

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
Report to:	Executive Committee
Date:	20th April, 2015
Subject:	Lowering the admission age of Ysgol Llanfairpwllgwyngyll to admit pupils on a part time basis from the September following their 3rd birthday with effect from 31 August 2015.
Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Ieuan Williams
Head of Service:	Delyth Molyneux
Report Author: Tel: E-mail:	Gareth Jones 01248 752947 dgjed@ynysmon.gov.uk
Local Members:	Councillor Alun Mummery Councillor Jim Evans Councillor Meirion Jones

A –Recommendation/s and reason/s
<p>1. The Council should move to issue a statutory notice to lower the admission age of Ysgol Llanfairpwllgwyngyll to admit pupils on a part time basis from the September following their 3rd birthday with effect from 31 August 2015</p> <p>2. The Council should consider allowing officers to move immediately on the proposal if no objections are received within the 28 day period to the statutory notice. This would greatly facilitate arrangements for the local community. This to be followed up with a report to the Council.</p> <p>3. The Authority and the school to plan for using the “Gorlan” through an official agreement with the Community Council for the 2015/16 school year. The aim is to educate the nursery children within the main building by September 2016.</p> <p>The Authority has consulted on the proposal and no objections were received. Report on the consultation attached.</p>

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

The only other option would be to not continue with the proposal but there is support from parents, the Cylch meithrin Committee, Estyn and the school.

C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?

The decision concerns the change of the statutory age of admission of an individual school and is within the scope of the School Organisation Code (Statutory Code Document 006/2013 Welsh Government).

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

Yes. The arrangements within the proposal are in force in 39 primary schools in the Authority.

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)	No comments
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	
4	Human Resources (HR)	No comments
5	Property	
6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	

7	Scrutiny	
8	Local Members	
9	Any external bodies / other/s	

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:	
1. The Consultation Report. 2. The Consultation Document.	

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



CYNGOR SIR
YNYS MÔN
ISLE OF ANGLESEY
COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT ON THE CONSULTATION
REGARDING PROPOSALS TO LOWER THE
ADMISSION AGE OF YSGOL
LLANFAIRPWLLGWYNGYLL
AS FROM
31 AUGUST 2015

A. Background.

Following a request by the Governing Body of Ysgol Llanfairpwllgwyngyll, the Authority consulted on the proposal to lower the admission age of Ysgol Llanfairpwllgwyngyll to admit pupils on a part time basis from the September following their 3rd birthday with effect from 31 August 2015.

Currently pupils are admitted to Ysgol Llanfairpwllgwyngyll on a full time basis in the September following their 4th birthday while Cylch Meithrin Llanfairpwllgwyngyll are the current providers of early years education in the area from the beginning of term following the 3rd birthday to the September following the 4th birthday.

B. The Consultation Process.

The Authority published a consultation document on the County Council's website and the document was discussed in a public meeting at the school on 14 January 2015. Then paper copies were sent to a list of consultees according to the list in the consultation document. The consultation period came to an end on 23 February 2015.

C. Responses.

1. There was a total of 31 people, including parents, members of the Cylch Meithrin Committee and staff from the Cylch, at the public meeting. The document was carefully discussed and there was an open discussion on the proposal. No objections were raised to the proposal.

2. Written responses were received from

- One parent
- One member of the public
- One elected member
- Chairperson of Ysgol Brynsiencyn's Governing Body
- Cylch Meithrin Llanfairpwll's committee
- Estyn

The parent was in favour as the proposal would improve the children's education.

Whilst accepting the Cylch's good provision the member of the public was of the opinion that the expertise, resources and professionalism of the school would be a positive step forward for three year old children.

The elected member was in favour of the proposal and stated that the Community Council were keen to facilitate the new arrangements if they came into being.

Ysgol Brynsiencyn's Governing Body has no objection to the proposal.

Cylch Meithrin Llanfairpwll's committee are in favour of the proposal but they are concerned about the timing of the decision. Better to decide as soon as possible so

that arrangements can be put into place for September 2015 in terms of staffing and finance. The Cylch have already started looking into the possibility of providing a care service for the area.

