn.

The details for Ysgol Llanfechell are noted below:

Ysgol Llanfechell proposed details	
Age range	3-11 years
Pupil Places	106 ( 4-11 years)
Admission number	15
Nursery Places	13
Location	Current Location: Mountain Road, Llanfechell
Category	Community
Language Category	Welsh Medium
Proposed facilities	Primary School facility to accommodate 106 pupils (aged 4-11)
Anticipated Project Cost	No additional capital cost is anticipated

Ysgol Llanfechell would be expected to maintain the current provision in relation to clubs (as described in section 7). In the context of extra-curricular activities every pupil, irrespective of background, would be encouraged to participate with the expectation on the school to make suitable arrangements for less advantaged pupils to be able to participate. These arrangements would include but would not be confined to clubs being held during the lunch break, arrangements with parents for pick-up and transport and providing after school transport.

Ysgol Llanfechell is currently providing pre school provision. There is Nursery provision (Cylch Meithrin) at Llanfechell, that admits pupils from the age of two and a half. The Cylch Meithrin is on the school site, but is financially independent of Ysgol Llanfechell. The service is registered with the Authority to provide early years education for 10 hours per week, term-time only.

The facilities at Ysgol Llanfechell would continue to be available for community use. The Council would want to work with local community groups in Carreglefn to provide an opportunity to ensure the long-term viability of the school building so that the community provision could be maintained if required. Any activities where the numbers involved would be greater than the capacity of Ysgol Carreglefn could be hosted in Ysgol Llanfechell.

The proposal is not expected to diasadvantage pupils who have additional learning needs, nor is it expected to adversely affect educational attainment among children from economically deprived backgrounds.

### **3. KEY DRIVERS FOR CHANGE**

The relevant key drivers for Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell are noted below:

#### 1. Standards

Providing the best education for young people in the financial climate we are in so that education can thrive following Covid-19 and respond to the future needs of Anglesey's citizens. The Authority wants to ensure the best possible outcomes for learners by ensuring that the system is suitable for this generation and future generations. The Authority will be looking at creating the conditions so that headteachers, teachers and pupils succeed.

#### 2. Leadership and Management

Increasing capacity to develop effective leadership at our schools and to plan succession. The council strive to have schools which have strong leadership on all levels, including governors. Primary schools need to be of suitable size and have a headteacher who doesn't teach for a substantial percentage of the time. This would give the necessary time to the headteacher to undertake key leadership functions within the school or federation, offering leadership experiences to members of staff and contributing towards succession planning.

#### 3. School Buildings and Resources

Anglesey is committed to ensuring that all school buildings meet the expectations of the 21st century, are fit for purpose, are in the right location, meet the needs of learners and are a resource for the community.

#### 4. Pupil Numbers / Surplus Spaces

Providing education that corresponds to the requirements of the island's population. A reduction in surplus places to make efficient use of resources.

#### 5. Financial

Ensuring that schools can operate effectively within the available budget. Aiming towards reducing the range in expenditure per pupil, ensuring more equal opportunity across schools.

#### 6. Wellbeing, Care and Health

Improving access to ensure wellbeing, care and health at our schools. Ensure schools have safe environments for learners and staff, which also promote respect and diversity. Schools which have been well-designed and thoughtfully developed school grounds enrich opportunities to learn and play. Connection and contact with nature create more positive emotions and feelings of vitality, and less negative emotions; it also offers a release from mental fatigue, and the ability to concentrate for longer.

#### 7. Curriculum for Wales

Ensuring schools have the resources to drive the new curriculum forward successfully, to meet the four main purposes of developing:

- a. Ambitious, capable learners
- b. Enterprising, creative contributors
- c. Ethical, informed citizens
- d. Healthy, confident individuals

#### 8. The Welsh Language

Maintain and improve bilingual and Welsh-medium provision. The aim is to develop pupils' abilities as bilingual learners by the end of formal education.

#### 9. Community use

The Council is eager to optimise use of resources and infrastructure to provide services to our communities. This means having flexible assets so that there are means for the community (including children, adults, and older people) to use the asset and the resources. This will support the resilience of communities and help mitigate against the impact of poverty.

#### 10. Decarbonisation

The Council is committed to being a net zero carbon service by 2030. A key part of the journey to achieve net zero carbon will be to review the use and performance of all Council assets, ensuring the smallest possible carbon footprint whilst continuing to provide services to our communities

#### 11. General Matters

The assessment has also included general matters for example the impact of the traffic flow etc.

These drivers are discussed in more detail below. (Sections 4.1 - 4.11)

The following (Section 4 ) applies the relevant key drivers for change for Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell (as it is the nearest school to Ysgol Carreglefn).

## 4. KEY DRIVERS FOR YSGOL CARREGLEFN AND YSGOL LLANFECHELL

### 4.1 Standards

#### 4.1.1 Estyn inspections

Estyn reports on quality and standards in education. Summarative Information from the most recent Estyn inspections are shown below:

School	Carreglefn *
<b>Inspection Date</b>	<b>October 2015</b>
<b>Summary</b>	
The School's Current Performance	Adequate
The School's Prospects for Improvement	Unsatisfactory
<b>Main Findings</b>	
Standards	Adequate
Well-being	Good
Learning Experiences	Unsatisfactory
Teaching	Adequate
Care, support and leadership	Adequate
Learning Environment	Good
Leadership	Unsatisfactory
Improving Quality	Unsatisfactory
Partnership Working	Adequate
<b>More information is available below</b>	

School	Llanfechell**
<b>Inspection Date</b>	<b>February 2020</b>
Standards	Good
Well-being and attitudes to learning	Good
Teaching and learning	Adequate and Needs Improvement
Care, support and guidance	Good
Leadership and management	Adequate and Needs Improvement
<b>More information is available below</b>	

#### Estyn Grades – at date of monitoring Ysgol Carreglefn

Excellent	Many strengths, including significant examples of sector-leading practice
Good	Many strengths and no important areas that need substantial improvement
Adequate	Strengths outweigh the areas that require improvement
Unsatisfactory	Important areas that require improvement outweigh strengths

#### Estyn Grades – at date of monitoring Ysgol Llanfechell

Excellent	Very strong, sustained performance and practice
Good	Strong features, although minor aspects may require improvement
Adequate and needs improvement	Strengths outweigh weaknesses, but important aspects require improvement
Unsatisfactory and needs urgent improvement	Important weaknesses outweigh strengths

\*NOTE – Estyn returned to undertake a monitoring visit (Carreglefn) in December 2017 and the report stated: "Ysgol Gymuned Carreglefn is judged to have made sufficient progress in relation to the recommendations following the core inspection in October 2015". The school has been removed from the list of schools that require special measures.

**\*\*NOTE** – Estyn returned to undertake a monitoring visit (Llanfechell) in December 2021 and the report stated: “The school is judged to have made sufficient progress in addressing the recommendations from the Section 28 inspection. The school has been removed from the list of schools requiring Estyn review. There will be no further monitoring activity in relation to this inspection”.

The Authority wants to ensure that all children in Anglesey achieve their full potential and have the best possible experiences.

Any school modernisation / reorganisation would have to at least maintain the good aspects noted by Estyn and also address any shortcomings outlined within their reports.

It is expected that the revised school structure would need to deliver the full curriculum.

***It is acknowledged that the Estyn reports for Ysgol Carreglefn are dated, and that performance may have changed since the date of these reports.***

The Estyn report of Ysgol Llanfechell shows that transferring pupils there ( should Ysgol Carreglefn close), should deliver outcomes and offer provision at least equivalent to that which is currently available at Ysgol Carreglefn. Pupils would transfer to a larger school which provide improved opportunities to share staff expertise and resources, and offer a wider range of extra curricular activities.

The full Estyn reports and monitoring visits can be found through the following links:

[Inspection report Ysgol Carreglefn 2015 \(gov.wales\)](#)

[Follow-up Report \(gov.wales\)](#)

[Inspection report Ysgol Gymuned Llanfechell 2020 \(gov.wales\)](#)

[Outcome of Estyn review Ysgol Gymuned Llanfechell 2021 \(gov.wales\)](#)

**The main conclusions that can be drawn from the comparison above are listed below.**

- At the time of the latest inspections we can conclude that there was a difference in the standards achieved in Ysgol Llanfechell – Ysgol Llanfechell was assessed to be ‘good’, whereas Ysgol Carreglefn was assessed to be adequate.
- Care, Support and guidance was deemed to be better at Ysgol Llanfechell (good), than at Ysgol Carreglefn (Adequate)
- Judgements for wellbeing were assessed to be ‘good’ at both schools.
- There was no significant variation between schools against the ‘Teaching and Learning’ or ‘Leadership and Management’ headings.

It must be noted that the last full Estyn inspection of Ysgol Carreglefn was undertaken in 2015. Performance is likely to have changed within this period.

**4.2 Leadership and Management**

The table below notes the specific teaching commitment of the Headteacher in each of the schools as at September 2023.

School	Carreglefn	Llanfechell
Headteacher’s Specific Teaching Commitment %	70%*	50%

\*As at January 2024, Ysgol Carreglefn share a headteacher with another school, due to difficulties in recruiting. The headteacher is only at Ysgol Carreglefn for 2 days per week. The deputy leads the school for the remaining 3 days of the week. The head teacher has a specific teaching commitment for half a day per week at Ysgol Carreglefn, only allowing a day and a half per week as non contact time.

The headteacher at Ysgol Llanfechell has a specific teaching commitment of 50%.



Headteachers, especially in primary schools, need sufficient capacity in terms of time to allow them to focus on school improvement and pupil attainment. The need to balance specific teaching commitment with the general day-to-day leadership requirements is a real challenge. Tackling staff workload is a key priority set out in Our National Mission Action Plan.

### 4.3 School Buildings

The table below details the current situation regarding the condition rating of the schools (2023), the current and projected future maintenance spend required to raise the condition to a suitable level (not to the Sustainable Communities for Learning expectations) and whether they conform to the Equality Act 2010 with regards to accessibility of disabled pupils.

School	Carreglefn	Llanfechell
Current and projected future maintenance spend (2023)	£317,350	£532,950
School Building – Floor Area	340 m <sup>2</sup>	834 m <sup>2</sup>
School Site Area	3,120 m <sup>2</sup>	9,985 m <sup>2</sup>
Current and projected future maintenance spend (2023) Per m <sup>2</sup> (Based on the building floor area)	£933 / m <sup>2</sup>	£639/ m <sup>2</sup>
Current and projected future maintenance spend (2023) Per m <sup>2</sup> (Based on the school site area)	£102/m <sup>2</sup>	£53/ m <sup>2</sup>
Current and projected future maintenance spend (2023) Per pupil (based on January 2024 pupil numbers)	£35,261 per pupil	£7,402 Per pupil
Condition Grade*	B	B
Number of mobile classrooms on site	0	0
Conforms with Equality Act 2010	Partially	Partially
Sufficient space for curriculum delivery	Yes	Yes
Suitability for curriculum delivery**	B	B

\*Welsh Government categorises the **condition** of school buildings on an A-D scale.

A	A New
B	Functionally safe and shows only minor deterioration
C	Operational but major repair or replacement needed in the short to medium term
D	A severe risk of failure

\*\* Welsh Government categorises the **suitability** of school buildings on an A-D scale

A	Good facilities suitable for teaching, learning and wellbeing in school.
B	Satisfactory, performing as intended, but does not effectively support the delivery of the curriculum in some areas.
C	Poor, teaching methods inhibited/adverse impact on school organisation.
D	Bad, buildings seriously inhibit the staff's ability to deliver the curriculum.

The combined current and projected future maintenance spend at Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell is £850,300. None of the schools are fully compliant with the Equality Act 2010 regarding accessibility for disabled children. Currently, none of the schools are in a position to provide suitable learning environments for children to play outside.

The above table demonstrates that accommodation at Ysgol Llanfechell is of at least equivalent quality to that at Ysgol Carreglefn.

#### 4.4 School Spaces

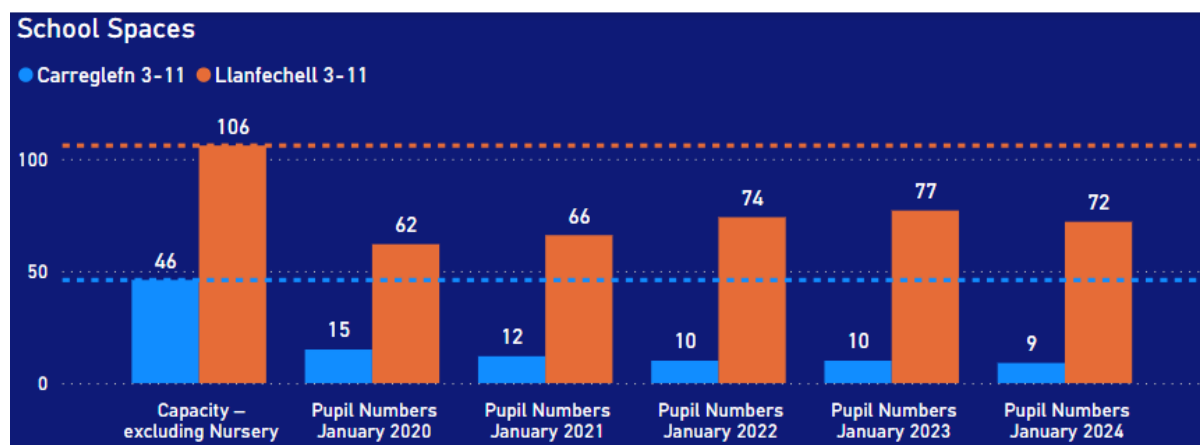
Details of the current pupil numbers on roll, and pupil numbers for the past five school census (January) and future pupil projections to 2028 are shown below.

School	Capacity – excluding Nursery	Pupil Numbers January 2020	Pupil Numbers January 2021	Pupil Numbers January 2022	Pupil Numbers January 2023	Pupil Numbers January 2024	% Surplus Places January 2024
Carreglefn 3-11	46	15	12	10	10	9*	80%
Llanfechell 3-11	106	62	66	74	77	72	32%

\*NOTE – Of the 9 pupils attending Ysgol Carreglefn, 4 of these are in year 6.

At January 2024, there were 9 pupils on the register at Ysgol Carreglefn, with 8 pupils present on the PLASC date.

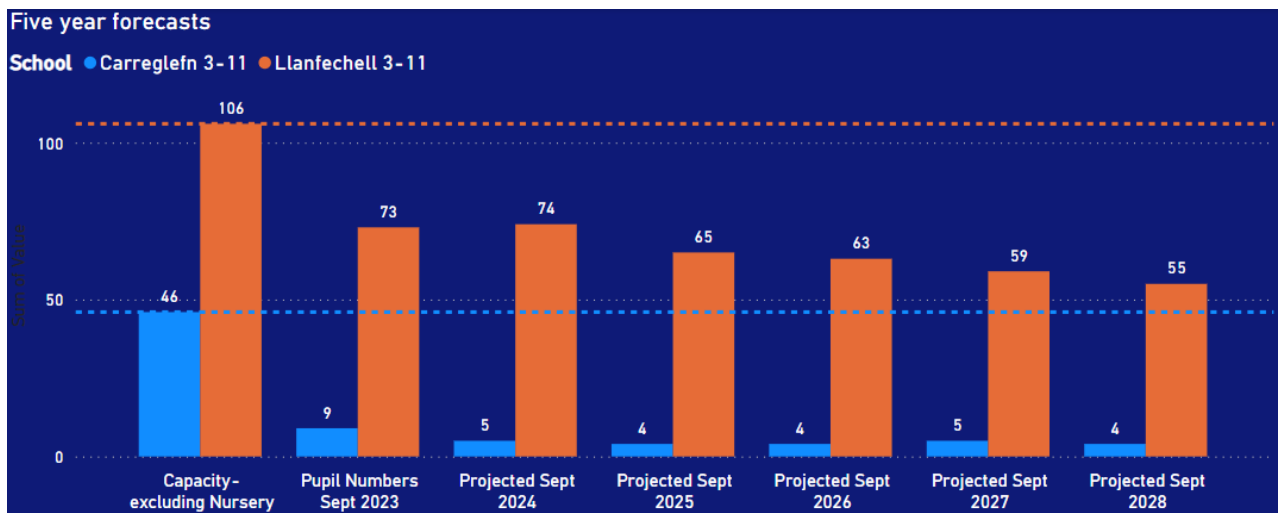
At January 2024, there were 72 pupils on the register at Ysgol Llanfechell (excluding nursery), with 65 pupils present on the PLASC date.



