

Proposal to increase Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn' s capacity from
116 to 220

Consultation Document

March 2022



	Page
1. Introduction- Explanation of the Consultation Proposal	2
1.1 The Consultation	2
2. The Consultation Process	2
2.1 Who will be consulted?	2
2.2 Consultation period	3
2.3 Considering your views	3
2.4 Meetings	3
2.5 Consultation with children and young people	3
2.6 Timetable	4
3. School affected by this proposal	4
3.1 Estyn inspections	5
4. The Proposal- Why are we proposing the changes?	6
4.1 Background	6
4.2 Rationale for change	7
4.3 Evaluation of present arrangements	8
4.4 Impact of the proposal on the quality and standards of education	10
4.5 Impact of the proposal on teaching and learning experiences	10
4.6 Impact of the proposal on care, support and guidance	11
4.7 Impact of the proposal on leadership and management	11
5. Impact of the Proposal	11
5.1 Transport costs	12
5.2 Transitional arrangements	12
5.3 Advantages and disadvantages of the proposal	12
5.4 Risks	13
5.5 WESP	13
5.6 Financial implications- Revenue	14
5.7 Admission arrangements	14
5.8 Alternative options considered	14
5.9 Transport impact assessment	15
5.10 How the proposal will affect staff	15
5.11 Capital receipts	15
5.12 Impact of the proposal on the Welsh Language	15
5.13 Equality	16
5.14 Impact on the community	16
5.15 Sustainability	16
6. Next Steps- How to make your views known	17
7. What happens next	17
7.1 Consultation report	17
7.2 The Statutory process	18
7.3 Consultation period	18
7.4 Publication of statutory notices	18
7.5 Determination of proposals	18
7.6 Decision notification	18
Appendix 1- Formal Consultation response form	19
Appendix 2- Community, Equality and Welsh language impact assessment	21

1. Introduction- Explanation of the Consultation Proposal

This consultation is an opportunity for the local and wider community to learn about the proposal to increase Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn's capacity from 116 to 220. The school will move into a brand new purpose built facility in the town of Denbigh to accommodate the increase.

This consultation document sets out the information which consultees will need to consider to take part fully in the consultation process. This process follows regulatory guidance as set out in the School Organisation Code 2018.

To request a hard copy of the consultation document please email modernisingeducation@denbighshire.gov.uk

The consultation period commences on and ends on

1.1 The Consultation

This consultation proposal has been produced containing information set out in the Welsh Government Guidance and sets out the information people will need to participate in the consultation process.

The Local Authority wish to seek the views of all those with a likely interest in any change to Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn. It is important that all views can be taken into account before a decision is made.

A supplementary version of this formal consultation proposal has been produced for and made available to children and young people who are likely to be affected by the current proposal. The supplementary version has been written specifically to enable children and young people to understand better and engage with the formal consultation.

2. The Consultation Process

The consultation process will follow the guidelines outlined by the Welsh Government as stated in the School Organisation Code (2018)

2.1 Who will be consulted?

This document will be sent to the following:

All staff- teaching and ancillary- Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn	Welsh Ministers
Parents/ Guardians and Governors at Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn	Assembly Member (AM)/ Regional Members/ Members of Parliament (MP)
All schools within Denbighshire- headteachers and Chairs of Governors	SEN Partners
All neighbouring Local Authorities	Estyn

The Church in Wales and Roman Catholic Diocesan Authority	All relevant unions
Regional Education Consortium	Police and Crime Commissioner
Local Communities First Partnership	Relevant Health bodies with an interest
Denbigh Town Council	All Councillors

2.2 Consultation Period

The consultation period for this proposal starts on and ends on

The consultation document will be published on the Denbighshire County Council website at:

2.3 Considering your views:

You can respond to this consultation by completing the response form- Appendix A.

Please address all responses to:

Email- modernisingeducation@denbighshire.gov.uk

Post- Modernising Education, Denbighshire County Council, PO Box 62, Ruthin, LL15 9AZ

NOTE- All responses must arrive no later than midnight on

Due to the volume of responses that are received when consulting on options we will not be able to acknowledge written responses nor enter into correspondence with interested parties either during or after the consultation period.

Your comments however will be considered and responded to via the publication of a post consultation report.

2.4 Meetings

We will also hold information sessions for parents and any other interested parties during the consultation period. These will be 10 minute sessions which will be arranged by appointment only and will be held online via Zoom or Teams or alternatively via telephone conference.