Estyn are of the opinion that the proposal is likely to at least maintain the standard of provision in the area. Issues that need addressing are

- i) how is the proposal part of a wider strategic plan
- ii) what is the likely effect of presenting the Foundation Phase curriculum in a building on the school site but set apart from the main building and its facilities. The proposal also does not consider the implications of accepting two and a half year old children into the same building.
- iii) the effect of the proposal on vulnerable groups including children with special educational needs

3. Authority Comments.

The Authority has expressed concerns about placing the nursery class in the Gorlan in the long term. The Gorlan is the building in the ownership of the Community Council but is located on the school grounds. The Community Council at present rents out the two rooms to the Cylch Meithrin but they are willing to rent one room to the school. The Authority's stance is that the nursery class should be within the main building so that the class, children and staff are an integral part of the school. The school is discussing changes to its internal organisation to ensure this within a year.

E. Main issues to be considered.

1. The effect of educating the nursery children in a building apart from the main building needs to be considered. The Authority has started discussions with the school on completing changes within the building so that the nursery class is located within this main building. It is agreed to use the Gorlan through an official agreement with the Community Council for a year. This is to ensure time to complete the alterations and to give the Cylch time to develop a care business plan for the future.

2. Consideration needs to be given to ways of putting draft plans into place before the final decision by the Council. This will facilitate arrangements for the school and the cylch with parents knowing the likely situation for September 2015.

3. The Council's wider long term plan can be seen within the Strategic Outline Programme and the Modernisation Strategy. Ysgol Brynsiencyn is part of an ongoing consultation in the Bro Rhosyr area and they have expressed an interest in lowering the age of admission. The Authority will consider this over the coming months.

4. Any vulnerable group within the nursery class including children with special educational needs will be cared for in the same way as the rest of the children at the school. The school has careful arrangements in place. The Authority also provides support for children with special educational needs within the cylch.

F. Conclusions.

1. The Council should move to issue a statutory notice to lower the admission age of Ysgol Llanfairpwllgwyngyll to admit pupils on a part time basis from the September following their 3rd birthday with effect from 31 August 2015
2. The Council should consider allowing officers to move immediately on the proposal if no objections are received within the 28 day period to present objections. This would greatly facilitate arrangements for the local community. This to be followed up with a report to the Council.
3. The Authority and the school to plan for using the Gorlan through an official agreement with the Community Council for the 2015/16 school year. The aim is to educate the nursery children within the main building by September 2015.



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CONSULTATION DOCUMENT REGARDING
PROPOSALS TO LOWER THE ADMISSION AGE
OF YSGOL LLANFAIRPWLLGWYNGYLL
AS FROM
31 AUGUST 2015

CONSULTATION DOCUMENT REGARDING PROPOSALS TO LOWER THE ADMISSION AGE OF YSGOL LLANFAIRPWLLGWYNGYLL AS FROM 31 AUGUST 2015

Introduction –

This consultation is on a proposal by the Education Authority , following a request by the Governing Body of Ysgol Llanfairpwllgwyngyll , to lower the admission age of Ysgol Llanfairpwllgwyngyll to admit pupils on a part time basis from the September following their 3rd birthday with effect from 31 August 2015.

Before moving forward with its proposals, the Authority wishes to seek the views of all those with a likely interest in the proposal so that their views can be taken into account before decisions are made.

This consultation process will consist of

- contacting and providing a copy of this consultation document to all interested parties, including the Authority, who are listed in Appendix 1
- holding a meeting for interested parties on Wednesday, 14 January, 2015 at 6 pm at the school.
- making copies available of this consultation document at the school, at the relevant non-maintained settings and on the Isle of Anglesey website.
- submission of views by interested parties in writing to:

Mr Gareth Jones, Education Officer,
Lifelong Learning Department
Ffordd Glanhwfa
LLANGFNI
Ynys Môn
LL77 7EY

or you can e-mail: dgjed@anglesey.gov.uk

All views must be received by

no later than midday Monday, 23 February 2015.

- holding a meeting with the School Council to discuss their views on the proposal

Background

If the proposal were to be implemented Ysgol Llanfairpwllgwyngyll may well attract future 3 year old pupils who may have attended other schools with existing 3 year old provision in the immediate area. In the case of Ysgol Llanfairpwllgwyngyll the schools in the immediate area are Ysgol Y Borth, Ysgol Esceifiog and Ysgol Parc y Bont. The following school, Ysgol Brynsiencyn, is also in the immediate area but they do not have existing part time provision for 3 year olds but they could also be affected as families of children who would normally attend the school may well apply for places at Ysgol Llanfairpwllgwyngyll so as to benefit from the provision at Ysgol Llanfairpwllgwyngyll.