#### Five-year forecasts

The figures shown in the table below are based on the headteachers' forecasts as at September 2023:

School	Capacity-excluding Nursery	Pupil Numbers Sept 2023	Projected Sept 2024	Projected Sept 2025	Projected Sept 2026	Projected Sept 2027	Projected Sept 2028
Carreglefn 3-11	46	9	5	4	4	5	4
Llanfechell 3-11	106	73	74	65	63	59	55

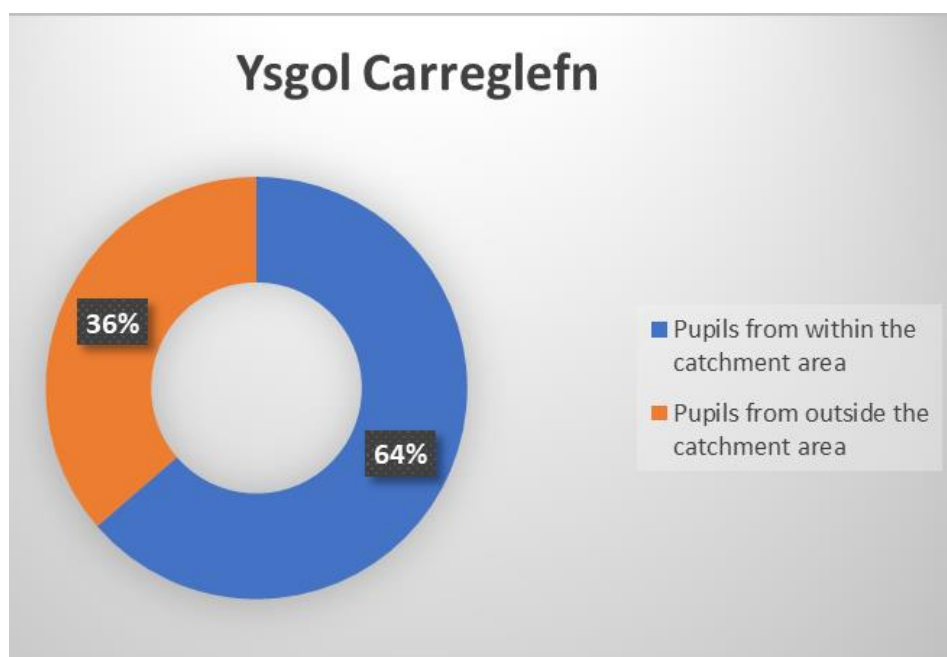


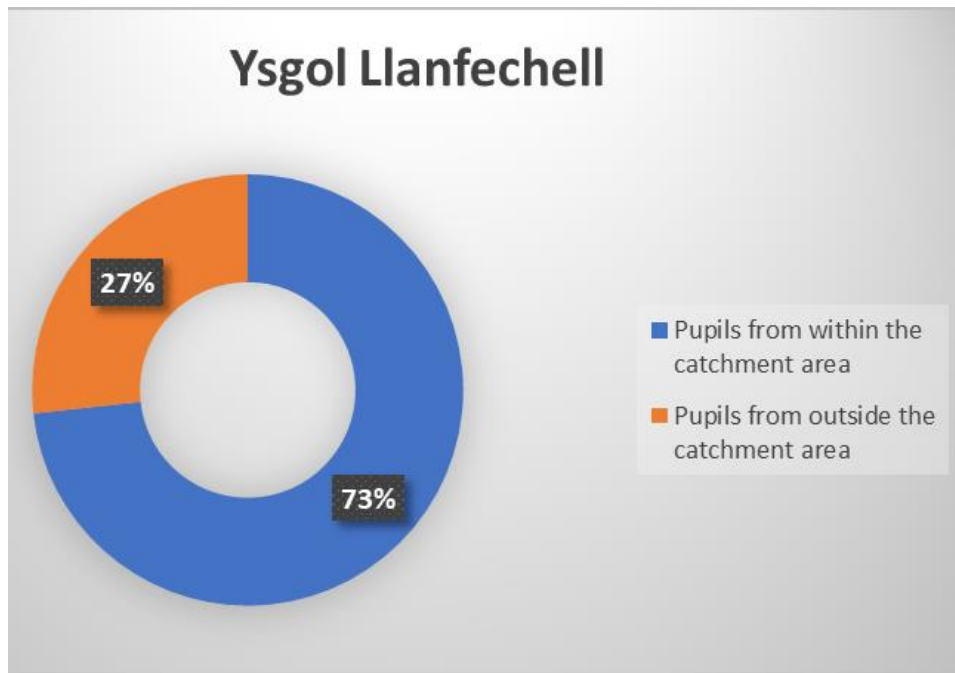
The details noted above show that there is significant surplus places at Ysgol Carreglefn (80%) and Ysgol Llanfechell (32%), with pupil numbers at Ysgol Carreglefn predicted to fall to 5 or below in each year from 2024 onwards. Pupil numbers are also projected to fall steadily at Ysgol Llanfechell. It is predicted that Ysgol Llanfechell could have 48% surplus places by 2028. The forecast above could also include pupils who come from outside the school catchment area.

#### Pupils who travel from outside the catchment area

The Authority is expected to plan school provision around the number of pupils in the catchment area. The movement of pupils from outside the catchment area makes planning school provision difficult. The figures below demonstrate that there is a high percentage of children attending from outside the catchment area at Ysgol Carreglefn.

School	% of pupils from outside the catchment area as at July 2023
Ysgol Carreglefn	36% (4/11)
Ysgol Llanfechell	27% (23/86)



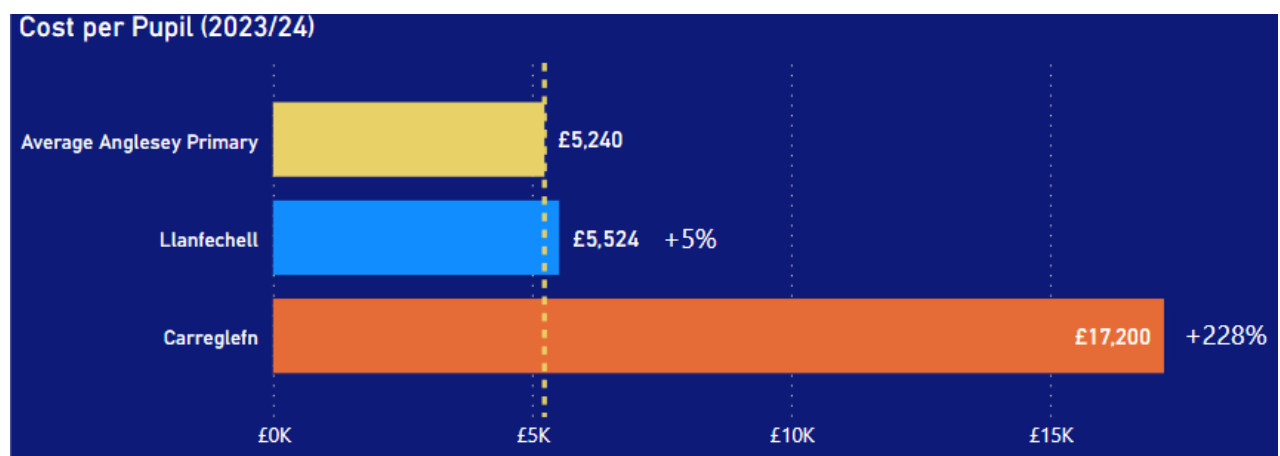


The revised school provision in the area would need to ensure that sufficient school places are available to meet the present school numbers and future projections and that the school system in the area is cost efficient and is effective i.e. the schools are full, and the number of pupils in individual classes is close to 30, whilst limiting the number of cohorts within any given class.

#### 4.5 Financial

The table below shows the cost per pupil in individual schools:

Ysgol	Carreglefn	Llanfechell	Average Anglesey Primary
Cost per Pupil (2023/24)	£17,200	£5,524	£5,240
Position of School Balances as at 31st March 2023	Surplus equivalent to 12% of school budget	Surplus equivalent to 10% of school budget	Surplus equivalent to 12% of school budget



- The table and chart above shows that there is a variation of £11,676 per pupil between the two primary schools, with both schools above the average for Anglesey's primary schools. Ysgol Carreglefn has the highest cost per pupil of all of Wales's primary schools. The difference in expenditure per pupil in the primary sector is a cause for concern and not sustainable for the future.
- It could be argued that the smaller schools are receiving what is equal to additional finance as a form of protection, to maintain minimum staffing levels (for example to ensure funding for a minimum of 1.5 teaching staff for schools with 15 or less pupils, or 2 teaching staff for schools which have between 16 and 41 pupils) and that the largest schools are losing out as a result. In 2023/24 Ysgol Carreglefn received protection funding through the school funding formula - to maintain minimum staffing levels.
- The additional funding allocated to Ysgol Carreglefn in 2023/24 through the school funding formula increased Ysgol Carreglefn's budget by 37% or £46,828, compared to what would have been allocated without this protection. This is one reason why the cost per pupil is very high at Ysgol Carreglefn. This is not sustainable in the long term, as it does not make efficient use of the delegated schools budget, whilst ensuring limited resources are distributed equally.

#### **4.6 Wellbeing, Care and Health**

There is a strong connection between school buildings / environments and Wellbeing, Care and Health. A well-designed school environment can improve the physical and mental health of children, in addition to improving the wellbeing of staff and making them feel that they are appreciated. Well-designed and thoughtfully developed school grounds enrich opportunities to learn and play. Connection and contact with nature create more positive emotions and feelings of vitality, and less negative emotions; it also offers a release from mental fatigue, and the ability to concentrate for longer.

The table at section 4.3 highlights that both schools have been categorised to be in Condition Grade B Functionally safe and shows only minor deterioration. Currently, neither of the schools are in a position to provide suitable learning environments for children to play outside.

#### **4.7 Curriculum for Wales**

Both Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell have limited suitable external space to deliver the Curriculum for Wales (CFW) in the medium to long term, however there is more suitable external space at Ysgol Llanfechell than at Ysgol Carreglefn to deliver the curriculum.

There are more opportunities for pupils to develop their understanding, by working together with peers of the same age at a larger school.

#### **4.8 The Welsh Language**

Both schools are Welsh-medium language, and any future provision would continue to be Welsh-medium language.

#### **Welsh in Education Strategic Plan**

Ysgol Carreglefn, and Ysgol Llanfechell are Welsh Medium schools, with both being in category 3 in terms of language category (where Welsh is the main language for the school, the school has a strong Welsh ethos, and all pupils will be supported to use the Welsh language inside and outside the classroom). There would therefore be no change in the language category if the proposal was realised.

As at January 2023 (PLASC), only 10% of pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn speak Welsh at home, whereas 48% of pupils from Llanfechell speak Welsh at home.

Realisation of the proposal would not adversely affect the current trend of improvement against Outcomes 1, 2, 5 and 6 (all WESP objectives that relate to pupils of primary school age) of the Authority's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022-2032, namely

**Outcome 1:** More nursery children / three-year-olds receive their education through the medium of Welsh.

**Outcome 2:** More reception class children / five-year-olds receive their education through the medium of Welsh.

**Outcome 5:** More opportunities for learners to use Welsh in different contexts in school.

**Outcome 6:** An increase in the provision of Welsh medium education for pupils with Additional Learning Needs

The Council's Welsh Language Forum monitors the progress of the Authority's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) on a quarterly basis.

As both schools are Welsh medium school, the proposal is not expected to adversely affect the Welsh medium provision.

#### 4.9 Community use

Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell are community schools, and any future provision would continue to be community schools.

#### 4.10 Decarbonisation

The Council is committed to being a net zero carbon service by 2030.

A key part of the journey to achieve net zero carbon will be to review the use and performance of all Council assets, ensuring the smallest possible carbon footprint whilst continuing to provide services to our communities.

Primary schools are the largest producers of carbon of all Council buildings, with secondary schools the second highest.

	Ysgol Carreglefn	Ysgol Llanfechell
Tonnes of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	14	20

There is a large variation in carbon emissions per pupil, as seen below:

	Ysgol Carreglefn	Ysgol Llanfechell	Anglesey Average (Primary)
kg of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (kgCO <sub>2</sub> e) per pupil	1,167	233	217

The table above shows that carbon dioxide equivalent per pupil at Ysgol Carreglefn is significantly higher than at Ysgol Llanfechell, and the Anglesey average for Primary schools.

#### 4.11 General Matters

The access to Ysgol Carreglefn is considered to be poor. Ysgol Carreglefn is situated on an unnamed road, 0.8 miles off Brynddu Road. The unnamed road is a single lane road, where 2 vehicles may not be able to pass one another in places. Brynddu Road is 2 lane in places, and a single lane road in places. There are sections of Brynddu Road where 2 vehicles can pass one another, and sections where 2 vehicles may not be able to pass one another. Ysgol Carreglefn is 3.3 miles off the A5025, or 4.0 miles off the B5111.

There is adequate access to Ysgol Llanfechell. Ysgol Llanfechell is situated on Mountain Road. Mountain Road is a 2 lane road in places, and a single lane road in other places. There are sections of the Mountain Road where 2 vehicles can pass one another, and sections where 2 vehicles may not be able to pass one another. Ysgol Llanfechell is 0.3 miles off Brynddu Road and 1.6 miles off the A5025.

#### **4.12 Conclusions drawn from the key drivers for Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell**

- There is a significant variation in the cost per pupil between both schools (Ysgol Carreglefn £17,200, Ysgol Llanfechell £5,524). Both are above the Average for Anglesey primary schools £5,240. The cost per pupil at Carreglefn is the highest in Wales (Primary) for 2023/24. Any proposal should address the variation in the cost per pupil, and should make the provision more cost efficient.
- The number of surplus places in the area is excessive (Ysgol Carreglefn 80%, Ysgol Llanfechell 32%).
- Pupil numbers are projected to fall even further, with pupil numbers at Ysgol Carreglefn projected to be 5 or less each year from September 2024 onwards.
- There is a high percentage of pupils attending from outside the schools' catchment area (Ysgol Carreglefn 36%, Ysgol Llanfechell 27%). Any proposal should address this.
- There is a current and projected future maintenance cost of £317,350 (equivalent to £35,261 per pupil) at Ysgol Carreglefn and £532,950 (equivalent to £7,402 per pupil) at Ysgol Llanfechell.
- As at January 2023 (PLASC), only 10% of pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn speak Welsh at home, whereas 48% of pupils from Llanfechell speak Welsh at home.

**It can therefore be concluded that the education provision in the area needs to be reviewed to provide a sustainable model for future years.**

As a result, the key challenges facing Ysgol Carreglefn, and Ysgol Llanfechell, together with reasonable alternative proposals due to their close proximity (2.2 miles – Google maps), will be considered.

## 5. KEY CHALLENGES FACED BY YSGOL CARREGLEFN AND YSGOL LLANFEHELL

The key challenges faced by Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfehell and how they could be addressed by the proposal to “**Transfer pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfehell and Close Ysgol Carreglefn**” are outlined below:

	Key challenges	How they would be addressed by the proposal
<b>5.1.Pupil Numbers</b>	<p>Currently Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfehell have a significant percentage of surplus places (80% and 32% respectively).</p> <p>Pupil numbers at Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfehell are projected to fall over the next five years.</p> <p>Ysgol Carreglefn – Capacity excluding nursery 46 /Projected 5 or less from September 2024 onwards.</p> <p>Ysgol Llanfehell - Capacity excluding nursery 106 /Projected 55 by 2028. (More detail is available in section 5.8 of this paper below).</p> <p>Ysgol Carreglefn -As at July 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 47% (7/15) of pupils who live within the catchment area of Ysgol Carreglefn attend Ysgol Carreglefn.</li> <li>• Ysgol Carreglefn had 11 Pupils on the roll with 7 pupils attending from within the catchment area.</li> <li>• 50% of the 4 not in the catchment area of Ysgol Carreglefn came from the catchment area of Ysgol Llanfehell [2 pupils].</li> </ul> <p>Ysgol Llanfehell -As at July 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less than 78% of pupils who live within the catchment area of Ysgol Llanfehell attend Ysgol Llanfehell.</li> <li>• Ysgol Llanfehell had 86 Pupils on the roll with 63 pupils attending from within the catchment area.</li> <li>• 1 of the 23 not in the catchment area of Ysgol Llanfehell came from the catchment area of Ysgol Carreglefn.</li> </ul> <p>All pupils at Ysgol Carreglefn are taught in a single class, with pupils of age 4-11 being taught together. This can be challenging in terms of meeting the needs of pupils of different ages.</p> <p>Pupils at Ysgol Llanfehell are split between 4 classes, with an age range of no more than 2 years in each class.</p>	<p>Ysgol Llanfehell has sufficient surplus places to accommodate pupils from the current catchment area of Llanfehell and Carreglefn (including the nursery places). There is no need for additional nursery places within the area.</p> <p>There may also be less movement of pupils across catchment areas.</p> <p>There will be less variation in the age range of pupils taught in the same classes, with more opportunities for pupils to work together with peers of the same age.</p>
<b>5.2.Surplus Places</b>	<p>Currently Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfehell have a significant percentage of surplus places (80% and 32% respectively).</p> <p>Pupil numbers at Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfehell are projected to fall over the next five years.</p> <p>Ysgol Carreglefn – Capacity excluding nursery 46 /Projected 5 or less from September 2024 onwards.</p>	<p>The combined number of surplus places is likely to be reduced.</p> <p>Currently Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfehell combined are projected to have 48% surplus places by September 2024. (Combined pupil numbers 79, combined capacity – 152).</p>



	<b>Key challenges</b>	<b>How they would be addressed by the proposal</b>
	Ysgol Llanfechell - Capacity excluding nursery 106 /Projected 55 by 2028. (More detail is available in section 5.8 of this paper below).	If the proposal is implemented the percentage of surplus places is estimated to be reduced to 25% by September 2024. (Pupil numbers – 79, capacity – 106).
<b>5.3. Cost per pupil</b>	<p>Variation in the cost per pupil:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ysgol Carreglefn 2023/24 = £17,200</li> <li>Ysgol Llanfechell 2023/24 = £5,524</li> </ul> <p>The Anglesey primary average for 2023/24 is £5,240.</p> <p>Ysgol Carreglefn has the highest cost per pupil of all Wales Primary Schools.</p> <p>It could be argued that smaller schools are receiving what is equal to additional finance to maintain minimum staffing levels and that larger schools are losing out as a result.</p> <p>There is a need to reduce the cost of education in the area.</p>	<p>The variation in the cost per pupil across the area could be reduced. It is estimated that the cost per pupil at Llanfechell would be approximately £5,396 (at 23/24 costs) if the proposal is implemented.</p> <p>The proposal would lead to revenue savings for the Council of approximately £126k per annum.</p> <p>The proposal would address the funding variation between small and larger schools funding per pupil.</p>
<b>5.4. School building</b>	<p>Ysgol Carreglefn has a current and projected future maintenance cost of £317,350 (December 2023) and a condition rating B (Satisfactory, performing as intended but exhibiting minor deterioration).</p> <p>Ysgol Llanfechell has a current and projected future maintenance cost of £532,950 (December 2023) and a condition rating B (Satisfactory, performing as intended but exhibiting minor deterioration).</p> <p>Both schools only partially comply with the Equality Act 2010.</p>	<p>Current and projected future maintenance cost would be reduced by £317,350.</p> <p>Fewer buildings for the authority to maintain in future years, which may contribute towards better strategic management of the future school estate.</p> <p>If a pupil with a disability was to attend Ysgol Llanfechell, the work required for the building to comply with their needs would be reviewed and adaptations would be carried out accordingly. This work would be prioritised.</p>
<b>5.5. Specific Teaching Commitment of the Headteacher</b>	<p>The headteacher at Ysgol Llanfechell has a specific teaching commitment of 50%.</p> <p>Ysgol Carreglefn currently share a headteacher with another school, due to difficulties in recruiting. The headteacher is only at Ysgol Carreglefn for 2 days per week. The deputy leads the school for the remaining 3 days of the week. The head teacher has a specific teaching commitment for half a day per week at Ysgol Carreglefn, only allowing a day and a half per week as non contact time .</p>	<p>As a result of Ysgol Llanfechell being likely to receive additional funding through the school funding formula (due to a likely increase in pupil numbers from transferring pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell), the headteacher's specific teaching commitment may be reduced, which may allow more time to lead on teaching and learning, which has the greatest impact on standards.</p>
<b>5.6 Finance</b>	<p>Ysgol Carreglefn – Balances have increased from a surplus of £21,425 at 31/03/22 to a surplus of £22,123 by 31/03/23, which is equivalent to 12% of the school's budget. £5,420 (24%) of the school's balance was used to balance the 2023/24 school budget.</p> <p>Ysgol Llanfechell – Balances have increased from a surplus of £46,129 at 31/03/22 to £49,458 at 31/03/23, which is equivalent to 10% of the school's budget. £3,500 (7%) of the school's</p>	<p>The proposal is expected to generate a net annual saving of £126k through the school funding formula.</p> <p>The proposal would result in pupils from Carreglefn attending other schools. This can generate additional funding for the schools that the pupils would transfer to.</p>

	<b>Key challenges</b>	<b>How they would be addressed by the proposal</b>
	<p>balances was used to balance the 2023/24 school budget.</p> <p>In 2023/24 Ysgol Carreglefn received £46,828 of additional funding (equivalent to 37% of additional school budget), due to elements within the school funding formula which protects smaller schools. For more information – see section 4.5.</p> <p>(See school budgets section 5.11 for further information).</p> <p>The Medium Term Financial Plan highlights the fact that the Council is currently facing its most challenging and uncertain financial position, and states that difficult decisions will have to be taken in order to set a balanced budget in 2024/25 and 2025/26.</p>	<p>There may be more budget available to delegate between other schools, as there may be one less school that receives additional funding by means of protection for small schools (to fund the minimum number of teachers, or through the safety net – as explained in section 4.5)</p> <p>A greater percentage of the school budget could be allocated towards teaching, as opposed to maintaining and running school buildings</p>
<b>5.7 – Variation in class sizes</b>	<p>As at September 2023:</p> <p>All pupils at Ysgol Carreglefn are taught in a single class, resulting in an age variation of 7 years, with reception year pupils being taught in the same class as pupils in year 6. This can be challenging in terms of meeting the needs of pupils of different ages.</p> <p>Pupils at Ysgol Llanfechell are split into 4 classes, with an age variation of 2 years per class.</p>	<p>If the proposal is realised, there would be less variation in the age ranges taught in classes at Ysgol Llanfechell. More opportunities for joint working with pupils of the same age.</p>

## 5.8 Pupil Numbers and Pupil Projections

### Pupil numbers – Historical

School	Capacity-excluding Nursery	Pupil Numbers January 2019	Pupil Numbers January 2020	Pupil Numbers January 2021	Pupil Numbers January 2022	Pupil Numbers January 2023	Pupil Numbers January 2024
Carreglefn 3-11	46	23	15	12	10	10	9*
Llanfechell 3-11	106	66	62	66	74	77	72

\*NOTE – Of the 9 pupils attending Ysgol Carreglefn, 4 of these are in year 6.

