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Our Ref. / Ein Cyf. SR/JC

Your Ref. / Eich Cyf.

Date. / Dyddiad. 26th February 2026



Dear Consultee,

The Council undertook formal consultation, which outlined a proposal to extend the capacity at Pen y Cwm Special School in Ebbw Vale. At the Council's Cabinet meeting held on 23rd February 2026, the Cabinet decided to proceed with the Council's preferred option to expand the capacity of the Special School as outlined below:

- **Part 1**, to increase the capacity of Pen y Cwm Special School from 175 to 205 places in preparation for the 2026/27 academic year. This will also involve:
 - Retrospectively acknowledging the Post 16 provision at Unit 4 Festival Site in Ebbw Vale (including 3 classrooms, sensory room, common room, life skills room, meeting room, catering/dining area, toilets and hygiene facilities)
 - Retrospective acknowledgement of additional classrooms developed in the main school building.
- **Part 2**, to further increase the capacity of Pen y Cwm Special School from 205 to 250 places in preparation for the 2030/31 academic year. This will involve continuing with the development of the long-term plan to secure additional capacity including either a new build provision on the land adjacent to the school or remodelling the existing school building to accommodate the increased capacity.

The Statutory Notice in respect of the proposal is attached and will be published on the Council's web page <https://www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/en/council/consultations/proposal-to-extend-the-capacity-at-pen-y-cwm-special-school/> on 26th February 2026. Should anyone wish to make a statutory objection to the proposal they may do so within a period of 28 days after the date of publication of the Statutory Notice, that is by 26th March 2026.

- Objections by e-mail should be sent to 21stcenturyschools@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk.

I hope that you find this correspondence self-explanatory, but should you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact the 21stcenturyschools@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk email address

Kind regards,

Joanne Watts

Head of Education Resources & Planning, Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

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.