The relevant details of the schools including Ysgol Llanfairpwllgwyngyll are-

Details	Ysgol Llanfairpwll	Ysgol y Borth	Ysgol Esceifiog	Ysgol Parc y Bont	Ysgol Brynsiencyn
Location	YSGOL LLANFAIRPWLL GWYNGYLL Llanfairpwll, Ynys Môn LL61 5TX	YSGOL Y BORTH Porthaethwy, Ynys Môn LL59 5DS	YSGOL ESCEIFIOG Gaerwen, Ynys Môn LL60 6DD	YSGOL PARC Y BONT Llanddaniel, Ynys Môn LL60 6HB	YSGOL BRYNSIENCY N Brynsiencyn, Llanfairpwll LL61 6HZ
Category	Community school for 4-11 year olds	Community school for 3-11 year olds	Community school for 3-11 year olds	Community school for 3-11 year olds	Community school for 4-11 year olds
Language	Bilingual	Bilingual	Bilingual	Bilingual	Bilingual
Capacity	322	218	141	109	79
Admission number for part time pupils	Not relevant	19	17	12	Not relevant
Admission number for full time pupils	46	28	17	13	11

Number of part time pupils on roll as in January	Not relevant	2014 - 32 2013 - 28 2012 - 29 2011 - 0 2010 - 0	2014 - 18 2013 - 12 2012 - 21 2011 - 18 2010 - 0	2014 - 14 2013 - 12 2012 - 17 2011 - 9 2010 - 16	Not relevant
Number of full time pupils on roll as in January	2014 - 307 2013 - 291 2012 - 291 2011 - 294 2010 - 283	2014 - 186 2013 - 177 2012 - 183 2011 - 187 2010 - 179	2014 - 97 2013 - 99 2012 - 88 2011 - 82 2010 - 79	2014 - 90 2013 - 89 2012 - 88 2011 - 85 2010 - 75	2014 - 50 2013 - 48 2012 - 40 2011 - 49 2010 - 51
Total pupil number forecasts	2015 - 302 2016 - 300 2017 - 301 2018 - 293 2019 - 300	2015 - 227 2016 - 229 2017 - 240 2018 - 241 2019 - 253	2015 - 119 2016 - 126 2017 - 132 2018 - 137 2019 - 137	2015 - 109 2016 - 109 2017 - 113 2018 - 111 2019 - 113	2015 - 45 2016 - 44 2017 - 42 2018 - 38 2019 - 35
Condition of school building as measured by survey in EC Harris, 09/10 on behalf of Welsh Government	B Satisfactory	B Satisfactory	B Satisfactory	B Satisfactory	B Satisfactory

Both the school and the Cylch are required to operate within the Authority's Welsh Language Policy and Welsh Language provision would not be diminished but would be enhanced as the pupils would be taught according to the Welsh Language Policy for schools.

If the proposal were to be implemented the new class established would become a part of the school and the Governing Body would be answerable to the Authority for the standards and provision of the new class and the new class would be subject to all of the school's policies and procedures.

The table below sets out the judgements within the last available Estyn report for the school and the Cylch.

<u>Aspect</u>	Ysgol Llanfairpwllgwyngyll Date November 2010	Cylch Llanfairpwllgwyngyll Date June 2014
<u>Key Question 1: How good are the outcomes?</u>	Good	Good

Standards	Good	Good
Wellbeing	Excellent	Good
<u>Key Question 2: How good is provision?</u>	Good	Good
Learning Experiences	Good	Good
Teaching	Good	Good
Care, support and guidance	Good	Good
Learning environment	Excellent	Good
<u>Key Question 3: How good are leadership and management?</u>	Good	Good
Leadership	Good	Good
Improving Quality:	Adequate	Good
Partnership working	Excellent	Good
Resource management	Good	Good
The school's / Cylch's current performance	Good	Good
The school's / Cylch's prospects for improvement	Good	Good

The proposal –

The proposal is to lower the admission age of Ysgol Llanfairpwllgwyngyll to admit pupils on a part time basis from the September following their 3rd birthday with effect from 31 August 2015.

Cylch Meithrin Llanfairpwllgwyngyll are the current providers of early years education in the area from the beginning of term following the 3rd birthday to the September following the 4th birthday. Cylch Meithrin Llanfairpwllgwyngyll meets in the Gorlan, a building owned by the Community Council and sited on the school grounds. The

Community Council rents the building, which has two rooms, under an agreement to the Cylch's Committee up to May 2021. The Cylch meets for four mornings a week for one group of children who are 3 years old, 8.50 to 11.20; and for four afternoons(1 – 3) and one morning for another group who are three years old. The younger children meet for specific periods over 5 days. There is also a Ti a Fi group who meet for one afternoon a week.