### Pupil Numbers – Five-Year Forecasts

School	Capacity-excluding Nursery	Pupil Numbers Sept 2023	Projected Sept 2024	Projected Sept 2025	Projected Sept 2026	Projected Sept 2027	Projected Sept 2028
Carreglefn 3-11	46	9	5	4	4	5	4
Llanfechell 3-11	106	73	74	65	63	59	55

Projections confirm that combined pupil numbers for Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell are expected to fall. As a result, the proposal to close Ysgol Carreglefn and extend the catchment area of Ysgol Llanfechell is reasonable in the sense that the combined pupils from Carreglefn and Llanfechell is below the existing capacity at Ysgol Llanfechell. As Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell are

Welsh-Medium schools with no religious character, the proposal could meet existing and projected demand for schools of the same language category and religious character.

The table below shows the indicative provision for housing development within Carreglefn and Llanfechell. These figures include developments that are currently being undertaken:

School	Remaining Allocation for for housing developments in the catchment area(2018-2026) – including units with planning permission	Corresponding number of children*
Carreglefn	8	1
Llanfechell	12	2

\*Evidence suggests that each house within the medium super output area [MSOA\*1] has, on average 0.14 children of primary school age. Multiplying the number of housing developments with 0.14, gives an estimated number of additional children who would need to be educated at that particular school

\*1 MSOA - areas as defined by the Office of National Statistics, for reporting census information. The MSOA's typically consist of between 2,000 and 6,000 households and have a population of between 5,000 and 15,000 persons. More information on the MSOA's can be found on the following link - [Census 2021 geographies - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://www.ons.gov.uk/census/2021-geographies) ,

Should all the housing provision noted above materialise, there would still be sufficient places at Ysgol Llanfechell to accommodate pupils from Carreglefn and Llanfechell,

It is important to note that projections are difficult as a number of pupils attend the schools from other catchment areas. As at July 2023:

- Ysgol Carreglefn had 11 Pupils on the roll with 7 pupils attending from within the catchment area.
- Less than 47% of pupils that live within the catchment area of Ysgol Carreglefn attend Ysgol Carreglefn.
- Ysgol Llanfechell had 86 Pupils on the roll with 63 pupils attending from within the catchment area.
- Less than 78% of pupils that live within the catchment area of Ysgol Llanfechell attend Ysgol Llanfechell.

## 5.9 Nursery and Pre-school provision

The following pre-school provision is available in the Carreglefn and Llanfechell area:

Both schools are registered for children aged 3-11 years old and provide early years education for children who have turned 3 years of age before 1 September in any year.

### Forecasted Number of School Nursery Places:

	Current nursery number on roll Sept 2023	Projected nursery number on roll Sept 2024	Projected nursery number on roll Sept 2025	Projected nursery number on roll Sept 2026	Projected nursery number on roll Sept 2027	Projected nursery number on roll Sept 2028
Carreglefn 3-11	0	0	0	1	0	0
Llanfechell 3-11	6	7	7	7	7	7

The table above shows that the forecasted combined number of nursery pupils at Ysgol Carreglefn and Llanfechell is 8 when at its highest. The nursery admission number for Ysgol Llanfechell is 13. It is therefore reasonable to assume that there would be a sufficient number of nursery places at Ysgol Llanfechell should the proposal be implemented. The nursery provision at Ysgol Llanfechell would be a Welsh Medium provision, as is currently in place at Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell. There is

no known demand within the area for a specific type of provision, e.g a provision with a religious character.

There is Nursery provision (Cylch Meithrin) at Llanfechell, that admits pupils from the age of two and a half. The Cylch Meithrin is on the school site, but is financially independent of Ysgol Llanfechell. The service is registered with the Authority to provide early years education for 10 hours per week, term-time only from 9am until 11.30am (Monday-Thursday). The Cylch Meithrin also provides a childcare wraparound (no education provision) Monday to Thursday from 11.30 am until 3pm. It is registered for the Childcare Offer, where the Welsh Government contributes for up to 30 hours of care per week (including the 10 hours education provision / 20 hours childcare) for children aged 3-4. The provision was last inspected by Estyn in January 2020, when Wellbeing, Care and Development, Teaching and Assessment, and Leadership and Management was evaluated to be good. The Environment was judged to be Adequate. The Cylch Meithrin and Ysgol Llanfechell work together to provide a wraparound service, meaning that pupils aged 3-4 years old can transfer between school nursery and the 'Cylch Meithrin' without the need for parents / guardians to be present.

There is no pre school provision at Carreglefn, other than the school Nursery class for children who have turned 3 years of age before 1 September in any year.

The proposal is not expected to affect any other organisations.

#### **5.10 Additional Learning Needs (ALN)**

If the current proposal is agreed, it would result in a change in the learning environment of pupils from Carreglefn. It is however, acknowledged the change could prove more challenging for some pupils with additional learning needs (ALN). All practical steps would be taken to ensure minimum disruption and to assist pupils with any transfer. The Council would obtain advice from specific teams (which the pupils are subject to) in order to identify and implement relevant strategies to ease the transition. This could include (for example)

- an additional visit to Ysgol Llanfechell whilst the school is not open,
- pupils from Carreglefn participating in joint activities with Ysgol Llanfechell, prior to the transition date.
- a visual resource with photographs of key people/places in the school. This can be sent directly to children with ALN or are considered vulnerable
- provide visual resources regarding the rules and routines of the day such as photographs of the school uniform, number of lessons per day, lunchtime etc.
- arrange for the class teacher to phone, visit, or write to the pupil to speak to them and to let them know that they are thinking of them prior to the transition.
- School to provide parents with Q&A leaflet with frequently asked questions and answers.
- Schools to try to get as much information about the pupil as possible from the parents, the pupil, the previous school or any agencies related to the pupil.

If the proposal is accepted, a needs assessment would be undertaken to identify the level and type of support that is required to ease the transition of pupils who have additional learning needs.

Pupils with ALN currently attending Ysgol Carreglefn would continue to receive the level of support that is required to meet their individual educational needs within Ysgol Llanfechell.

The Council would provide appropriate help and support for ALN pupils. Should parents with pupils who are registered ALN have any questions regarding the support offered, individual meetings can be arranged with Dr Einir Thomas (Additional Learning Needs Manager), Email: [einirthomas@gwynedd.llyw.cymru](mailto:einirthomas@gwynedd.llyw.cymru) , telephone 01286 679007.

## 5.11 School Budgets

The financial evaluation below details the current situation and costs for the schools.

	Full Year Budget 2022/23	Actual Expenditure 2022/23	2022/23 Surplus / (Deficit)	School Balances as at 31/3/22	School Balances as at 31/3/23
<b>Ysgol Carreglefn</b>	£161,910	£161,212	£698	£21,425	£22,123
<b>Ysgol Llanfechell</b>	£442,610	£439,281	£3,329	£46,129	£49,458

**For clarity** – The Full Year budget above for the purpose of this document does not include carry over balance from previous year.

Currently, both schools have positive balances, however it should be noted that School Balances at Ysgol Carreglefn were in a deficit position at the end of March 2019 and March 2020.

## Recurrent Costs

The recurrent annual costs for 91 pupils at Ysgol Llanfechell would be £427,623 based on the current funding formula for schools available via the authority's annual school budget allocation (excluding Service Level Agreements and Foundation Phase Funding which would not be affected). The recurrent cost for Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell in their current form, and based on 91 pupils combined would be £554,013 (excluding Service Level Agreements and Foundation Phase Funding which would not be affected). The proposal could therefore generate a net saving of £126,390 allocated to schools through the school funding formula based on 91 pupils (pupil numbers as at September 2022 – used to set 2023/24 school budget).

## 5.12 Decarbonisation

Primary schools are the largest producers of carbon of all Council buildings, with secondary schools the second highest.

The table below shows the Tonnes of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent for Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell buildings.

	Ysgol Carreglefn	Ysgol Llanfechell
Tonnes of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	14	20

Should the proposal be realised, the net amount of tCO<sub>2</sub>e emitted by the two school buildings would reduce from 34 to 20, a 41% reduction in the amount of tCO<sub>2</sub>e.

There is a large variation in carbon emissions per pupil, as seen below:

	Ysgol Carreglefn	Ysgol Llanfechell	Anglesey Average (Primary)
kg of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (kgCO <sub>2</sub> e)	1,167	233	217

Carbon emission per pupil at Ysgol Carreglefn is the second highest of all Anglesey primary schools.

If the proposal was realised, the carbon emissions per pupil at Ysgol Llanfechell would be predicted to be 204kgCO<sub>2</sub>e.

The Council acknowledges however, that the proposal could lead to some additional travelling for pupils from Carreglefn. It is anticipated, that this would result in an increase in carbon emissions equivalent to approximately 1.7tCO<sub>2</sub>e

Should the proposal be realised, it could lead to a reduction of approximately £770 against the Supplies and Services budget. This is predicted to result in a carbon saving of approximately 284 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e.

The net effect of the above is predicted to be a saving of approximately 12.6tCO<sub>2</sub>e per annum. This is approximately equivalent to one persons carbon footprint during their lifetime.

### 5.13 Summary

**The reasons (and benefits) for the proposal to “Transfer pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell and close Ysgol Carreglefn” are:**

- Ysgol Carreglefn has a significant number of surplus places (80%). As at January 2024 only 9 pupils attend Ysgol Carreglefn, 4 of which are in year 6. The school forecasts pupil numbers to fall to 5 or less from September 2024 onwards. Ysgol Llanfechell is located 2.2 miles from Ysgol Carreglefn, and has sufficient capacity to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn, whilst reducing the number of surplus places within the area. This could improve efficiency in the area, and ensure that a greater percentage of school funding is allocated towards teaching.
- All pupils at Ysgol Carreglefn are taught in a single class, resulting in an age variation of 7 years, with reception year pupils being taught in the same class as pupils in year 6. This can be challenging in terms of meeting the needs of pupils of different ages.
- The proposal delivers an efficiency saving of £126k which would contribute towards the savings that the authority will be required to achieve in the near future. A greater percentage of the school budget could be allocated towards teaching, as opposed to maintaining and running school buildings
- The Cost per pupil at Ysgol Carreglefn is the highest of all Wales primary schools at £17,200 per pupil, which is more than 3 times higher than the Authority average of £5,240 for Primary schools. The proposal addresses the variation in funding per pupil between the small and larger schools. If the current proposal was realised, the cost per pupil at Llanfechell would be predicted to be approximately £5,396 (at 2023/24 costs), and would be relatively close to the Anglesey average cost per pupil.
- Ysgol Carreglefn has experienced difficulties in appointing a permanent headteacher for over 2 years. Currently the school shares a headteacher with another Primary School, and the headteacher is only on the school site for 2 days per week, of which she has a specific teaching commitment for half a day. The Headteacher at Ysgol Llanfechell also has a specific teaching commitment of 50%. The proposal could allow a reduction in the headteachers specific teaching commitment, and allow more time to address strategic and managerial challenges.
- The proposal could maintain the current standards at Ysgol Llanfechell, which would be at least equivalent to the standards at Ysgol Carreglefn. There would be less variation in the age ranges taught in classes, allowing more opportunities for pupils from Carreglefn to work with other pupils of the same age, and access a broader and more balanced curriculum.
- Wellbeing, Care and Health could be improved due to less burden on teachers having to undertake different responsibilities, compared to that at very small schools.
- There could be more opportunities to broaden and enrich the curriculum, due to more staff and resources.
- The Welsh medium provision at schools could be maintained.
- Carbon emissions per pupil at Ysgol Carreglefn is the second highest of all Anglesey primary schools. The proposal would contribute towards the Council’s decarbonisation agenda. Carbon emissions would be estimated to reduce by approximately 12.6tCO<sub>2</sub>e
- The current and projected future maintenance cost (£317,350) would be reduced. The proposal would also reduce the overall revenue costs and lead to financial savings.

The section above shows that the proposal has a largely positive effect on the key drivers noted in section 4. This however is underpinned by the Authority’s commitment to:

- provide transport for pupils attending Ysgol Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell in accordance with the Council's transport policy for schools, as the road between Carreglefn and Llanfechell is unsuitable for learners of that age to walk to and from school.
- Work with the community in Carreglefn with a view to providing an opportunity to secure the long term future of the Carreglefn school building as a community resource if required.

**The proposal to “Transfer pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell and close Ysgol Carreglefn”, is therefore considered a solution that meets the key challenges faced by the schools.**

Should the proposal be implemented, the Council will continue to monitor the performance of Ysgol Llanfechell, and may revisit the school in the future, if required.

## 6. REASONABLE ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSAL FOR YSGOL CARREGLEFN AND YSGOL LLANFEHELL

This section identifies the reasonable alternatives in an attempt to identify a solution that addresses the key drivers for the Carreglefn and Llanfehell areas noted in section 4 above.

<b>6.1 Transfer pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfehell and close Ysgol Carreglefn. (The Proposal)</b>		
Estimated cost: No Capital Costs anticipated		
Driver	Opportunities	Challenges
1. Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Has the possibility to maintain standards currently seen at Ysgol Llanfehell. There could be less variation in class sizes and the number of age ranges taught in classes.</li> <li>▪ More opportunities for joint working with pupils of the same age.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Less one to one contact between teachers and pupils in larger schools.</li> </ul>
2. Leadership and Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Headteacher at Ysgol Llanfehell may have less specific teaching commitment, resulting in more time to lead and manage the school.</li> <li>▪ More stability within the school Leadership team.</li> <li>▪ Easier to recruit staff and governors.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Potential loss of experienced staff and governors.</li> </ul>
3. Buildings and Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reduces current and projected future maintenance cost by £317,350.</li> <li>▪ Reduces the number of buildings the Council need to maintain, and avoids future repairs and maintenance costs.</li> <li>▪ Would partially address the need to provide external learning environments to promote pupils' independent learning and therefore to deliver the Curriculum for Wales (CFW) in the medium to long term.</li> </ul>	
4. Pupil Numbers / Surplus Places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fulfils current and future capacity requirements.</li> <li>▪ Removes surplus places in the area – As at January 2024 there were only 9 pupils attending Ysgol Carreglefn</li> <li>▪ Reduces movement across catchment areas.</li> </ul>	
5. Financial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Could address the funding inequity, by reducing the variation in the cost per head.</li> <li>▪ Would lead to a reduction in revenue costs of £126k through the schools delegated formula.</li> <li>▪ No additional capital costs incurred.</li> <li>▪ Additional pupils at Ysgol Llanfehell could bring additional funding to the school. This is likely to assist the school in setting a balanced budget.</li> <li>▪ Minimal additional transport cost anticipated, as there is already a bus servicing Ysgol Carreglefn, and the additional distance from Ysgol Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfehell is only 2.2 miles.</li> <li>▪ Would reduce the current and projected future maintenance cost by £317,350.</li> <li>▪ Would reduce the budget that is allocated to protect small schools via the delegated schools funding formula.</li> </ul>	
6. Wellbeing, Care and Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Less burden on teachers – different responsibilities compared to very small schools.</li> <li>▪ Increased opportunities for learners to collaborate within school.</li> </ul>	
7. Curriculum for Wales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Opportunities to enrich the curriculum, due to more staff and funding.</li> <li>▪ More opportunities for co-planning amongst the school's staff.</li> </ul>	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A broader and more balance curriculum would be accessible for learners from Carreglefn</li> </ul>	
8.The Welsh Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Would maintain the present provision at school.</li> <li>▪ Schools have an important role to play in promoting the Welsh language within communities – this would continue at Ysgol Llanfechell.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ There could be less contact between the school and the local community in Carreglefn.</li> </ul>
9.Community use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The authority would want to work with the community to provide an opportunity to secure the Carreglefn school building, so that it could continue to be used as a community asset.</li> <li>▪ By merging the Carreglefn and Llanfechell communities, there could be more opportunities to participate in community activities.</li> </ul>	
10. Decarbonisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reducing the number of school buildings would reduce the Council's carbon footprint, giving a net carbon saving of approximately 12.6tCO<sub>2</sub>e per annum.</li> </ul>	
11.General issues		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Longer travel distances for some pupils, however the additional travelling would not be significant. The distance between Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell is only 2.2 miles.</li> <li>▪ It is unlikely that pupils from Carreglefn would walk or cycle to Ysgol Llanfechell. Pupils currently attending Ysgol Llanfechell are not likely to be affected.</li> </ul>

## 6.2 One multi-site school (2 sites – current site of Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell).

A multi-site school is one that operates from more than one site, but under a single school identity.