At these sessions you will be able to talk to representatives of the school and Denbighshire County Council who will be available to answer your questions. Please email modernisingeducation@denbighshire.gov.uk to request an information session.

2.5 Consultation with Children and Young people

There will be an opportunity for the pupils at Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn to participate in the consultation process during a session which will be conducted at the school.

2.6 Timetable

	Date
Formal Consultation period	May/June 22
Cabinet- to agree to publish Statutory Notice	September 22
Statutory Notice Period	October 22
Cabinet- Objection report- decision determined	November 22
Submit Full Business Case to Welsh Government	November 22
Construction- subject to all approvals	Feb 23- Sept 24
Implementation of the Proposal	September 2024

3. School (s) affected by this proposal

School Name	Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn	
School Location	4 locations in Denbigh: Primary Site- LL16 3DP Secondary site- LL16 3DR Ty'r Ysgol- LL16 4ST Residential- Gerddi Glasfryn, LL116 4ST	
County	Denbighshire	
Age Range	3-19	
School Category- Community, Voluntary Aided, Voluntary Controlled, Special	Special School	
Language Medium Category	English Medium	
Number of pupils on roll	Jan 2021	137
	Jan 2020	137
	Jan 2019	133
	Jan 2018	140
	Jan 2017	128
Pupil projections	Jan 2023	N/A
	Jan 2024	N/A
	Jan 2025	N/A
	Jan 2026	N/A
	Jan 2027	N/A
Capacity	116	
Cost per pupil (2021-22)	£23,957	

School Budget (2020-21)	£300,544
Estyn Inspection Result	Link to report
School Categorisation (2019)	Yellow
Building Condition Category	Primary- B Secondary- A Ty'r Ysgol- B

3.1 Estyn Inspections

The most recent Estyn inspection for Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn took place in July 2016.

The full report can be accessed online at [...](#)

During each inspection, inspectors aim to answer 3 key questions:

1. How good are the outcomes?
2. How good is provision?
3. How good are leadership and management?

In these evaluations there is a 4 point scale:

Judgement	What the judgement means
Excellent	Many strengths, including significant examples of sector- leading practice
Good	Many strengths and no important areas requiring significant improvement
Adequate	Strengths outweigh areas for improvement
Unsatisfactory	Important areas for improvement outweigh strengths

The inspection judgements for Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn are shown below:

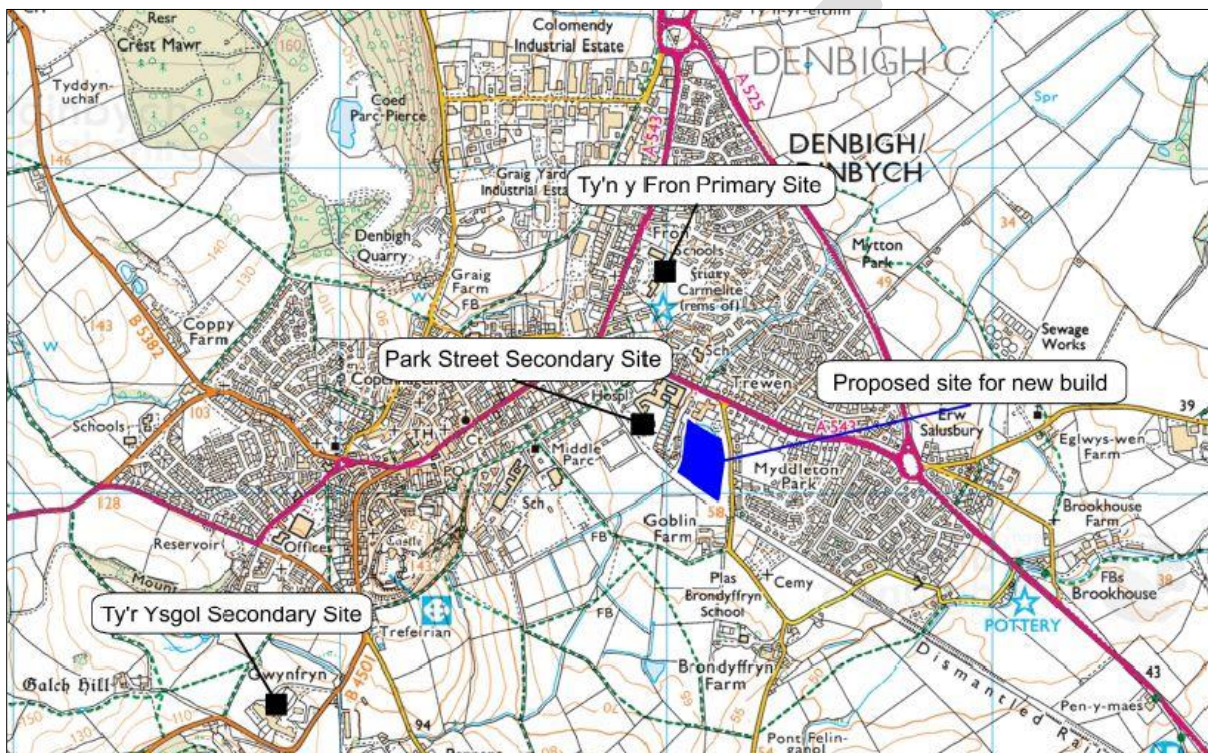
Inspection Area	Judgement
1. How good are the outcomes?	Good
2. How good is provision?	Good
3. How good are leadership and management?	Good