There are currently 37 pupils who had achieved their 3rd birthday by 1 September 2014, and 19 pupils who had not achieved their 3rd birthday by 1st September 2014, attending Cylch Meithrin Llanfairpwllgwyngyll.

Pupils are admitted to Ysgol Llanfairpwllgwyngyll on a full time basis in the September following their 4th birthday. In September 2014 there were 307 pupils on roll who are taught in 11 classes as follows:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Number of Pupils</u>
1	Reception	23
2	Reception	22
3	Years 1/2	27
4	Years 1/2	27
5	Years 1/2	25
6	Years 3 / 4	31
7	Years 3 / 4	30
8	Years 3 / 4	30
9	Years 5 / 6	31
10	Years 5 / 6	30
11	Years 5 / 6	31

If the proposal to admit 3 year olds to the school on a part time basis is implemented the nursery pupils would be shared into two groups and educated within one room in the Gorlan, one group in the morning and one group in the afternoon. The Authority will discuss terms for this with the Community Council. Ysgol Llanfairpwllgwyngyll

would be the local providers for children from the September following their 3rd birthday.

Early Years education up to the September following the 3rd birthday would still be provided by Cylch Meithrin Llanfairpwllgwyngyll.

The Cylch Meithrin would accept pupils once they are 2.5 years old.

In terms of funding the school would receive additional funding through the Authority's formula based on the number of additional part time pupils registered at the school. This would provide for additional staff in terms of teachers and Foundation Phase assistants in accordance to statutory guidelines.

The Cylch would continue to receive a contribution towards running costs but at a lower level due to the decrease in pupils who are eligible for the part time statutory education entitlement of 10 hours a week. The Cylch have already started to consider a Business Plan should the proposal be implemented.

Educational standards would not decrease and are expected to rise as the pupils would be taught by a qualified teacher under the direction of the head teacher and answerable to the school's Governing Body.

The statutory process

The consultation process is subject to the requirements of the School Organisation Code, document number 006/2013.

Following the end of this consultation, 23.2.15, the Authority will publish a report on the consultation which will be available on the Isle of Anglesey web site.

Authority officers will then present the report to the Executive Committee in April 2015 along with a recommendation.

If the recommendation is to continue with the proposal and this is accepted by the Executive Committee then a statutory notice will be issued and a 28 day consultation period will begin. A report will be published on the views expressed to the Authority and will be available on the Isle of Anglesey web site.

Authority officers will then present the report to the Executive Committee in July 2015 along with a final recommendation.

Response Pro-forma

A response pro-forma for comments, including an opportunity for consultees to register their wish to be notified of publication of the consultation report, is attached to the consultation document.

Atodiad 1 / Appendix 1.

Rhestr o ymgynghoreion i dderbyn copi o'r Ddogfen Ymgynghorol.

List of consultees to receive a copy of the Consultation document

Cyrff / Bodies
Cadeirydd / Chair Ysgol Llanfairpwll
Cadeirydd / Chair Ysgol Y Borth
Cadeirydd / Chair Ysgol Esceifiog
Cadeirydd Ysgol / Chair Parc y Bont
Cadeirydd / Chair Ysgol Brynsiencyn
Cadeirydd / Chair Ysgol David Hughes
Cadeirydd / Chair Cylch Meithrin Llanfairpwllgwyngyll
Gweinidog Addysg a Sgiliau Llywodreth Cymru Minister for Education and Skills Welsh Government
AS / MP Albert Owen
AC / AM Rhun ap Iorwerth
Prif Arolygydd / Chief Inspector Estyn
Aelodau Fforwm Undebau / Union Forum Members
Cadeirydd Consortiwm Addysg Gogledd Cymru Chair North Wales Education Consortium
Prif Weithredwr / Chief Executive GwE
Comisiynydd Heddlu a Throsedd Gogledd Cymru North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner

Cyngorau Cymuned / Community Councils –

Cyngor Bro Llanfairpwllgwyngyll Community Council
Swyddfa'r Cyngor Bro / Community Council Office
Neuadd Goffa / Memorial Hall
Llanfairpwll
LL61 5JB

Cynghorwyr Sir / County Councillors-

Alun Mummery

Meirion Jones

Jim Evans

Cymdeithas Darparwyr Cyn-ysgol Cymru

Wales Pre-school Providers Association (WPPA)

Mudiad Meithrin (MM)

Partneriaeth Môn a Gwynedd Partnership