Based on no capital costs incurred.

Driver	Opportunities	Challenges
1. Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Possibility of developing consistency of teaching and learning methodology through collaboration between staff.</li> <li>▪ Opportunities for sharing staff expertise and good practice across Key Stages at different sites.</li> <li>▪ More opportunities for one to one contact between teachers and pupils</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It is unlikely that there would be any change in the variation in class sizes or the number of age ranges taught in classes at FP and KS2.</li> <li>▪ Less opportunities for joint working with pupils of the same age at very small schools.</li> </ul>
2. Leadership and Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Opportunity for the Headteacher to develop a senior management team to share the Leadership burden.</li> <li>▪ The Headteacher is likely to have less specific teaching commitments.</li> <li>▪ Could be easier to recruit teachers and governors.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Potential loss of experienced Governors.</li> <li>▪ It could prove difficult to lead and manage a school effectively at times when the Headteacher is not present on site.</li> </ul>
3. Buildings and Resources		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Does not address the need to improve the primary school building estate and provide inspirational learning environments.</li> <li>▪ Does not address the need to provide external learning environments to promote pupils' independent learning and therefore deliver the Curriculum for Wales (CFW) in the medium to long term.</li> <li>▪ Does not address the current and projected future maintenance cost.</li> </ul>
4. Pupil Numbers / Surplus Places		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Does not address the number of surplus places within the area.</li> </ul>
5. Financial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Variation in cost per pupil and fairness of approach across the area could be addressed.</li> <li>▪ Estimated revenue savings of £94k per annum. No additional transport cost is anticipated.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Does not address the current and projected future maintenance cost of the individual schools – financially unviable in the future.</li> <li>▪ It could be very difficult for the school to set a balanced budget, as the additional teaching cost associated with very small schools could still exist at the smaller sites, but the funding protection (minimum number of teachers to be funded) would not apply, and the fixed lump element of the formula would only be allocated once (i.e per school not per site).</li> </ul>
6. Wellbeing, Care and Health		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Teachers shoulder too much burden – Different responsibilities at very small schools.</li> </ul>
7. Curriculum for Wales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ More opportunities for co-planning amongst the school's staff.</li> <li>▪ Opportunities to enrich the curriculum, by sharing resources and expertise</li> </ul>	
8. The Welsh Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Would maintain the present provision at schools and within communities.</li> </ul>	
9. Community use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The school provision would continue in each community.</li> <li>▪ The present use of the school by the community would continue.</li> <li>▪ By merging schools and communities, there could be more opportunities to participate in community activities.</li> </ul>	
10. Decarbonisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No increased carbon emissions, due to further travelling distances to and from school.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ There would be no reduction in the carbon footprint from school buildings</li> </ul>

**6.2 One multi-site school (2 sites – current site of Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell).**

A multi-site school is one that operates from more than one site, but under a single school identity.

Based on no capital costs incurred.

Driver	Opportunities	Challenges
11 General issues	▪ No disruption to pupils.	▪ Schools would not retain their original identity.

### 6.3 Federate Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell

To federate describes a formal and legal agreement by which the schools involved work together in a formal partnership under a single governing body.

Based on no capital costs incurred.

Driver	Opportunities	Challenges
1. Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ More opportunities for one to one contact between teachers and pupils in smaller schools.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It is unlikely there would be any change in the variation in class sizes or the number of age ranges taught in classes at FP and KS2.</li> <li>▪ Less opportunities for joint working with pupils of the same age at very small schools</li> </ul>
2. Leadership and Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Opportunity for the Headteacher to develop a senior management team to share the Leadership burden.</li> <li>▪ Possibility of combined pupil activities through co-ordinated opportunities involving similar aged children from different schools.</li> <li>▪ Opportunities for sharing staff expertise, resources and good practice but would need to be managed carefully.</li> <li>▪ Possibility of attaining consistency of teaching and learning methodology.</li> <li>▪ The Headteacher may have less specific teaching commitment, resulting in more time to lead and manage the school.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Potential loss of experienced staff and governors.</li> </ul>
3. Buildings and Resources		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Does not address the need to improve the primary school building estate and provide inspirational learning environments.</li> <li>▪ Does not address the need to provide external learning environments to promote pupils' independent learning and therefore deliver the Curriculum for Wales (CFW) in the medium to long term.</li> <li>▪ Does not address the current and projected future maintenance cost.</li> </ul>
4. Pupil Numbers / Surplus Places		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Does not address the need to to reduce surplus places in the schools, both of which (Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell) have a substantial number of surplus places – As at January 2024 there were only 9 pupils attending Ysgol Carreglefn.</li> </ul>
5. Financial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Each school retains its own budget.</li> <li>▪ No additional transport cost.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Staffing cost likely to increase by circa £3k per annum.</li> <li>▪ Does not address the current and projected future maintenance cost of the individual schools – financially unviable in the future.</li> <li>▪ Does not address the variation in the cost per pupil and equality of provision as smaller schools receive a greater percentage of funding per pupil.</li> </ul>
6. Wellbeing, Health and Care		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Teachers shoulder too much burden – Different responsibilities at very small schools.</li> </ul>
7. Curriculum for Wales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Opportunities to enrich the curriculum, by sharing resources and expertise</li> </ul>	
8. The Welsh Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Would maintain the present provision in school and within communities.</li> </ul>	
9. Community use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The school provision would continue in both communities.</li> <li>▪ The present use of the school by the community would continue.</li> </ul>	

### 6.3 Federate Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell

To federate describes a formal and legal agreement by which the schools involved work together in a formal partnership under a single governing body.

Based on no capital costs incurred.

Driver	Opportunities	Challenges
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ By federalising the two schools, there could be more opportunities to participate in community activities across both villages.</li> </ul>	
10. Decarbonisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No increased carbon emissions, due to further travelling distances to and from school.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ There would be no reduction in the carbon footprint from school buildings</li> </ul>
11. General issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Education provision could continue on both school sites.</li> <li>▪ Minimum disruption to pupils, parents and staff as the schools would continue to operate from their current sites.</li> <li>▪ One Governing Body and potentially one Headteacher.</li> </ul>	

**6.4 Review the school and service provision at Ysgol Carreglefn, looking at examples such as:**

- ❖ **Clustering, collaboration of Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell** i.e. bringing schools together to make better use of resources, pool expertise and allow schools to explore ways of doing things more effectively and efficiently.
- ❖ **Using the schools as community hubs to accommodate/ support community services e.g. health, childcare facilities, family and adult learning, community education, sport, recreation, social activity**
- ❖ **Co-locating local services within schools**

Based on no capital costs incurred

Driver	Opportunities	Challenges
1.Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ More opportunities for one to one contact between teachers and pupils</li> <li>▪ Possibility of combined pupil activities through co-ordinated opportunities for similar aged children from different schools.</li> <li>▪ More opportunities for one to one contact between teachers and pupils</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It is unlikely there would be any change in the variation in class sizes or the number of age ranges taught in classes.</li> <li>▪ Less opportunities for joint working with pupils of the same age at very small schools</li> </ul>
2.Leadership and Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Opportunities for sharing staff expertise, resources and good practice throughout the continuum but would need to be managed carefully.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Likely to take time to embed cluster / collaboration before clustering becomes mainstream.</li> <li>▪ No change in Leadership and Management capacity. The present pattern of balancing specific teaching commitment with the need to find time to lead and manage the school could continue.</li> <li>▪ Likely to continue to be difficult to recruit teachers and governors at small schools.</li> <li>▪ Less stability within the School's Leadership Team.</li> </ul>
3.Buildings and Resources		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Does not address the condition of school estate.</li> <li>▪ Does not address the need to improve the primary school building estate and provide inspirational learning environments.</li> <li>▪ Does not address the need to provide external learning environments to promote pupils' independent learning and therefore deliver the Curriculum for Wales (CFW) in the medium to long term.</li> <li>▪ Does not address the current and projected future maintenance cost of the individual schools – financially unviable in the future. Does not address the quality of the school building estate.</li> </ul>
4.Pupil Numbers / Surplus Places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Could address the number of surplus places within the area.</li> </ul>	
5.Financial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Each school retains its own budget.</li> <li>▪ No capital investment required by the Council.</li> <li>▪ Improved use of resources across the schools.</li> <li>▪ Possibility of off-setting school costs with the income from community use.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Does not address the current and projected future maintenance cost, which are financially unviable in the future due to the high ongoing cost of the school building estate.</li> <li>▪ Does not reduce the overall revenue costs of education in the area - no revenue savings.</li> </ul>
6. Wellbeing, Health and Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ There could be opportunities to improve Wellbeing, Health and Care by working together with the partners who would occupy the school site.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Teachers shoulder too much burden – Different responsibilities at very small schools.</li> </ul>
7. Curriculum for Wales		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Could be less opportunities to enrich the curriculum in small schools, due to less resources and finance.</li> <li>▪ Limited opportunities for co-planning between teachers at very small schools.</li> </ul>

**6.4 Review the school and service provision at Ysgol Carreglefn, looking at examples such as:**

- ❖ **Clustering, collaboration of Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell** i.e. bringing schools together to make better use of resources, pool expertise and allow schools to explore ways of doing things more effectively and efficiently.
- ❖ **Using the schools as community hubs to accommodate/ support community services e.g. health, childcare facilities, family and adult learning, community education, sport, recreation, social activity**
- ❖ **Co-locating local services within schools**

Based on no capital costs incurred

Driver	Opportunities	Challenges
8. The Welsh Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Would maintain the present provision at schools and within the community.</li> </ul>	
9. Community use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The school provision would continue in both communities.</li> <li>▪ The present use of the school by the community would continue.</li> <li>▪ There could be more opportunities to participate in community activities across the two villages as a result of the clustering / collaboration arrangement.</li> <li>▪ There could be opportunities to increase community use of the building by working together with the services who would occupy the school site.</li> </ul>	
10. Decarbonisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No increased carbon emissions, due to further travelling distances to and from school.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ There would be no reduction in the carbon footprint from school buildings</li> </ul>
11. General issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Education provision would continue on each school site.</li> <li>▪ Minimum disruption to pupils, parents and staff as the schools would continue to operate from their current sites.</li> <li>▪ All schools remain independent.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Formal Cluster / collaboration agreements are slow to develop in Wales.</li> <li>▪ Possibility of additional child safeguarding issues, with other services sharing the school site.</li> <li>▪ Difficult to attract suitable services due to Council's retraction of services into Headquarters in Llangefni to aid efficiency agenda.</li> </ul>

**Other options considered, but were not considered to be reasonable**

In addition to the above, the following options were also considered, but were not considered reasonable for the reasons summarised below

<b>Ref</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Main Reasons for Rejection</b>
6.5	Transfer pupils from Ysgol Llanfechell to Ysgol Carreglefn and close Ysgol Llanfechell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ There is not sufficient capacity at Ysgol Carreglefn to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Llanfechell. Would require substantial capital investment to expand the school, and would be dependent on availability of adjacent land.</li> <li>▪ Would lead to higher transport costs to transport pupils from Llanfechell to Ysgol Carreglefn.</li> <li>▪ Would lead to more traffic along a single lane road, where school access is considered poor.</li> </ul>
6.6	Retain the Status Quo – Leave Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell as they are	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It is unlikely there would be any change in the variation in class sizes or the number of age ranges taught in FP and KS2.</li> <li>▪ Less opportunities for joint working with pupils of the same age at very small schools.</li> <li>▪ Likely to continue to be difficult to address Leadership and Management challenges.</li> <li>▪ Does not address the need to reduce surplus places.</li> <li>▪ Does not address the need to reduce variation in cost per pupil and ensure that school delegated budget is used efficiently and equitable.</li> <li>▪ Would not contribute toward the agenda to work towards becoming Net Zero.</li> </ul>
6.7	One multi site school (2 sites – current site of Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell).  Each site for a specific age range, for example; Foundation Phase at Ysgol Carreglefn, and KS2 at Ysgol Llanfechell.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Logistically, it could be problematic for Parents / Guardians to pick up and drop off siblings from two separate sites, alternatively would lead to additional transport cost</li> <li>▪ Pupils may take a backwards step transitioning between Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 – similar to the backward steps experienced when pupils transfer from year 6 to year 7. Teachers may not be as familiar with pupils and their development levels when they transition from Foundation Phase to Key Stage 2.</li> <li>▪ Would not contribute toward the agenda to work towards becoming Net Zero.</li> </ul>
6.8	Address the current and projected future maintenance cost at both schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It is unlikely there would be any change in the variation in class sizes or the number of age ranges taught in FP and KS2.</li> <li>▪ Less opportunities for joint working with pupils of the same age at very small schools.</li> <li>▪ Likely to continue to be difficult to address Leadership and Management challenges.</li> <li>▪ Does not address the need to reduce surplus places.</li> <li>▪ Does not address the need to reduce variation in cost per pupil and ensure that school delegated budget is used efficiently and equitable.</li> </ul>
6.9	Reduce the footprint / area of Ysgol Carreglefn school building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No change in class sizes or the number of age ranges taught in FP and KS2.</li> <li>▪ Less opportunities for joint working with pupils of the same age at very small schools.</li> <li>▪ Likely to continue to be difficult to address Leadership and Management challenges.</li> <li>▪ The reduction in cost per pupil is likely to be minimal. It is anticipated that the cost per pupil at Ysgol Carreglefn is likely to continue to be amongst the highest in Wales. Does not sufficiently ensure that school delegated budget is used efficiently and equitable.</li> </ul>
6.10	A New Area school for the Pupils of Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Although this option would address many of the key challenges facing Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell relating to school buildings, a significant Capital Cost would be involved. It would not make the most efficient use of the resources which are available to the Council.</li> <li>▪ The council would consider a new school of this size (approximately 80-90 pupils) to be too small.</li> </ul>



As highlighted above, the Authority has considered a number of different reasonable alternatives, and **it concludes that, the proposal to “Transfer pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell and close Ysgol Carreglefn”** is the proposal that offers the best solution to address the key drivers (identified in section 4) for the area. **Should the proposal be accepted, it is anticipated that Ysgol Carreglefn would close in August 2024, and pupils would be transferred to Ysgol Llanfechell from September 2024.** The catchment area of Ysgol Llanfechell would be extended to include the existing catchment area of Ysgol Carreglefn.

Should the proposal be implemented, the Council will continue to review the performance of Ysgol Llanfechell, and may revisit the school in the future, if required.

## 7. PRESUMPTION AGAINST THE CLOSURE OF YSGOL CARREGLEFN

As the proposal above includes the possibility of closing Ysgol Carreglefn, which is on the list of rural schools [School Organisation Code (011/2018)] each reasonable alternative considered in the previous section is assessed in the table in section 7.2 in relation to the likely impact on:

- Quality and Standards in Education
- the community, and
- travelling arrangements for pupils.

A community impact assessment has been prepared (see Appendix 2) to explore the overall long term impact on people and the community of the closure of the rural school. Details of community activities available locally at Carreglefn and Llanfechell were obtained from a questionnaire completed by the schools. This is a live document which will be updated as we progress with the decision making process.

Section 7.1 identifies how parents and pupils engage with both schools, and outlines how any facilities it offers could be supported (e.g. how pupils, particularly any less advantaged pupils could be helped to participate in activities outside of school hours).

### 7.1 Parents and pupils' engagement with Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell

Every effort would be made to ensure that families, parents and pupils would derive maximum benefit from engaging and making use of the facilities at Llanfechell.

The engagement could be multi-faceted and could involve some of the following:

Extra-curricular activities	Clubs (Llanfechell) – Urdd, Cooking, Athletics, Film clubs and Computer Coding clubs.  Clubs (Carreglefn) – Multi activity club.
Pre and post school provision	Llanfechell: Morning Childcare and Breakfast club, Cylch Meithrin. Carreglefn: Morning Childcare and Breakfast club.
Use of school facilities	School grounds for various activities including:  Llanfechell: Whist, Pensioners club, Community Council, Ffair Mechell, Womens Institute, Mechell Friends, Mon Actif, Poppys club, Yoga Club, Ti a Fi.  Carreglefn: Whist, Clwb y Cen, Community Council, Community Committee, Community Carol Night, Memorial Field Committee, Remembrance Service, Patchwork Club, Patchwork Club crafts display.

\*Details of facilities and services provided by the schools were obtained from questionnaires completed by the Headteachers.

If the proposal is realised, Ysgol Llanfechell would be expected to maintain the current provision in relation to clubs. In the context of extra-curricular activities every pupil, irrespective of background, would be encouraged to participate with the expectation on the school to make suitable arrangements for less advantaged pupils to be able to participate. These arrangements could include but would not be confined to clubs held during the lunch break, arrangements with parents for pick-up and transport and providing after school transport.

Ysgol Llanfechell is currently providing pre and post-school provision. There is Nursery provision (Cylch Meithrin) at Llanfechell, that admits pupils from the age of two and a half. The Cylch Meithrin is on the school site, but is financially independent of Ysgol Llanfechell. The service is registered with the Authority to provide early years education for 10 hours per week, term-time only.

There is currently no pre school provision at Carreglefn, other than the school nursery class, for children who have turned 3 years of age before 1 September in any year.

The facilities at Ysgol Llanfechell would continue to be available for community use. The Council would want to work with local community groups in Carreglefn to provide an opportunity to secure the long-term viability of the school building so that the community provision could be maintained if required. Any activities where the numbers involved would be greater than the capacity of Ysgol Carreglefn could be hosted in Ysgol Llanfechell.

7.2 If the reasonable alternative has been identified as beneficial then it will be noted as positive, whereas a reasonable alternative that could be detrimental has been identified as negative. A reasonable alternative that does not have significant impact has been identified as neutral.

