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Our Ref./Ein Cyf.
Your Ref./Eich Cyf. SR/JW/LP

Contact:/Cysylltwch â: Joanne Watts

Date:/ Dyddiad: 26th April 2023

Dear Consultee,

Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council's Cabinet has agreed to commence a **Formal Consultation Document proposal to Improve provision and build capacity for Additional Learning Needs (ALN) Pupils across the County Borough**

Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council propose to increase the capacity for ALN and ASD Resource Bases across the County Borough in certain Primary and Secondary Schools. This will involve the establishment and change of ALN provisions in a number of Primary and Secondary Schools in the Council Borough. The proposal is to increase ASD and ALN places from 61 to 86 across the Primary Schools and increase the provision at Secondary Schools from 62 to 80 places in Phase 1 (including 15 Welsh-medium places). Further the proposals include the potential to increase places by a further 40 places in Phase 2 (including a Faith Based provision). This will take effect from September 2023 on a phased basis over the next 5 years.

The Council plan to remodel existing learning environments to create classroom spaces and associated facilities to accommodate and provide appropriate resources for the proposed ALN and ASD provisions. In addition, and alongside this, the Council will work with the schools to develop a long-term plan to support sustained growth and development.

Therefore, this proposal will be delivered in 2 phases:

Phase 1

- To recognise the transition group established in Ebbw Fawr 3-16 Learning Community-Secondary Phase as a 6 place RB from September 2023
- To create a 6-8 place ASD Resource Base at Tredegar Comprehensive School from September 2023
- To create a 10 place ASD/ALN Resource Base at Sofrydd Primary School from September 2024/25
- To create a 15 place ASD/ALN Resource Base at Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Helyg from September 2024

Phase 2

The development of a Medium-term plan to secure additional capacity to facilitate sustained growth and development in Primary and Secondary Schools. This will include provision at the below schools between 2025 and 2029:

- To create an ASD/ALN Resource Base at Brynmawr Foundation School for 10 pupils
- To create an ASD/ALN Resource Base at Cwm Primary School for 10 pupils

Mae'r Cyngor yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a Saesneg a byddwn yn cyfathrebu gyda chi yn eich dewis iaith, dim ond i chi rhoi gwybod i ni pa un sydd well gennych. Ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn creu unrhyw oedi.

The Council welcomes correspondence in Welsh and English and we will communicate with you in the language of your choice, as long as you let us know which you prefer. Corresponding in Welsh will not lead to any delay.

- To create, if required, an ASD/ALN Resource base at a Faith Based Primary school (such as Roman Catholic/Church in Wales Schools) in Blaenau Gwent (yet to be determined) for 10 pupils
- To create an ASD/ALN Resource Base at Abertillery 3-16 Learning Community - Roseheyworth Road Primary Campus for 10 pupils

The consultation period will begin on Monday 24th April 2023 and will close at 5:00pm on Tuesday 6th June 2023. The regulations require that consultees must be given at least 42 days to respond to the consultation document, with at least 20 of these being school days.

Please provide your comments on the proposal in this consultation document to extend the capacity for pupils in Resource Bases by establishing and changing the ALN provision in a number of Primary and Secondary Schools across the County Borough. (Please refer to **Webpage via link** <https://www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/en/council/consultations/proposal-to-improve-provision-and-build-capacity-for-additional-learning-needs/> for more information).

This can be done in 3 ways:

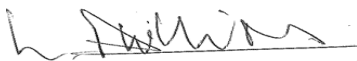
1. Via the link provided electronically via: <https://online1.snapsurveys.com/d1daqu>
2. Via the below proforma and send to: 21stcenturyschools@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk
3. By post to Joanne Watts, Service Manager – Education Transformation and Business Change, Education Directorate, Floor 8 Anvil Court, Abertillery, NP13 1DB

All affected School Governing Bodies, Staff, Pupils parents and the wider community will have access to a series of scheduled drop-in sessions throughout the consultation period.

- Ebbw Vale Learning Action Centre James St, Ebbw Vale NP23 6JG **2nd May 2023** 3pm – 6:30pm
- Ty Bedwellty Morgan Street, Tredegar, NP22 3XN **3rd May 2023** 3pm – 6:30pm
- Abertillery Metropole Cultural & Conference Centre 2 Mitre St, Abertillery NP13 1AE **9th May 2023** 3pm – 6:30pm
- Brynmawr Rugby Club Catholic Road, Brynmawr NP23 4EF **10th May 2023** 3pm – 6:30pm

Should you require a hard copy please Contact 01495 355470.

Kind regards,



Lynn Phillips
Corporate Director for Education
Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council