4. The Proposal- Why are we proposing the changes?

The proposal is to increase the capacity at Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn from 116 to 220. The school will move into a brand new purpose built facility in the town of Denbigh to accommodate the increase.

This proposal does not include the residential provision- Gerddi Glasfryn. This provision will still be accessible to Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn pupils.

The proposed site is on an existing sports field located along Ystrad Road, Denbigh, adjacent to Denbigh Leisure Centre.



The site is in the ownership of Denbighshire County Council and its currently part of the Denbigh High site. Discussions will take place in parallel with this project with Denbigh High regarding the implications for the school for this change of use. This is also subject to planning permission.

4.1 Background

Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn is a local authority maintained co-educational special school for pupils with Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) and associated learning difficulties from the age of 3 to 19. Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn was initially established as a provision based at Plas Brondyffryn Hall, a 19th century property in Denbigh. Increased demand for provision in the early 2000's saw the school leave this facility and establish bases adjoining Ysgol Frongoch and Denbigh High for primary and secondary provision. To support this the Council entered into a long lease for the

Gwynfryn site with the Welsh Government, formerly part of the North Wales Hospital Site for residential and high end need provision.

All pupils admitted to the school have a Statement of Special Educational Need indicating autism as the prime need. The school has always been seen as a provision which caters for pupils from across Denbighshire and beyond with pupils from Flintshire, Wrexham and Gwynedd receiving education from the provision.

Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn is currently located in Denbigh over 4 sites- the primary offer is at Ty'n Fron, secondary at Park Street, the more complex need pupils at Ty'r Ysgol and the residential provision at Gerddi Glasfryn.

Pupils and staff from each site rarely come together and these sites operate individually.

Capacity at a special school is always difficult to determine as it depends on pupil needs, which can vary greatly. The nominal capacity at the school is 116, the school currently has 136 pupils on roll (September 2021 numbers).

As the table below shows the school have been over capacity for the last 6 years:

Year	Jan 16	Jan 17	Jan 18	Jan 19	Jan 20	Jan 21
Pupil Numbers	124	128	140	133	137	137

The school currently have 10 pupils on a waiting list, with a possible further 10 that will need to access a place at the school very soon.

The Covid pandemic has impacted on the number of assessments that have been undertaken. Currently there are 63 pupils awaiting assessments. Based on previous trends this would take the number of pupils eligible to attend the school close to 180 pupils.

The impact of the pandemic is yet to be fully realised, however the Local Authority believe that demand for these types of places will increase over the next few years and therefore the 220 proposed capacity in the new building, which will open late 2024, is reasonable.

4.2 Rationale for Change

The aim of this project, as well as to increase the schools capacity, is to bring all learners and staff on one site in a new purpose built facility.

This proposal will see a new building erected on the playing fields at Denbigh High School- subject to planning and funding approval. This will allow for the existing sites to be vacated and allow all learners to be based on a single site rather than the three currently utilised.

The new facility will create an improved, high quality, flexible learning environment to enable the school to deliver the changing curriculum requirements to meet the needs of the pupils and help them to reach their full potential. The project will improve the

overall financial stability for the school in regards to all pupils on the same site rather than 3 separate ones.

The project will create the opportunity to develop excellent facilities which will improve the educational experience of children at the school. The project will also explore Post 16 delivery and what facilities these could bring to the pupils and the wider community e.g. a café.

The new school will have the following benefits:

- Increase places available for pupils in the area with ASC;
- 21st Century school facilities to meet the needs of children with ASC;
- Better learning environment and facilities such as sensory rooms, specialist therapy rooms etc.
- More space and better play provision;
- Better provision for teaching young people life and vocational skills;
- Remove the requirement for staff and pupils to move between sites.