Reasonable alternatives for Ysgol Carreglefn [section 6]	Impact on Quality and Standards	Impact on Community	Impact on different travelling arrangements
Transfer pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell, and close Ysgol Carreglefn (6.1 – The Proposal)	Positive Has the possibility to maintain standards. Reduces the variation in class sizes, and the number of age ranges taught together. There would be more opportunities for children of the same age to work together. Standards at Ysgol Llanfechell are at least equivalent to those at Ysgol Carreglefn.	Positive The Council would want to work with the community to provide an opportunity to secure the continuation of the Carreglefn school building for the benefit of the local community if required.  Pupils from Carreglefn may have more opportunities to participate in extra-curricular activities.	Negative Additional travelling time for some pupils. Pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn. Pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn would be unlikely to walk or cycle to school. The additional travelling time would not be significant. The distance between Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell is only 2.2 miles. Less than 47% of pupils who live within the Carreglefn catchment area attend Ysgol Carreglefn.
One multi site school (2 sites – current site of Ysgol Carreglefn, and Ysgol Llanfechell) (6.2)	Neutral There could be opportunities to share staff expertise and good practice. It is unlikely there would be any change in the variation in class sizes or the number of age ranges taught in FP and KS2. It may be more difficult to develop a consistent teaching methodology from 2 sites. There could be limited opportunities for joint working between pupils of the same age.	Positive Possibility of combined pupil activities through co-ordinated opportunities for similar aged children from different sites. The community use of school buildings would remain in all areas.	Neutral Pupil travel arrangements would remain as they are.
Federate Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell (6.3)	Neutral There could be opportunities to share staff expertise and good practice. It is unlikely there would be any change in the variation in class sizes or the number of age ranges taught in FP and KS2. It may be difficult to develop a consistent teaching methodology from 2 sites. There could be limited opportunities for joint	Positive Possibility of combined pupil activities through co-ordinated opportunities for similar aged children from different schools. The community use of school buildings would remain in all areas.	Neutral Pupil travel arrangements would remain as they are.

Reasonable alternatives for Ysgol Carreglefn [section 6]	Impact on Quality and Standards	Impact on Community	Impact on different travelling arrangements
	working between pupils of the same age.		
Clustering, collaboration, using schools as community hubs or co-locating services within Ysgol Carreglefn, and Ysgol Llanfechell (6.4)	<p>Neutral</p> <p>Possibility of combined pupil activities through co-ordinated opportunities for similar aged children from different schools.</p> <p>Possibility for teachers to share good practices and expertise.</p> <p>Leadership and management capacity would remain unchanged.</p> <p>It is unlikely there would be any change in the variation in class sizes or the number of age ranges taught in FP and KS2.</p> <p>There could be limited opportunities for joint working between pupils of the same age.</p>	<p>Positive</p> <p>Possibility of combined pupil activities through co-ordinated opportunities for similar aged children from different schools.</p> <p>The community use of school buildings would remain in all areas.</p>	<p>Neutral</p> <p>Pupil travel arrangements would remain as they are.</p>

The table above shows that there are some positive and negative impacts associated with the reasonable alternatives considered. The analysis shows that the proposal to transfer pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell, close Ysgol Carreglefn, and extend the catchment area of Ysgol Llanfechell has an overall positive effect on standards, community aspects and pupils' travel arrangements. Whilst the table above shows that the proposal will have a negative impact on travelling arrangements, this negative impact is not anticipated to be significant. Ysgol Llanfechell is located only 2.2miles from Ysgol Carreglefn, and currently only 47% of pupils who live within the catchment area of Ysgol Carreglefn attend the school.

This analysis is underpinned by the Authority's commitment to :

- work with the community in Carreglefn with a view to provide an opportunity to secure the long-term viability of the present school building as a community resource if required, and;
- to provide free transport for eligible pupils from Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell in accordance with the Council's transport policy for schools, as the road between Carreglefn and Llanfechell is unsuitable for learners of that age to walk to and from school.

## 8. FINANCIAL IMPACT IF THE PROPOSAL IS IMPLEMENTED

It is projected that the amount of funding delegated to schools through the authority's school funding formula could reduce by approximately £126,390 per annum following implementation of the proposal. This saving could contribute towards the likely budget shortfall that the authority is likely to need to address in the near future. The proposal could also reduce current and projected future maintenance cost by £317,350.

The additional cost to transport eligible pupils from Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell in accordance with the Authority's school transport policy is expected to be minimal, as there is already a bus that services Ysgol Carreglefn, and the additional distance from Ysgol Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell is only 2.2 miles.

No Capital costs are associated with this project.

There may be some short term transitional costs which need to be funded. These include:

- potential redundancy costs;
- potential pay protection for staff;
- potential premises related cost until the building is transferred from the authority's ownership.

It is difficult to estimate the transitional costs, as they are highly dependent on the staff involved. All transitional costs could be incurred in year 1, or could be incurred over a period of 3 years.

The transitional cost by financial year has been estimated in the table below:

Financial Year	Maximum Transitional Cost (Estimate)
2024/25	£35,000
2025/26	£4,000
2026/27	£4,000
2027/28	£4,000

These revenue costs would need to be funded by the Authority and therefore need to be built into the budget setting cycle from 2024/25.

Having considered all of the above cost implications, the proposal if realised would reduce revenue costs by approximately £580k over a 5 year period, as well as reducing current and projected future maintenance cost by £317,350 (before considering any inflation or further deterioration in the standard of the school building).

The proposal could address the variation in the cost per pupil as shown below. The tables below show the current cost per pupil, and the estimated cost per pupil should the proposal be implemented:

Ysgol	Carreglefn	Llanfechell	Anglesey Average (Primary)
Current Cost per Pupil (2023/24)	£17,200	£5,524	£5,240

Ysgol	Llanfechell	Anglesey Average (Primary)	Variation
Projected Cost per Pupil if the proposal is implemented (based on 2023/24 school budgets)	£5,396	£5,215	£181 (3% above the Anglesey average for Primary schools)

## 9. CONCLUSION

Following careful consideration of the reasonable alternatives for Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell (see section 6) and their likely impact on quality and standards of education, the community and pupils' travelling arrangements (section 7), the Authority's preferred proposal is:

**“Transfer pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell and close Ysgol Carreglefn”.**

The Council is of the opinion that this proposal is the optimum solution that addresses the key drivers for Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell.

It has the potential to have a positive impact on **standards** in that

- practice in Ysgol Llanfechell would have a positive impact on pupils from Carreglefn;
- it would work towards ensuring that the age range in classes would be no more than two years;
- it may reduce the headteacher's specific teaching commitment.

It has the potential to have a largely positive impact on the **community** in that it offers the possibility of the continuation of the Carreglefn school building as a community asset. In addition, the facilities in Llanfechell would be available for use if the number of people attending an activity in Carreglefn was likely to exceed the capacity of the present school building. Pupils from Carreglefn may also have more opportunities to participate in extra-curricular activities at Llanfechell.

It is likely to have a small negative impact on **pupils' travelling arrangements** in that pupils from Carreglefn would need to travel further to their catchment school. The Authority proposes to provide free transport for eligible pupils from the current catchment area of Ysgol Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell in accordance with the Council's transport policy for schools, as the road between Carreglefn and Llanfechell is unsuitable for learners of that age to walk to and from school.

The proposal is in keeping with the objectives of the Council's aims and principles to:

- Provide the best education standards for young people
- Increasing capacity to develop effective leadership at our schools and to plan succession.
- Ensuring high quality and fit for purpose buildings and learning environments.
- Providing education that corresponds to the requirements of the island's population. A reduction in surplus places to make efficient use of resources
- Ensuring that schools can operate effectively within the available budget. Aiming towards reducing the range in expenditure per pupil, ensuring more equal opportunity across schools
- Improving access to ensure wellbeing, care and health at our schools
- Ensuring that schools have the resources and the capacity to drive Curriculum for Wales forward successfully.
- Offering Welsh-medium and bilingual provision to all our learners
- Expanding use of school buildings and facilities by parents, the community and older inhabitants.
- Ensuring that our schools are sustainable and contribute to the Council's Net Zero agenda.

In addition, and to realise the proposal, the Council would respond to specific matters that have arisen through the impact assessments undertaken by:

- providing a bus service for eligible pupils from Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell in line with the Authority's schools transport policy;
- working with the community in Carreglefn with a view to ensuring the long-term future of the Carreglefn school building.



**A proposal to:**

**“Transfer pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell and close Ysgol Carreglefn”**

**IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

Mae'r ddogfen hon hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg / This document is also available in Welsh.

<b>Assessment start date</b>	18 January 2024
<b>The officer responsible for the assessment</b>	Marc B Hughes, Director of Education, Skills and Young People.
<b>Date of review</b>	This is a working document and will be revised on a regular basis. Any additional impacts arising from the objection period will be reflected in an amended version which will be published as part of the Objections Report in due course.

Hard copies of this report are available on request by sending an email to [angleseyschools@ynysmon.gov.uk](mailto:angleseyschools@ynysmon.gov.uk)

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APPENDIX 1

**1. INTRODUCTION**

The Welsh Government’s School Organisation Code (011/2018) requires Local Authorities to undertake equality, Welsh language and community impact assessments, when proposing changes to the organisation of schools.

The proposal under consideration is to:

**“Transfer pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell and close Ysgol Carreglefn”**

The Headteachers and Community Councils were invited to complete a questionnaire to assess the current utilisation and community use of the schools and provide details of other facilities available in the local or wider community.

The data and evidence collected for the purpose of the assessments was based on the Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) January 2023\*, The numbers on roll as at 16<sup>th</sup> January 2024 (PLASC date for 2024) and statistics received from Headteachers as at September 2023.

\*Statistics such as the number of Welsh speakers etc has been obtained from the Pupil Level Annual Census 2023, as the Pupil Level Annual School Census 2024 data has not yet been published.

The document consists of:

- Section 2 – Equality Impact Assessment
- Section 3 – Welsh Language Impact Assessment
- Section 4 – Community Impact Assessment
- Section 5 – Conclusion

The impact assessment has taken into consideration the Council’s commitment to:

- Provide transport for eligible pupils from Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell in accordance with the Council’s transport policy for schools, as the road between Carreglefn and Llanfechell is unsuitable for learners of that age to walk to and from school.
- Work with the community in Carreglefn with a view to providing an opportunity to secure the long-term future of the Carreglefn school building if required.

**This is a working document and will be revised on a regular basis. There will be an opportunity for stakeholders to contribute to the impact assessments.**

<b>Revision history:</b>		
<b>Version</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Summary of changes</b>
0.1	18 January 2024	First draft

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### **2. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

This equality impact assessment has been undertaken to meet the requirements of both the Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011 and the Welsh Government's School Organisation Code (011/2018).

#### **The Equality Act 2010**

The Equality Act 2010 places a General Duty on public bodies in carrying out their functions to have due regard to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

The Act is about ensuring fairness and protects the following nine characteristics (also known as 'protected groups'):

- Age
- Disability
- Sex
- Gender reassignment
- Marriage and civil partnership
- Pregnancy and maternity
- Race
- Religion or belief, including lack of belief.
- Sexual orientation

#### **Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011**

The Welsh Government introduced the above Regulations to help public bodies in Wales to meet the general duty. Specific duties include a requirement to assess the impact of its policies and practices on groups protected by the Act. This means that the authority must consider relevant evidence to understand the likely or actual effect of its policies and practices on protected groups and have 'due regard' (*i.e.*, give appropriate weight) to the results of such assessments.

Equality considerations will be considered in forming the business cases, during the project development process and, if implemented, the actual impact will be monitored. The equality impact assessment document will be updated regularly to ensure that everyone is given fair consideration.

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<b>2.1 Background- Equality Impact Assessment</b>	
<b>What are you assessing?</b>	The proposal being assessed is to <b>“Transfer pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell and close Ysgol Carreglefn”</b>
<b>Is this a new or existing proposal?</b>	This is a new proposal.
<b>What are the aims and purpose of this proposal?</b>	<p>The purpose of this proposal is to improve the efficiency of schools and ensure fair funding.</p> <p>Ysgol Carreglefn has been prioritised as it has 80% surplus places (January 2024), and a cost per pupil of £17,200 which is the highest of all Wales primary schools for 2023/24. As at January 2024, there were only 9 pupils at Ysgol Carreglefn, and 4 of these are in year 6.</p> <p>The proposal if realised would be expected to realise the following benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Surplus places at Ysgol Carreglefn could be removed, and surplus places at Ysgol Llanfechell could be reduced.</li> <li>• The variation in cost per pupils across all Anglesey schools could reduce significantly.</li> <li>• The cost per pupil at Ysgol Llanfechell could reduce, and is estimated to be very close to the Anglesey average for primary schools.</li> <li>• The proposal is estimated to deliver a revenue saving of £126k per annum</li> <li>• Carbon emissions would be expected to fall by 13tCO<sub>2</sub>e</li> <li>• More of the Delegated Schools Budget could be allocated on teaching, with less resources being allocated towards maintaining and running buildings</li> <li>• Current and Projected Maintenance cost could be reduced by £317,350. There could be fewer buildings for the authority to maintain in future years, which may contribute towards better strategic management of the future school estate.</li> <li>• More opportunities for pupils from Carreglefn to immerse themselves in the Welsh Language with other Welsh speaking pupils at Ysgol Llanfechell.</li> <li>• A broader and more balance curriculum would be accessible for learners from Carreglefn</li> </ul>
<b>Who is responsible for the proposal you are assessing?</b>	Marc B. Hughes, Director of Education, Skills, and Young People

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2.1 Background- Equality Impact Assessment		
<b>Who is the Lead Officer for this assessment?</b>	Arwyn Hughes, Programme Manager (Corporate)	
<b>Who else is involved in undertaking this assessment?</b>	Aaron Evans -Senior Manager – Secondary Sector Alun Roberts - Programme Manager (Corporate) Emrys Bebb - Programme Manager (Corporate) Carol Sorahan – Programme Manager (Corporate)	
<b>Is the proposal related to other areas of work?</b>	Yes – This proposal is consistent with the objectives of the Modernising Learning Communities and Developing the Welsh Language Strategy which was adopted by the Executive of Isle of Anglesey County Council on 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2023. However, each proposal is assessed on its own merit.	
<p>Is the proposal relevant to how the Authority complies with the public sector general duty relating to people who are protected by the Equality Act 2010?</p> <p>Generally, any policy that affects people is likely to be relevant across all protected groups.</p>	The elimination of discrimination and harassment	✓
	The advancement of equality of opportunity	✓
	The fostering of good relations	✓
	The protection and promotion of human rights	✓
<p>Is the proposal a strategic decision? If so, the Socio-Economic Duty is relevant (What is the duty? explained in Section 6)</p>	<p>Ysgol Carreglefn is classed in the School Organisation Code as a rural school. Therefore, it is possible that the proposal could have more of an effect on individuals due to social and economic circumstances.</p> <p>The Council will attempt to mitigate this risk by working with the community in Carreglefn with a view to ensuring the long-term future of the Carreglefn school building as a community resource if required.</p>	
<p><b>Who would be affected by the proposal(s) (adversely or positively, directly, or indirectly)?</b></p> <p><b>If this is a strategic proposal</b>, ensure that you consider whether the proposal would</p>	<p>For Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell, the following would be affected: Staff, pupils, governors, parents of pupils at the schools, members of the community who use the schools.</p>	

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<b>2.1 Background- Equality Impact Assessment</b>	
affect more on people living in less favourable social and economic circumstances than others in the same society	<p>Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell are both classed in the School Organisation Code as rural schools. Therefore, it is possible that the proposal could have more effect on individuals due to social and economic circumstances.</p> <p>The Council will attempt to mitigate this risk by working with the community in Carreglefn with a view to ensuring the long-term future of the Carreglefn school building.</p>

<b>2.2 Information Gathering – Welsh Language Standards and the Welsh Language Measure (Wales) 2011</b>	
Does this proposal ensure that the Welsh language is treated no less favourably than the English language, in accordance with the Council’s Welsh Language Policy?	Yes – this is assessed separately in the Welsh Language Impact Assessment part of this document
Is there an opportunity here to offer more opportunities for people to learn and / or use the Welsh language on a day-to-day basis?	<p>Ysgol Carreglefn, and Ysgol Llanfechell are Welsh Medium schools, with both being in category 3 in terms of language category (where Welsh is the main language for the school, the school has a strong Welsh ethos, and all pupils will be supported to use the Welsh language inside and outside the classroom). There would therefore be no change in the language category.</p> <p>As at January 2023 (PLASC), only 10% of pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn speak Welsh at home, whereas 48% of pupils from Llanfechell speak Welsh at home. The proposal could therefore present more opportunities for pupils from Carreglefn to immerse themselves in the Welsh Language with other Welsh speaking pupils at Ysgol Llanfechell.</p>
Will this area of work proactively offer services in Welsh for users?	Yes – this is assessed separately in the Language Impact Assessment section of this document

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Is this proposal likely to protect and promote the Welsh language within communities?	Realisation of the proposal would protect and promote the Welsh language within Ysgol Llanfechell and within the area of Carreglefn and Llanfechell.	
<b>2.3 Information Gathering – Human Rights Act 1998 (The 16 basic rights are listed in section 7).</b>		
Are there any Human Rights issues? If so, what are they?	No Human Rights issues have been identified.	
<b>2.4 Information Gathering – Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 – see section 8</b>		
Does this proposal meet any of the seven national well-being goals outlined in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015?	A prosperous Wales	Yes
	A resilient Wales	Yes
	A healthier Wales	Yes
	A more equal Wales	Yes
	A Wales of cohesive communities	Yes
	A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	Yes
	A globally responsible Wales	Yes
<b>2.5 Information Gathering – Engagement / Consultation</b>		
What has been done to date in terms of involvement and consultation about this proposal?	A proposal paper is presented to the Executive of Anglesey County Council to seek a decision to publish a Statutory Notice for this proposal, in line with the process outlined within the School Organisation Code. From the date of publishing the Statutory Notice, stakeholders will have 28 days to object to the proposal (referred to as the objection period). The Council will publish a summary of statutory objections, and its response to those objections, before the Executive decides to either approve, reject or amend the proposal.	
What other information have you used to inform your assessment? If so, please detail:	The following information about the schools has been included: Gender balance, Additional Learning Needs (ALN) data, ethnicity, and language Questionnaires were sent to the Headteachers of Ysgol Carreglefn, and Ysgol Llanfechell and the information they supplied is included in this assessment.	
Are there any gaps in the information collected to date? If so, how will these be addressed?	No gaps identified at this stage.	

