

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
Report to:	Executive Committee
Date:	9 June 2014
Subject:	Lowering Age of Admission at Ysgol Llanfairpwllgwyngyll
Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Ieuan Williams
Head of Service:	Dr Gwynne Jones
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Local Members:	Jim Evans R Meirion Jones Alun Wyn Mummery

A – Recommendation/s and reason/s
<p>A request was received from the Governing Body at Ysgol Llanfairpwllgwyngyll for the Authority to consider lowering the age of admission so as to admit pupils part time in the September following their third birthday.</p> <p>Ysgol Llanfairpwllgwyngyll admits children full time in the September following their fourth birthday. The school is one of 8 schools with this policy. The other 40 primary schools admit children part time in the September following their third birthday.</p> <p>There is a set process to this-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare a consultation document. 2. Ensure a wide consultation with all who have an interest. 3. Prepare a report on the consultation and then a recommendation to the Executive Committee 4. If to move on the proposal then publish a statutory order and collect objections. 5. Executive Committee to consider a report on the objections and then to come to a final decision. <p>Throughout the process there is close working with the Welsh Government.</p> <p>Accepting the proposal will increase staffing costs but accepting additional nursery</p>

children will increase the school's allocation.

The school would place the children within a cabin on the school grounds. There will need to be discussions with the Community Council who own the cabin and lease it out to the local Cylch Meithrin. It is foreseen that the school and the Cylch will share the cabin. A formal agreement concerning responsibilities over the cabin is needed with the school and the Cylch.

In summary the Governors at Ysgol Llanfairpwllgwyngyll have presented a request to lower the age of admission. It is recommended that permission be given to begin the process of consultation.

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

The alternative option is to maintain the present arrangements but the school wishes to move towards a policy that is accepted in the majority of our schools. The Authority supports the option to consult on the request so that the Authority can move towards a consistency of admission arrangements across schools.

C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?

The change in the age range of a school is a “regulated alteration” within school reorganisation and is subject to the provisions of the School Organisation Code, 006/2013. It is a decision for the Executive Committee who are required to publish proposals on the change and to consider the responses.

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

Yes, as the Authority has followed the process over the last few years with other schools.

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

Yes.

DD – Who did you consult?		What did they say?
1	Chief Executive / Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) (mandatory)	
2	Finance / Section 151 (mandatory)	Increasing the number of pupils in any school will have a direct effect on the funding formula in the following financial year. The greater the number of pupils the more funding the delegated budgets lines will need. In addition to the pupil numbers generating extra revenue, there will also be a need to ensure that a 0.4 nursery assistant is employed which will thus further increase the delegated budgets.
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	
4	Human Resources (HR)	No comments.
5	Property	Planning and Public Protection – no comments
6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	
7	Scrutiny	
8	Local Members	
9	Any external bodies / other/s	Head of Children’s Services – no comment

E – Risks and any mitigation (if relevant)	
1	Economic
2	Anti-poverty
3	Crime and Disorder
4	Environmental
5	Equalities
6	Outcome Agreements
7	Other

F - Appendices:
None

FF - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):
None