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<b>Is the proposal relevant to how the Authority complies with the public sector general duty relating to people who are protected by the Equality Act 2010?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>The elimination of discrimination and harassment</b>	√	
<b>The advancement of equality of opportunity</b>	√	
<b>The fostering of good relations</b>	√	
<b>The protection and promotion of human rights</b>	√	

**2.6 Considering the potential impact and identifying mitigating action**

Note below any likely impact on equality for each individual group and identify what action could be taken to reduce or improve the impact.  
 \*For determining potential impact, please choose from the following: **Negative / Positive / Neutral**

Protected group	*Potential Impact	Details of the impact (including evidence to support the findings)	Actions to mitigate negative impact
<b>Age</b>	Positive	<p>The Local Authority has a statutory duty to provide full-time education to children and young people aged 4-16. Ysgol Carreglefn, and Ysgol Llanfechell currently accept pupils from the age of 3. Should the proposal be realised Ysgol Llanfechell will continue to accept pupils from the age of 3. There is also a Cylch Meithrin on the Ysgol Llanfechell school grounds which admits pupils from the age of two and a half. The Cylch Meithrin is a separate entity (and financially independent) to the school, which provides early years education for 10 hours per week, term time only. There is no such provision at Carreglefn.</p> <p>Although the Cylch Meithrin is independent of Ysgol Llanfechell, both entites work together to provide a 'wraparound' service, meaning that pupils aged 3-4 years old can transfer between school nursery and the 'Cylch Meithrin' without the need for parents / guardians to be present. The proposal could result in more pupils joining the Cylch Meithrin from the age of two and a half.</p>	Pupils who would be transferring from Ysgol Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell would participate in merger activities, which would be arranged jointly. This would provide opportunities for the children to become familiar with each other prior to the change.
<b>Disability</b>	Neutral	<p>If the proposal is realised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell buildings partially comply with the Equality Act</li> </ul>	The Authority will provide appropriate assistance and support for the pupils' additional learning



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Protected group	*Potential Impact	Details of the impact (including evidence to support the findings)	Actions to mitigate negative impact															
		<p>2010. There will be no change to the buildings of Ysgol Llanfechell under this proposal. Pupils who have additional learning needs would continue to receive additional support to respond to their individual educational needs. In a larger school, there may be staff that specialise in Additional Learning Needs (ALN). It is possible that an increase in the number of staff would lead to a greater range of expertise to be able to deal with a wider spectrum of ALN.</p>	<p>needs. Individual needs will be assessed at the time of transferring to any school. The Authority will also provide appropriate assistance and support for the needs of staff members. If a pupil with a disability was to attend Ysgol Llanfechell, the work required for the building to comply with their needs would be reviewed and adaptations would be carried out accordingly. This work would be prioritised.</p>															
<b>Sex</b>	Neutral	<p>The table below shows the current gender split and the split if the proposal is realised.</p> <p><b>Current gender split (January 2023):</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="775 783 1413 863"> <thead> <tr> <th>Gender</th> <th>Ysgol Carreglefn</th> <th>Ysgol Llanfechell</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Male</td> <td>50%</td> <td>58%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Female</td> <td>50%</td> <td>42%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>Anticipated gender split if the proposal is realised:</b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="775 963 1413 1043"> <thead> <tr> <th>Gender</th> <th>Ysgol Llanfechell</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Male</td> <td>57%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Female</td> <td>43%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The anticipated gender split under the proposal would be relatively equal, and would not be a cause for concern.</p>	Gender	Ysgol Carreglefn	Ysgol Llanfechell	Male	50%	58%	Female	50%	42%	Gender	Ysgol Llanfechell	Male	57%	Female	43%	<p>All pupils' performance is assessed and monitored, to include specific groups such as male and females, free school meals, ALN pupils, ethnic minority, English as an additional language (EAL), children in care and the more able and talented. The educational performance of boys and girls is constantly monitored to ensure there are no large differences between males and females and the various groups associated.</p>
Gender	Ysgol Carreglefn	Ysgol Llanfechell																
Male	50%	58%																
Female	50%	42%																
Gender	Ysgol Llanfechell																	
Male	57%																	
Female	43%																	
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	Neutral	<p>The Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) January 2023 does not retain data on this aspect. There is no evidence that discrimination based on gender reassignment is happening.</p>	<p>If issues arise, they will be dealt with sensitively.</p>															
<b>Pregnancy &amp; Maternity</b>	Neutral	<p>Not applicable to the pupils of the school.</p>	<p>Female staff who become pregnant are eligible for a maternity period in accordance with the Isle</p>															

APPENDIX 1

Protected group	*Potential Impact	Details of the impact (including evidence to support the findings)	Actions to mitigate negative impact				
			of Anglesey County Council’s Maternity Leave Scheme. Male staff are eligible for paternity leave in accordance with the Paternity Leave Policy, or parents can request shared paternal leave. There is no evidence that discriminating on the basis of pregnancy or taking leave takes place with the schools’ staff.				
<b>Race / Ethnicity / Nationality</b>	Neutral	<p>PLASC data January 2023:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="775 544 1366 683"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="775 544 1077 644">Ysgol Carreglefn</th> <th data-bbox="1077 544 1366 644">Ysgol Llanfechell</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="775 644 1077 683">White British 100%*</td> <td data-bbox="1077 644 1366 683">White British 96%*</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>*Not all pupils have answered this question as part of the PLASC. The above percentage is based on the responses of the 83% of pupils who responded from Ysgol Carreglefn, and the 97% of pupils who responded from Ysgol Llanfechell.</i></p>	Ysgol Carreglefn	Ysgol Llanfechell	White British 100%*	White British 96%*	If pupils from other ethnic backgrounds attend the schools, they will not be treated differently based on their ethnic origin. Should there be members of staff from other ethnic backgrounds, they will not be treated differently based on their ethnic origin.
Ysgol Carreglefn	Ysgol Llanfechell						
White British 100%*	White British 96%*						
<b>Religion or Belief</b>	Neutral	The PLASC January 2023 does not retain data on this aspect.	There is no evidence that discrimination based on religion or belief is happening. It is a parental choice to share information about their child’s religion or belief with the school. If issues arise, they will be dealt with sensitively				
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	Neutral	The PLASC January 2023 does not retain data on this aspect.	There is no evidence that discrimination based on sexual orientation is happening. It is a parental choice to share information about their child’s sexual orientation with the school. If issues arise, they will be dealt with sensitively.				
<b>Marriage or Civil Partnership</b>	Neutral	Not applicable to the pupils of the school.	There is no evidence that discrimination based on marriage /or civil partnership is happening with the school staff. If issues arise, they will be dealt with sensitively.				

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Protected group	*Potential Impact	Details of the impact (including evidence to support the findings)	Actions to mitigate negative impact
<b>Welsh language</b>	Neutral	<p>PLASC – January 2023 shows that only 10% of pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn speak Welsh at home, whereas 48% of pupils at Ysgol Llanfechell speak Welsh at home. The proposal could therefore present more opportunities for pupils from Carreglefn to immerse themselves in the Welsh Language with other Welsh speaking pupils at Ysgol Llanfechell.</p> <p>As part of the consultation on the Modernising Learning Communities and Developing the Welsh Language some expressed concerns that closing small / rural schools could have a negative impact on the Welsh language and on communities, with some seeing the school as a focal point to help immerse immigrants in the Welsh Language.</p>	<p>Ysgol Llanfechell would have a role to help immerse immigrants at Carreglefn in the Welsh Language. Pupils and Parents from Carreglefn would be encouraged to participate in extra-curricular activities at Ysgol Llanfechell.</p> <p>Ysgol Llanfechell is a Welsh Medium category 3 school (as is Ysgol Carreglefn), where Welsh is the main language of the school, the school has a strong Welsh ethos, and all pupils will be supported to use the Welsh language inside and outside the classroom. The school would communicate with parents through the medium of Welsh or bilingually.</p> <p>The Council would also want to work with the community in Carreglefn with a view to providing an opportunity to secure the long-term future of the Carreglefn school building as a community resource if required. This could result in the school building continuing to be available as a central hub for community activities which could be undertaken through the medium of Welsh.</p>
<b>Human Rights</b>	Neutral	<p>The PLASC January 2023 does not retain data on this aspect.</p>	<p>There is no evidence that discrimination based on human rights is happening with school staff or pupils. If issues arise, they will be dealt with sensitively.</p>
<b>Other - Socio-economic.</b>	Neutral	<p>Ysgol Carreglefn is named as a rural school in the School Organisation Code (011/2018). There are several small and rural schools within Anglesey that are performing well, however it</p>	<p>The Authority acknowledges that rural schools have a key role to play in contributing towards the community, the use of the Welsh Language and lifestyle.</p>

APPENDIX 1

Protected group	*Potential Impact	Details of the impact (including evidence to support the findings)	Actions to mitigate negative impact
<p><b>Small and Rural Schools</b></p> <p><b>Socio-economic and rural factors were taken into consideration in the ‘Community Impact Assessment’ below.</b></p>		<p>should be noted that there are specific challenges associated with running small rural schools.</p> <p>A report issued by the Department for Education in 2019 named, "Running small rural schools effectively" included challenges such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Volatility in pupil numbers. A decline in pupil numbers causes a significant percentage drop in the school’s budget”</li> <li>• “The main challenge was running mixed-age classes.... Some felt teacher training was not designed for these types of classes and limited guidance is available.”</li> <li>• “Many schools noted that it can be challenging to offer a broad and balanced curriculum”</li> <li>• “Schools and trusts highlighted that they face recruitment challenges”</li> </ul>	<p>In considering its options for school organisation, the Authority will consider the balance between educational needs and the long-term needs of our communities, by the means of collaborative working.</p> <p>The Authority is committed to working with communities to address any issues that may arise in the eventuality of school closure.</p> <p>The authority proposes to mitigate these effects by providing free school transport to eligible pupils in accordance with the authority’s school transport policy.</p>
<p><b>Other - Socio-economic. Less advantaged children’s participation in after school activities.</b></p>	<p>Neutral</p>	<p>Potential to provide increased opportunities for pupils to take advantage of after school activities at Ysgol Llanfechell.</p> <p>The Council acknowledges that pupils from Carreglefn would travel further to participate in extra curricular activities.</p>	<p>Ysgol Llanfechell will be expected to make suitable provision that will at least match the current provision in relation to clubs. In the context of <u>extra-curricular activities</u> every pupil, irrespective of background, will be encouraged to participate with the expectation on the school to make suitable arrangements for less advantaged pupils to be able to participate. These arrangements would include but would not be confined to clubs held during the lunch break, arrangements with parents for pick-up and providing after school transport. Pupils from</p>

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Protected group	*Potential Impact	Details of the impact (including evidence to support the findings)	Actions to mitigate negative impact
			<p>Carreglefn could have more opportunities to participate in extra-curricular activities.</p> <p>The Council would also want to work with the community in Carreglefn with a view to providing an opportunity to securing the long-term future of the Carreglefn school building if required. This could result in the school building continuing to be available as a central hub for community activities.</p>
<p><b>There are clear links between equality and socio-economic issues. Discrimination against protected groups can be a direct cause of socio-economic disadvantage. If any such issues become apparent when assessing non-strategic matters, they should be given due regard and recorded under the relevant protected group, or under 'any other relevant issue' above.</b></p>			

Please complete this section if the proposal is a strategic matter			
The Socio-Economic Duty	Potential impact	Details of the impact (including evidence to support the findings)	Actions to mitigate negative impact
<p><b>Is the proposal likely to cause any inequalities of outcome resulting from socio-economic disadvantage?</b></p>	Included above	See above	

**Outcome of the assessment:**

The assessment demonstrates the proposal is robust; **there is no potential for discrimination or adverse impact.** All opportunities to promote equality have been taken.

2.7 Outcome of the assessment	
<p>Note the impacts identified and how it is intended to mitigate any negative impact in terms of equality, the Welsh language and, if relevant, socio-economic disadvantage</p>	<p>Overall, and after taking mitigating action to offset any negative effects, the proposal is expected to have a positive impact in terms of equality, the Welsh Language and socio-economic disadvantage.</p> <p>As Ysgol Carreglefn is a rural school, the proposal could be seen to have a negative effect on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage, both in terms of travelling to Ysgol Llanfechell and in terms of participating in extra-curricular activities. However, these effects have been mitigated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• providing transport for eligible pupils from Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell in accordance with the Council’s transport policy for schools, as the road between Carreglefn and Llanfechell is unsuitable for learners of that age to walk to and from school.</li> <li>• work with the community in Carreglefn with a view to providing an opportunity to secure the long-term future of the Carreglefn school building as a community resource if required.</li> <li>• Ysgol Llanfechell will be expected to make suitable provision that will at least match the current provision in relation to clubs. In the context of <u>extra-curricular activities</u> every pupil, irrespective of background, will be encouraged to participate with the expectation on the school to make suitable arrangements for less advantaged pupils to be able to participate. These arrangements would include but would not be confined to clubs held during the lunch break, arrangements with parents for pick-up and providing after school transport</li> </ul>
<p>Describe any actions taken to maximise the opportunity to promote equality and the Welsh language, the goals of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (sustainability) and, if relevant, ensure better outcomes for those facing economic disadvantage.</p>	<p>The proposal if realised would be expected to result in the following benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- More opportunities for pupils from Carreglefn to immerse themselves in the Welsh Language with other Welsh speaking pupils at Ysgol Llanfechell.</li> <li>- A broader and more balance curriculum would be accessible for learners from Carreglefn</li> <li>- More opportunities for pupils from Carreglefn to participate in extra-curricular activities.</li> <li>- A reduction in carbon emissions of approximately 13tCO<sub>2</sub>e per annum.</li> </ul>

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<b>2.7 Outcome of the assessment</b>	
	- Ensure resources are used more proportionately and equally.
Would any aspect of the proposal contravene the wellbeing goals of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015?	No
Is there a need to look at what could be done differently, or to reconsider the entire proposal as a result of conducting this assessment?  (Evidence of negative impact could render the proposal or decision unlawful. If you have identified negative impact, you should consider at this stage whether it is possible to proceed with the proposal).	No
Is there a strategy for dealing with any unavoidable but not unlawful negative impacts that cannot be mitigated?	Mitigating actions will be taken to offset any potential negative impacts which have been anticipated – as noted above.
Will the proposal be adopted / forwarded for approval? Who will be the decision-maker?	Yes – The Executive of Anglesey County Council will decide whether to progress with the proposal, by publishing a Statutory Notice on the proposal.  If the Executive decide to progress, officers will follow a statutory process as outlined within the School Organisation Code.
Are there monitoring arrangements in place? What are they?	Governance arrangements include procedures which contribute towards, challenges, and ensures compliance with the School Organisation Code, monitors progress and manages risks.  This Impact Assessment is a live document, which will continue to be updated as the proposal progresses.

**Conclusion** - The assessment demonstrates the proposal is robust; **there is no known potential for discrimination or adverse impact.** All opportunities to promote equality have been taken.

The potential effect of the proposal on the Welsh language is assessed separately in the Welsh Language Impact Assessment (Section 3).

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### 2.8 Action Plan

Please detail any actions that are planned following completion of your assessment. You should include any changes that have been made to reduce or eliminate the effects of potential or actual negative impact, as well as any arrangements to collect data or to carry out further research.

Ref	Proposed actions	Lead officer	Timescale
1	The Council's Executive to decide whether to authorise officers to publish a Statutory Notice on the proposal	Marc B Hughes	To be confirmed.



### **3. WELSH LANGUAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

The Isle of Anglesey County Council has adopted the principle that the Welsh language should be treated no less favourably than the English language, and that the residents of the island should be able to live their lives through the medium of Welsh if they so wish. The same expectation applies in respect of the Welsh language for each of the schools, which provide an opportunity for every pupil in the County to gain the appropriate skills to be confident bilingually.

As this proposal looking at how the implementation of the Council's key policies, strategies or guidance would affect the Welsh language; and how the proposal would treat the Welsh language less favourably than the English language or would have a detrimental impact on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language; **a more comprehensive impact assessment on the Welsh language is carried out here.**

<b>3.1 - Compliance with the Welsh Language Policy</b>	
<p>Is the proposal influential in terms of dealing with the Welsh-speaking public?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will activities such as corresponding by letter, communicating by telephone, public meetings and other meetings comply with the language policy?</li> <li>• Will any new IT development comply with the policy?</li> </ul>	<p>Yes, positive effect - see below.</p> <p>Yes – all correspondence and communications will continue to comply with the Welsh Language Policy.</p> <p>Yes – any new IT developments will continue to comply with the Welsh Language Policy.</p>
<p>Is the proposal likely to impact upon the public image of the organisation?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will all signs comply with the language policy?</li> <li>• Will publications and forms be compliant?</li> <li>• Will any publicity material or marketing campaigns comply?</li> <li>• Will staff recruitment advertisements comply?</li> </ul>	<p>Yes – all signs will comply with the language policy.</p> <p>Yes – publications and forms will be compliant.</p> <p>Yes – any publicity material or marketing campaigns will comply.</p> <p>Yes – staff recruitment advertisements will comply.</p>
<p>Is the proposal likely to have an impact upon the implementation of the language policy?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will the proposal create new jobs?</li> <li>• Will the staffing arrangements facilitate the implementation of the language policy?</li> <li>• Will the proposal offer training through the medium of Welsh?</li> <li>• Will any arrangements with third parties comply with the language policy?</li> <li>• Will the proposal include any targets or indicators relating to the language?</li> </ul>	<p>Any new teaching posts will be created according to the staffing structure developed by the governing body of Ysgol Llanfechell. It is not anticipated that the proposal will have a significant effect on the current staffing structures of Ysgol Llanfechell. All staff at Ysgol Carreglefn would be 'at risk' of redundancy and the Restructuring and Redundancy Policy for schools and Redeployment Policy for schools would be invoked.</p> <p>Yes – any new staff recruited will be Welsh speakers in line with the language policy and they will continue to implement the policy.</p> <p>Yes – new staff will be trained through the medium of Welsh.</p> <p>Yes – arrangements with third parties will comply with the language policy.</p> <p>Yes – the percentage of pupils achieving the expected level in Welsh at the end of key</p>

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<b>3.1 - Compliance with the Welsh Language Policy</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How will performance be monitored and measured?</li> </ul>	<p>stages and the percentage of pupils who speak Welsh at home.</p> <p>By data collected by the Learning Service such as the percentage of pupils achieving the expected level in Welsh at the end of the Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2. Other data such as the percentage of pupils who speak Welsh at home is collected as part of the Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) conducted in January every year.</p>

<b>3.2 - Effect on Welsh speaking users</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will the proposal offer a language choice for users?</li> <li>Will it be possible for users to receive any part of the service in Welsh?</li> </ul>	<p>Ysgol Llanfechell is a Welsh Medium Category 3 school (in terms of language Category), ie, a school where Welsh is the main language for communicating within the school. The school has a strong Welsh ethos, and all pupils will be supported to use the Welsh language both inside and outside the classroom. For immersion, each pupil will be taught fully through the medium of Welsh, with English being used at times to ensure understanding.</p>
<p>Is there a risk for the proposal to discriminate against Welsh speaking service users?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have the needs of Welsh speakers been considered in the proposal?</li> <li>Are Welsh speakers likely to receive the same standard of service as provided in English?</li> <li>Are Welsh language arrangements likely to lead to a delay in the service?</li> </ul>	<p>No – Both schools will comply with the Authority’s Welsh Language Policy.</p> <p>Yes – the needs of Welsh speaking pupils is one of the key drivers for this proposal.</p> <p>Yes – the same standard of service will be provided to all pupils.</p> <p>No – Welsh language arrangements will not lead to a delay in the service.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the proposal likely to make Welsh more visible?</li> <li>Is it likely to increase use of the language by producing Welsh language materials and signs?</li> <li>Is it likely to influence others to make more use of Welsh, for example businesses?</li> </ul>	<p>No significant change is anticipated.</p> <p>Signage at Ysgol Llanfechell will continue to conform to the language policy. Ysgol Llanfechell will continue to promote and encourage the use of the Welsh language and could use Welsh language materials.</p> <p>Bilingual signage will continue to be seen by many in the locality.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will the Welsh language service in relation to the proposal be accessible?</li> <li>Will the service be as accessible in Welsh as in English?</li> </ul>	<p>Yes – see above</p>

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<b>3.2 - Effect on Welsh speaking users</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will the services be available at the same time?</li> </ul>	

<b>3.3 Effect on Welsh speaking communities</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the proposal likely to contribute towards safeguarding Welsh in communities?</li> <li>• Is it likely to contribute towards efforts to tackle the challenges of demographic change and migration - such as providing opportunities for young people to stay in their communities?</li> </ul>	<p>Only 1 pupil from Ysgol Carreglefn speaks Welsh at home. There are more Welsh speakers at Ysgol Llanfechell, therefore pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn would be given more opportunities to immerse in the Welsh Language at Ysgol Llanfechell.</p> <p>Ysgol Llanfechell (which is only 2.2 miles from Ysgol Carreglefn) has capacity to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn, and any additional pupils from housing developments within the area.</p> <p>As part of the consultation on the Modernising Learning Communities and Developing the Welsh Language Strategy, some respondents raised concerns that the potential closure of community schools could have a negative effect on young people staying within their local communities, and on the Welsh language within communities.</p> <p>This impact from this proposal is expected to be minimal. Currently there are only 9 pupils attending Ysgol Carreglefn, and 4 of these are in year 6 (and will therefore be transferring to a Secondary school by the time the proposal would be realized – if the proposal as it is accepted).</p> <p>It is acknowledged that the proposal will lead to the closure of one of the few public amenities serving the local community. The Council will try to mitigate any negative effects by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ providing transport for eligible pupils from Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell in accordance with the Council’s transport policy.</li> <li>▪ working with the community in Carreglefn with a view to ensuring the long-term future of the Carreglefn school building.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is it likely to contribute towards the local economy in Welsh speaking areas?</li> </ul>	<p>No – The proposal is not expected to have a significant impact on the local economy. It</p>

<b>3.3 Effect on Welsh speaking communities</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will it provide Welsh medium services - such as child-minding services?</li> </ul>	<p>must be acknowledged however that the proposal will result in the loss of employment opportunities within Carreglefn.</p> <p>There is Nursery provision (Cylch Meithrin) at Llanfechell, that admits pupils from the age of two and a half. The Cylch Meithrin is on the school site, but is financially independent of Ysgol Llanfechell. The service is registered with the Authority to provide early years education through the medium of Welsh for 10 hours per week, term-time only.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the proposal take steps to promote and facilitate the Welsh language?</li> <li>• Does the proposal contribute towards Welsh medium community activities?</li> <li>• Does it offer opportunities for young people to use Welsh outside school hours?</li> <li>• Does it offer a new service that will also be available in Welsh – for example leisure or sporting activities and provision?</li> <li>• Does it contribute or add value to other activities relating to language, such as the work of the local Welsh language initiative (Menter Iaith), the Urdd etc.</li> </ul>	<p>Yes – see below.</p> <p>Yes – if the proposal is realised, there will be various Welsh- medium community activities at Ysgol Llanfechell.</p> <p>Yes – it will provide opportunities for pupils to use Welsh during extracurricular activities, as well as at the pre-school childcare and breakfast clubs.</p> <p>Partly – There will not necessarily be new services available as a direct consequence of the proposal. However, the proposal could lead to increased pupil numbers at Ysgol Llanfechell, which may result in new extra-curricular activities, due to increased demand.</p> <p>Yes – if the proposal is realised, Urdd activities would continue at Ysgol Llanfechell.</p>

<b>3.4 Contribution towards Welsh language standards, language policies, strategies and other relevant guidance relating to the Welsh language</b>	
<p>The language policies of partner organisations or nearby public bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the authority working in partnership on the proposal?</li> </ul>	<p>No – The authority is not working in partnership on the proposal. However, the authority will notify many stakeholders and external organisations (such as, but not limited to: parents, staff, governing bodies, Welsh Government, Estyn, GwE, community and town councils etc) if and when the Statutory Notice is published. in line with the process outlined</p>

<b>3.4 Contribution towards Welsh language standards, language policies, strategies and other relevant guidance relating to the Welsh language</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Which other organisations are likely to be affected by the development?</li>   <li>• Do those organisations have Welsh language standards or language policies?</li>   <li>• Does the proposal contribute towards these schemes?</li> </ul>	<p>within the School Organisation Code. From the date of publishing the Statutory Notice, stakeholders will have 28 days to object to the proposal (referred to as the objection period). The Council will publish a summary of statutory objections, and its response to those objections, before the Executive decides to either approve, reject or amend the proposal.</p> <p>The proposal is not expected to affect any other organization.</p> <p>The proposal is not expected to affect any other organization.</p> <p>The proposal is not expected to affect any other organization.</p>
<p>Relevant Welsh language strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will the proposal contribute towards the Anglesey Welsh Language Strategic Forum's Welsh Language Strategy 2016 – 2021 which was adopted by this Council in September 2016?</li> </ul>	<p>The proposal contributes with the following sections of the Isle of Anglesey County Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022 - 2032 in the following ways:</p> <p><b>Outcome 1:</b> More nursery children / three-year-olds receive their education through the medium of Welsh.</p> <p><b>Outcome 2:</b> More reception class children / five-year-olds receive their education through the medium of Welsh.</p> <p><b>Outcome 5:</b> More opportunities for learners to use Welsh in different contexts in school.</p> <p>The Cylch Meithrin, which is located on Ysgol Llanfechell school grounds will provide a sound foundation in Welsh for the children before they transfer to Ysgol Llanfechell. This will contribute to achieving Outcome 1 and 2 above.</p> <p>There will be more opportunities for Pupils from Carreglefn to immerse in the Welsh language at Ysgol Llanfechell, as there are more Welsh speakers at Ysgol Llanfechell. There may also be more opportunities to participate in Welsh medium extra-curricular activities at Ysgol Llanfechell – due to the increase in pupil numbers.</p> <p>Ysgol Llanfechell is Welsh medium category 3 school. The schools will aim to develop the</p>

<b>3.4 Contribution towards Welsh language standards, language policies, strategies and other relevant guidance relating to the Welsh language</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How does the proposal contribute towards the vision of the Assembly Government for one million Welsh speakers by 2050?</li> </ul>	<p>Welsh language, and the number of Welsh speakers. The number of pupils who speak Welsh at home will be evaluated annually through data obtained from PLASC. The Learning Service reports on a quarterly basis to the County Language Forum on the use of Welsh in the Authority’s schools and the Authority’s Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) is monitored on a quarterly basis by the County Language Forum.</p>

<b>3.5 The impacts identified and assessed</b>	
<p>What impacts and effects have you identified (i.e., summary of the responses to the above questions) together with the probability and likely severity/ significance of impact? How do you plan to address these impacts to improve the outcomes for the Welsh language? Detail mitigation measures/ alternative options to reduce adverse impacts and increase positive outcomes:</p>	
<p>Positive impact</p>	<p>The main positive impacts anticipated as a result of the proposal is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There will be more opportunities for Pupils from Carreglefn to immerse in the Welsh language at Ysgol Llanfechell, as there are more Welsh speakers at Ysgol Llanfechell.</li> <li>There may also be more opportunities to participate in Welsh medium extra-curricular activities at Ysgol Llanfechell – due to the increase in pupil numbers.</li> <li>More young children from Carreglefn may receive Education through the medium of Welsh from an earlier age, as there is a Welsh medium Cylch Meithrin on the school grounds of Ysgol Llanfechell which admits pupils from the age of two and a half. The Cylch Meithrin and Ysgol Llanfechell work together to provide a wraparound service, meaning that pupils aged 3-4 years old can transfer between school nursery and the ‘Cylch Meithrin’ without the need for parents / guardians to be present.</li> </ul>
<p>Adverse impact</p>	<p>Only 1 pupil from Ysgol Carreglefn speaks Welsh at home. There are more Welsh speakers at Ysgol Llanfechell, therefore pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn would be given more opportunities to immerse in the Welsh Language at Ysgol Llanfechell.</p> <p>Ysgol Llanfechell (which is only 2.2 miles from Ysgol Carreglefn) has capacity to</p>

3.5 The impacts identified and assessed	
	<p>accommodate pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn, and any additional pupils from housing developments within the area.</p> <p>As part of the consultation on the Modernising Learning Communities and Developing the Welsh Language Strategy, some respondents raised concerns that the potential closure of community schools could have a negative effect on young people staying within their local communities, and on the Welsh language within communities.</p> <p>This impact (from this proposal) is expected to be minimal. Currently there are only 9 pupils attending Ysgol Carreglefn, and 4 of these are in year 6 (and will therefore be transferring to a Secondary school by the time the proposal would be realized – if the proposal as it is is accepted).</p> <p>The Council will try to mitigate any negative effects by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ providing transport for eligible pupils from Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell in accordance with the Council’s transport policy.</li> <li>▪ working with the community in Carreglefn with a view to ensuring the long-term future of the Carreglefn school building.</li> </ul>
<p>Opportunities to promote the Welsh language e.g. status, use of Welsh language services, use of Welsh in everyday life, Welsh at work increased?</p>	<p>Ysgol Llanfechell will continue to promote the Welsh language.</p> <p>Ysgol Llanfechell is a Welsh Medium Category 3 school (in terms of language Category), ie, a school where Welsh is the main language for communicating within the school. The school has a strong Welsh ethos, and all pupils will be supported to use the Welsh language both inside and outside the classroom. For immersion, each pupil will be taught fully through the medium of Welsh, with English being used at times to ensure understanding.</p>
<p>Evidence / data used to support your assessment:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ PLASC 2023 – Pupil Level Annual School Census</li> <li>▪ Numbers on roll as at 16 January 2024 (PLASC date for 2024)</li> <li>▪ September 2023 statistics received from headteachers</li> <li>▪ Anglesey County Council’s Welsh in Education Strategic Plan</li> </ul>



<b>3.5 The impacts identified and assessed</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Responses from the consultation on the Modernising Learning Communities and Developing the Welsh Language Strategy.</li> </ul>

<b>3.6 Consultation</b>	
<b>To be updated if the Executive authorise officers to hold a statutory consultation</b>	
During consultation, what questions do you wish to ask about the Welsh Language Impacts?	As the school has fewer than 10 registered pupils at the January census point the 2013 Act permits local authorities to undertake a streamlined procedure for proposals such as this one, which means that the Council will not conduct a Statutory Consultation. However, if and when the Council publish a Statutory Notice for the proposal, stakeholders will have 28 days to object the proposal (this period is referred to as the objection period), any comments / objections can be sent to the Council's attention.
With whom are you consulting? How are Welsh language interest groups likely to respond?	See above
Following consultation, what changes have you made to address language issues raised?	Following the objection period, the Council will publish a summary of statutory objections, along with the Council's response to them, before the Executive decides to either approve, reject or amend the proposal.

<b>3.7 Post consultation, final proposals and ongoing monitoring</b>	
Summarise your final decisions, list the likely effects on the Welsh language and how you will promote/ mitigate these. Record your compliance with the Welsh language standards.  You will need to refer to this summary in the equality impact assessment template.	Not applicable at this stage.
How will you monitor the ongoing effects during the implementation of the policy?	The action plan at the end of the equality impact assessment is used to note any actions planned following completion of the assessment.

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### 4 COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

This assessment considers the possible effect of the proposal to **“Transfer pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell and close Ysgol Carreglefn”** on the local community.

The tables below show the number of pupils at Ysgol Carreglefn, and Ysgol Llanfechell currently, and over the previous 4 annual school census followed by the forecasted number of pupils for the next 5 years together with pupil projections if the proposal goes ahead:

#### Pupil numbers in the past

School	Capacity – excluding Nursery	Pupil Numbers January 2020	Pupil Numbers January 2021	Pupil Numbers January 2022	Pupil Numbers January 2023	Pupil Numbers January 2024	% Surplus Places January 2024
Carreglefn 3-11	46	15	12	10	10	9*	80%
Llanfechell 3-11	106	62	66	74	77	72	32%

\*NOTE – Of the 9 pupils attending Ysgol Carreglefn, 4 of these are in year 6.

At January 2024, there were 9 pupils on the register at Ysgol Carreglefn, with 8 pupils present on the PLASC date.

At January 2024, there were 72 pupils on the register at Ysgol Llanfechell (excluding nursery), with 65 pupils present on the PLASC date.

#### Five Year Forecasts 2024-2028

School	Capacity- excluding Nursery	Pupil Numbers Sept 2023	Projected Sept 2024	Projected Sept 2025	Projected Sept 2026	Projected Sept 2027	Projected Sept 2028
Carreglefn 3-11	46	9	5	4	4	5	4
Llanfechell 3-11	106	73	74	65	61	57	53

#### Pupil Projections if the proposal goes ahead

Projections confirm that pupil numbers would fall to a combined 57 by 2028. As a result, the proposal to **“Transfer pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell and close Ysgol Carreglefn”** is reasonable. The capacity Ysgol Llanfechell provides is sufficient for proposed housing developments in the area as seen in the table below:

School	Remaining Allocation for for housing developments in the catchment area(2018-2026) – including units with planning permission	Corresponding number of children*
Carreglefn	8	1
Llanfechell	12	2

\*Evidence suggests that each house within the medium super output area [MSOA\*<sup>1</sup>] has, on average 0.14 children of primary school age. Multiplying the number of housing developments with 0.14, gives an estimated number of additional children who would need to be educated at that particular school

\*<sup>1</sup> MSOA - areas as defined by the Office of National Statistics, for reporting census information. The MSOA's typically consist of between 2,000 and 6,000 households and have a population of between 5,000 and 15,000

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persons. More information on the MSOA's can be found on the following link - [Census 2021 geographies - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://www.ons.gov.uk) ,

The tables above demonstrate that should all the housing provision noted above materialise, there would still be sufficient places at Ysgol Llanfechell to accommodate pupils from Carreglefn and Llanfechell,

	Projected number on roll Sept 2024	Projected number on roll Sept 2025	Projected number on roll Sept 2026	Projected number on roll Sept 2027	Projected number on roll Sept 2028
Llanfechell	77	72	70	67	62

Parents can choose to send their child(ren) to whichever school they wish.

It is important to note that projections are difficult as a number of pupils attend the schools from other catchment areas. As at July 2023:

- Ysgol Carreglefn had 11 Pupils on the roll with 7 pupils attending from within the catchment area.
- Ysgol Llanfechell had 86 Pupils on the roll with 63 pupils attending from within the catchment area.

### Pre-school provision

The following pre-school provision is available in the Carreglefn, and Llanfechell area:

Both schools are registered for children aged 3-11 years old and provide early years education for children who have turned 3 years of age before 1 September in any year.

Forecasted Number of Nursery Places:

	Current nursery number on roll January 2024	Projected nursery number on roll Sept 2024	Projected nursery number on roll Sept 2025	Projected nursery number on roll Sept 2026	Projected nursery number on roll Sept 2027	Projected nursery number on roll Sept 2028
Carreglefn 3-11	0	0	0	1	0	0
Llanfechell 3-11	6	7	7	7	7	7

The table above predicts that the combined number of nursery pupils at Ysgol Carreglefn and Llanfechell is 8 when at its highest in 2026. The admission number for the nursery at Ysgol Llanfechell is 13. It is therefore reasonable to assume that there would be sufficient number of nursery places at Ysgol Llanfechell should the proposal be implemented. The nursery provision at Ysgol Llanfechell will be a Welsh Medium provision, as is currently in place at Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell. There is no known demand within the area for a specific type of provision, e.g a provision with a religious character.

There is Nursery provision (Cylch Meithrin) at Llanfechell, that admits pupils from the age of two and a half. The Cylch Meithrin is on the school site but is financially independent of Ysgol Llanfechell. The service is registered with the Authority to provide early years education for 10 hours per week, term-time only. The proposal is not expected to have an adverse effect on the Cylch Meithrin and could have a positive effect on the provider (i.e increase the number of pupils attending). The provision was last inspected by Estyn in January 2020, when Wellbeing, Care and Development, Teaching and Assessment, and Leadership and Management was evaluated to be good. The Environment was judged to be Adequate. The Cylch Meithrin and Ysgol Llanfechell work together to provide a wraparound service, meaning that pupils aged 3-4 years old can transfer between school nursery and the 'Cylch Meithrin' without the need for parents / guardians to be present.

There is no pre-school provision at Carreglefn, other than the school Nursery class for children who have turned 3 years of age before 1 September in any year.

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The proposal is not expected to affect any other organisations.

### Information about the schools

#### Ysgol Carreglefn (Carreglefn, Anglesey LL68 0PH)

Ysgol Carreglefn was built around 1899. It has 3 classrooms, a Dining Hall which is 64 m<sup>2</sup>, and a staff room. Externally there is a small hard play area and a small playing field to the rear of the school. Total internal area of the school is approximately 164 m<sup>2</sup>.

As at January 2024: Ysgol Carreglefn had 9 Pupils on the roll with 5 pupils attending from within the catchment area (56%).

The school year age ranges being taught in each classroom is as follows:

Ysgol Carreglefn Classrooms 1	Age range being taught per classroom
	Nursery – Year 6

#### Ysgol Llanfechell (Llanfechell, Ynys Môn LL68 0SA)

Ysgol Llanfechell was built around 1980. It has 4 classrooms, a Dining Hall which is 86m<sup>2</sup>, a head teachers office and staffroom. The school also has a number of rooms for community use such as a committee room, youth club room, community room etc. Externally there are hard and grassed play areas with a football field to the side of the school. Total internal area of the school (including Community use areas) is approximately 565m<sup>2</sup>.

As at September 2023: Ysgol Llanfechell had 73 Pupils on the roll with 59 pupils attending from within the catchment area. (81%).

The school year age ranges being taught in each classroom are as follows:

Ysgol Llanfechell Classrooms 4	Age range being taught per classroom
	Nursery and Reception
	Years 1 – 2
	Years 3 – 4
	Years 5 – 6

### Facilities and services provided by the schools

Details of facilities and services provided by the schools were obtained from questionnaires completed by the Headteachers of Ysgol Carreglefn, and Ysgol Llanfechell. Mechell Community Council also provided details of local activities held.

#### Extra-curricular activities available to pupils at Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell:

Ysgol Carreglefn Activity	During the term or holidays?	Frequency
Multi-activities Club	Term	Every week during school term

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<b>Ysgol Llanfechell Activity</b>	<b>During the term or holidays?</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
Urdd	Term	Monthly – During Autumn and Spring term
Cookery Club	Term	20 times per year
Athletics Club	Term	Summer Term
Computer Coding	Term	Spring Term - Weekly
Film Club	Term	Monthly

**School facilities at Ysgol Carreglefn and Llanfechell used by local groups:**

<b>Ysgol Carreglefn User and facility</b>	<b>During the term or during holidays?</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
Whist	During the term and holidays	Twice per month
Community Council	During the term and holidays	Six times per year
Community Committee	During the term and holidays	Three times per year
Community Carol Evening	During the term and holidays	Three times per year
Memorial Field Committee	During the term and holidays	Three times per year
Remembrance Service	During the term and holidays	Annual
Clwb Y Cen	During the term and holidays	Monthly
Patchwork Club	During the term and holidays	Monthly
Patchwork Club crafts display	During the term and holidays	Twice per annum

<b>Ysgol Llanfechell User and facility</b>	<b>During the term or during holidays?</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
Whist	During the term and holidays	Twice per month
Pensioners Club	During the term and holidays	Monthly
Cylch Meithrin	Term	Four days per week

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<b>Ysgol Llanfechell</b>	<b>During the term or during holidays?</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
<b>User and facility</b>		
Community Committee		6 times per year
Mechell Fair		Annual
Womens Institute	During the term and holidays	11 times per year
Friends of Mechell	During the term and holidays	6 times per year
Môn Actif	Holidays	3 times per year
Poppies Club	During the term and holidays	Monthly
Yoga Club	Holidays	8 times per year
Ti a Fi	Term	Monthly

Based on the information supplied by the Headteachers, the facilities at Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell are used by several groups from the local community.

**Community activities available near Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell:**

The following information was obtained from Mechell Community Council in 2019, shortly before the outbreak of the covid 19 pandemic. As the impact assessment is a live document, there will be an opportunity to update this information as part of the decision making process.

<b>Name of Facility / Business Near Ysgol Carreglefn</b>	<b>Bilingual / Medium of English or Medium of Welsh</b>
The Mechell Community Council states that the school building is the only place to meet.	

<b>Name of Facility / Business Near Ysgol Llanfechell</b>	<b>Bilingual / Medium of English or Medium of Welsh</b>
The Mechell Community Council states that the school building is the only place available for meetings to be held. Community activities tend to be undertaken from the School Building.	

**Childcare and pre-school care available at Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell:**

Ysgol Carreglefn	Language	Independent from the school	Location of Provision	Frequency
Pre School Childcare Club	Bilingual	No	School Hall	Monday – Friday
Breakfast Club	Bilingual	No	School Hall	Monday - Friday

Ysgol Llanfechell	Language	Independent from the school?	Location of Provision	Frequency
Pre School Childcare Club	Bilingual	No	School Hall	Monday – Friday
Breakfast Club	Bilingual	No	School Hall	Monday - Friday

**Community activities available locally:**

The following information was obtained from Mechell Community Council in 2019, shortly before the outbreak of the Covid 19 pandemic. As the impact assessment is a live document, there will be an opportunity to update this information as part of the decision making process.

Carreglefn	Frequency	Location
Womens Institute	Monthly	Carreglefn Community Hall
Clwb Y Cen	Monthly	Carreglefn Community Hall
Knitting Club	Weekly	Carreglefn Community Hall
Patchwork Class	Monthly	Carreglefn Community Hall
Whist	Monthly	Carreglefn Community Hall
Bingo	Monthly	Carreglefn Community Hall
Bethlehem Chapel	Monthly	Carreglefn Community Hall
Sunday School	Weekly	Carreglefn Community Hall
Lunch Club	Fortnightly	Carreglefn Community Hall
Parish Council	Monthly	Carreglefn Community Hall
Urdd	Monthly	Carreglefn Community Hall
Community Committee	Every other month	Carreglefn Community Hall
Play Field Committee	Every other month	Carreglefn Community Hall
Ti a Fi	Weekly	Carreglefn Community Hall
Community Nights	Monthly	Carreglefn Community Hall
Elections	Occasional	Community Centre

The Mechell Community Council states that the school is the only suitable location to meet. The Carreglefn Community Hall forms part of the school building.

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Llanfechell	Frequency	Location
Urdd Club	Weekly	Community Centre
Whist	Fortnightly	Community Centre
Childrens parties	Occasional	Community Centre
Mechell Friends – fundraising	Occasional	Community Centre
Lego Club	School Holidays	Community Centre
Ysgol Llanfechell - fundraising	Occasional	Community Centre
Mechell Fair	Annual	Community Centre
Womens Institute	Monthly	Community Centre
Pensioners Club	Monthly	Community Centre
History Club	Every 3 Months	Community Centre
Centre Managers	Each Term	Community Centre
Displays / meetings	Occasional	Community Centre
Elections	Occasional	Community Centre

The Mechell Community Council states that the school is the only suitable location to meet. The Community Centre forms part of the school building.

If the proposal is approved, it is foreseen that parents and pupils from Ysgol Llanfechell would support and engage with pupils and parents from Ysgol Carreglefn. All pupils would be encouraged to participate in after school activities such as those mentioned above, in Ysgol Llanfechell. In the context of extra-curricular activities every pupil, irrespective of background, will be encouraged to participate with the expectation on Ysgol Llanfechell to make suitable arrangements for less advantaged pupils to be able to participate. These arrangements will include but not confined to clubs being held during the lunch break, arrangements with parents for pick- and providing after school transport.

If the proposal is realised, Ysgol Llanfechell would continue to be a Community School. If the proposal is realised, the activities and facilities at Ysgol Llanfechell would be expected to be maintained or enhanced.

### Distance and travelling time

Ysgol Llanfechell is approximately 2.2 miles from Ysgol Carreglefn (Source – Google Maps).

If the proposal is authorised, it would mean longer travel distances for some pupils from Carreglefn. Based on the pupils on roll at Ysgol Carreglefn (July 2023), 18% (2 pupils) would travel less to Ysgol Llanfechell whilst 82% (9 pupils) would have to travel further. It should however be noted that 6 of the 11 pupils were in years 5 or 6 at this time. These pupils would not be affected by the proposal, as they will be transferring / would have transferred to secondary Education before the date it is suggested to implement the proposal. If these 6 pupils are excluded, 2 (40%) of the remaining 5 pupils live closer to Ysgol Llanfechell, whereas 3 pupils (60%) live closer to Ysgol Carreglefn. As the route from Carreglefn to Llanfechell is not suitable for pupils of primary school age to walk / cycle to and from school, the Authority would provide transportation for eligible pupils in accordance with the school transport policy, meaning they would be unlikely to walk or cycle to school. The travelling time from Ysgol Carreglefn on a bus to Ysgol Llanfechell is approximately 7 minutes before accounting for 'pick up' stops.

As at July 2023: Ysgol Carreglefn had 11 Pupils on the roll with 7 pupils attending from within the catchment area (64%).

- 50% of pupils who are not in the catchment area of Ysgol Carreglefn come from the catchment area of Ysgol Llanfechell [2 pupils].
- Less than 47% (7/15) of pupils who live within the catchment area of Ysgol Carreglefn attend Ysgol Carreglefn.



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As at July 2023: Ysgol Llanfechell had 86 Pupils on the roll with 63 pupils attending from within the catchment area (73%).

- 4% of pupils who are not in the catchment area of Ysgol Llanfechell come from the catchment area of Ysgol Carreglefn [1 pupil].
- Approximately 78% of pupils who live within the catchment area of Ysgol Llanfechell attend Ysgol Llanfechell.

The proposal will not affect the travelling patterns of pupils that currently attend Ysgol Llanfechell. It is unlikely that pupils from Carreglefn would be able to walk or cycle to Ysgol Llanfechell as the route is not suitable for pupils of primary school age to walk / cycle to or from school.

There is already a bus journey that services Ysgol Carreglefn . Apart from the additional distance of 2.2 miles from Ysgol Carreglefn to Ysgol Llanfechell, it is very unlikely that the proposal would have an effect on public transport. The proposal is likely to have a positive impact on traffic in the Carreglefn area, as the number of vehicles travelling on the narrow roads which services Ysgol Carreglefn is likely to reduce. The percentage of increased traffic through Llanfechell is expected to be minimal.

The Welsh Government states that primary aged pupils should not have to travel more than 45 minutes each way to school. The Local Authority provides free transport for primary school pupils under the age of 16 who live **2 miles** or more from school in whose catchment area they live. The same policy also states, “that transport will not be provided for part-time nursery pupils.”

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**Community Impact Assessment**

For determining the potential impact of the proposal on the community, the proposal against the criteria in the table below has been identified as positive if deemed to be beneficial, negative if deemed detrimental and No impact if the proposal is deemed not to have a significant impact.

Criteria	Observations	Impact Positive Negative Neutral	Mitigation Measures
Pupils who live outside the catchment area who attend school	<p>As at July 2023: Ysgol Carreglefn had 11 Pupils on the roll with 7 pupils attending from within the catchment area (64%).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 50% not in the catchment area of Ysgol Carreglefn come from the catchment area of Ysgol Llanfechell [2 Pupils].</li> </ul> <p>As at July 2023: Ysgol Llanfechell had 86 Pupils on the roll with 63 pupils attending from within the catchment area (73%).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4% not in the catchment area of Ysgol Llanfechell come from the catchment area of Ysgol Carreglefn [1 Pupil].</li> </ul>	Positive	<p>If the proposal is approved the catchment areas of Ysgol Carreglefn and Ysgol Llanfechell will be combined.</p> <p>Currently 28% of pupils attending Ysgol Carreglefn , or Ysgol Llanfechell are from outside the catchment area of the school they attend.</p> <p>Should the proposal be implemented, and assuming that pupils from Ysgol Carreglefn will transfer to Ysgol Llanfechell, based on July 2023 figures the percentage of pupils who would attend a school outside their catchment area would fall to 25%.</p>
Services provided by the school for the community including extra-curricular activities	All schools provide extra-curricular activities and services, however there are more extra-curricular activities at Ysgol Llanfechell than at Ysgol Carreglefn. It is foreseen that this provision would continue at Ysgol Llanfechell. It is foreseen that there would be community	Positive	<p>By working together with the community, the long-term future of the Carreglefn school building could be secured. If this were the case, activities and services provided from the school building would continue.</p> <p>Pupils that currently attend Ysgol Carreglefn would be given more opportunities to participate in extra-curricular</p>

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Criteria	Observations	Impact Positive Negative Neutral	Mitigation Measures
	use of Ysgol Llanfechell. The authority would want to work with the community in Carreglefn to provide an opportunity to secure the long term future of the Carreglefn school building, so that it could continue to be used as a community building if required.		activities at Ysgol Llanfechell. The number of activities at Ysgol Llanfechell would be expected to be maintained if not enhanced.
Community facilities provided by the school and activities held on school grounds	As both schools are community schools, the community makes considerable use of the buildings and the school grounds.	Neutral	By working together with the community, the long-term future of the Carreglefn school building could be secured. If this were the case, activities and services provided from the Carreglefn school building and its grounds would continue.
Other impacts Transport	If the proposal is approved, transport from the current Carreglefn catchment area to Ysgol Llanfechell will be provided to eligible pupils in accordance with the school transport policy. The proposal is likely to have a positive impact on traffic in the Carreglefn area, as the number of vehicles travelling on the narrow roads which services Ysgol Carreglefn is likely to reduce. The percentage of increased traffic through Llanfechell is expected to be minimal. If the proposal is authorised, it would mean longer travel distances for some pupils from Carreglefn. Based on the pupils on roll at	Neutral	If the proposal is approved, transport from the current Carreglefn catchment area to Ysgol Llanfechell will be provided to eligible pupils in accordance with the school transport policy.

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Criteria	Observations	Impact Positive Negative Neutral	Mitigation Measures
	<p>Ysgol Carreglefn (July 2023), 18% (2 pupils) would travel less to Ysgol Llanfechell whilst 82% (9 pupils) would have to travel further. It should however be noted that 6 of the 11 pupils were in years 5 or 6 at this time. These pupils would not be affected by the proposal, as they will be transferring / would have transferred to secondary Education before the date it is suggested to implement the proposal. If these 6 pupils are excluded, 2 (40%) of the remaining 5 pupils live closer to Ysgol Llanfechell, whereas 3 pupils (60%) live closer to Ysgol Carreglefn</p>		
<p>Other Effect on community</p>	<p>Closing Ysgol Carreglefn could have a small impact on the attractiveness of a local area for possible house purchasers, especially those who have or intend to have children. However, there would be sufficient capacity at Ysgol Llanfechell to accommodate pupils from Carreglefn. Ysgol Llanfechell is only 2.2 miles from Ysgol Carreglefn. It could also make the area more attractive for house buyers who are looking for a quieter neighbourhood. It is acknowledged that there could be a change in the area's demographic over time.</p>	<p>Neutral</p>	<p>By working together with the community, the long-term future of the Carreglefn school building could be secured. If this was the case, it could alleviate the possible impact of closing Ysgol Carreglefn .</p>

## 5 CONCLUSION

The proposal was initially assessed for its potential impact on:

- Equality
- The Welsh language
- Community.

The effect of the proposal on each part has been initially assessed as follows:

Combined effect on:	Likely Impact at proposal stage:
Equality	There is no known potential for discrimination or adverse impact at this stage.
Language	The proposal at this stage would seem not to have an overall adverse effect on the Welsh Language.
Community	Little or no perceived impact at this stage. However, some aspects may be positive e.g., pupils being able to participate in extracurricular activities at Ysgol Llanfechell

**This is a working document and will be revised on a regular basis. Any additional impacts arising will be reflected in an amended version which will be published as part of the objection report.**

## **6 Further information - A More Equal Wales – The Socio-Economic Duty (Commencement date of the Duty: 31 March 2021)**

### **What is the Duty?**

The general aim of the duty is to ensure better outcomes for those suffering socio-economic disadvantage. When making strategic decisions such as deciding priorities and setting objectives, due regard must be given to the need to reduce the inequalities of outcome resulting from socio-economic disadvantage.

### **Who is likely to experience socio-economic disadvantage?**

Socio-economic disadvantage can be disproportionate in both 'communities of interest' and 'communities of place', leading to inequality of outcome, which can be further exasperated when considering 'intersectionality'.

**Communities of interest** – groups who share an experience, e.g. homelessness; or people who share an identity, eg lone parents, carers. Also those who share one or more of the protected characteristics listed in the Equality Act 2010.

**Communities of place** – people who are linked together because of where they live, work, visit or spend a substantial portion of their time there.

**Intersectionality** - crucially, this is about understanding the way in which a combination of characteristics such as gender, race or class, can produce unique and often multiple experiences of disadvantage in certain situations. One form of discrimination cannot and should not be understood in isolation from other forms. A truly intersectional approach ensures that this does not happen.

### **When will the Duty be relevant?**

When making **strategic decisions**. The Welsh Government has provided some examples of strategic decisions (this is not an exhaustive list):

- Strategic directive and intent.
- Strategies developed at Regional Partnership Boards and Public Service Boards which impact on public bodies' functions.
- Medium to long term plans (for example, corporate plans, development plans, service delivery and improvement plans).
- Setting objectives (for example, well-being objectives, equality objectives, Welsh language strategy).
- Changes to and development of public services.
- Strategic financial planning.

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- Major procurement and commissioning decisions.
- Strategic policy development

## **7 Further information -Human Rights**

Human rights are rights and freedoms that belong to all individuals, regardless of their nationality and citizenship. There are 16 basic rights in the Human Rights Act – all taken from the European Convention on Human Rights. For the purposes of the Act, they are known as ‘the Convention Rights’. They are listed below:

(Article 1 is introductory and is not incorporated into the Human Rights Act)

Article 2: The right to life

Article 3: Prohibition of torture

Article 4: Prohibition of slavery and forced labour

Article 5: Right to liberty and security

Article 6: Right to a fair trial

Article 7: No punishment without law

Article 8: Right to respect for private and family life

Article 9: Freedom of thought, conscience and religion

Article 10: Freedom of expression

Article 11: Freedom of assembly and association

Article 12: Right to marry

Article 14: Prohibition of discrimination

Article 1 of Protocol 1: Protection of property

Article 2 of Protocol 1: Right to education

Article 3 of Protocol 1: Right to free elections

Article 1 of Protocol 13: Abolition of the death penalty



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### **8 Further information -Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**

This Act is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. Public bodies need to make sure that when making their decisions they take into account the impact they could have on people living their lives in Wales in the future. The Act puts in place seven well-being goals:

#### **A prosperous Wales:**

An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including acting on climate change); and which develops a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.

#### **A resilient Wales:**

A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).

#### **A healthier Wales:**

A society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.

#### **A more equal Wales:**

A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio-economic background and circumstances).

#### **A Wales of cohesive communities:**

Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities.

#### **A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language:**

A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation.

#### **A globally responsible Wales:**

A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being.