4.3 Evaluation of Present Arrangements

Currently the school is over 4 sites:

- Primary department- opened in September 2006 and caters for pupils age 3 to 11,
- Secondary department- opened in November 2004, and caters for pupils aged 11 to 19,
- Ty'r Ysgol- Secondary pupils and post-16 pupils with more complex needs.
- Gerddi Glasfryn- Residential provision- this is not part of this proposal- pupils from the school will still be able to access this provision.

Primary

Currently the primary site of the school is located in Denbigh next to Ysgol Ffrongoch primary school. A 2020 Condition survey states that this site is classed as a B- Satisfactory. Overall the site is in satisfactory condition, however there are areas that require attention to upgrade or improve.

There are a number of issues with the site- this includes some classrooms being too small for the number of pupils in them. Due to the increase in pupil numbers the computer room is now a classroom and there are few resource rooms for pupils to utilise. There are no breakout areas for pupils who require a more individual approach or may require short periods of time away from the full group.

In many of the classrooms there are distractions- clutter due to the lack of storage and sinks which are visible. They only have 1 de-escalation room which does not have an assistance alarm fitted. The soft play room is very important to the school but it is now too small.

The school shares the canteen / hall with Ysgol Frongoch. This hall is used for PE and dining. Due to the layout and the acoustics on the hall, even before the Covid pandemic, few pupils felt comfortable enough to eat in here and many pupils eat lunch in their classrooms. The sharing of this facility also means that pupils at the school have the later timeslot to eat- this is around 1 o'clock. Given that many pupils travel to the school on school transport and therefore leave their homes early, this timeslot is far from ideal.

In terms of using the hall for PE pupils do not enjoy this space- as well as the poor acoustics there is also a big column in the middle of the hall which can make certain games problematic.

Externally there is a lack of shelters outside to protect from rain and sun. A number of foundation phase classrooms do have direct access to the external area, however the external space is very limited and not ideal.

Secondary

The secondary section of the school is located next to Denbigh High school. A 2020 Condition survey states that this site is classed as an A- Good. Overall the site is in a good condition with no major defects.

Due to the increase in pupil numbers a number of rooms have had to change their use:

- The inclusion classroom where pupils would do work on wellbeing and small group work around intervention has been turned into a classroom,
- DT/Music room has previously been converted into a classroom - it is currently a music room but also a dining room,
- Sixth form common room now a classroom,
- The sensory room is used as a small teaching room instead of a break out area,
- IT room was used for assemblies before the pandemic- and the tables had to be cleared from the room and pupils carry their own chairs in- this was also becoming too crowded given the pupil numbers.

There is limited space for meetings with parents and multidisciplinary meetings. One sixth form classroom is now based next door at Denbigh High- which impacts on pupil feeling of belonging and access to the whole school.

The increase in pupil numbers has meant that the courtyard is too small for all pupils to have breaks together, this has meant the timetable has had to be changed and dinner time negotiated with Denbigh High so groups can be split into 3 sessions. Pupils share the canteen with Denbigh High and often have the later lunch slot.

The external area is no longer suitable and there is also not enough play equipment for the number of pupils.

The building is not flexible enough to allow for the change in the complexity of pupils needs and the lack of breakout spaces mean it is difficult to change and adapt the

curriculum to provide individual timetables. Life skills are taught at the residential flat which is away from the site and pupils have to be transported there.

More Complex needs

The other site that the school is also located on is called Ty'r Ysgol and is used for secondary and post 16 pupils with more complex needs. A 2020 Condition survey states that this site is classed as a B- Satisfactory. Overall the site is in satisfactory condition, however there are areas that require attention to upgrade or improve.

This building has similar issues to the others with no breakout areas and corridors currently used as sensory spaces. Once again there are limited spaces for small group or 1 to 1 works. There is no dining area and pupils have to eat in the classrooms.

The main advantage of this site are the vast external areas which include a forest school which is utilised by all pupils from all sites at the school.

4.4 Impact of the proposal on the quality and standards of education

Due to the wide range of pupil's special educational needs it is not appropriate to compare the standards that pupil achieve at the school with national averages.

It is the view of the Local Authority that should this proposal be implemented it would at least maintain the current standard and quality of education. The new building will be equipped to provide all pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum from foundation phase to post-16.

4.5 Impact of the proposal on teaching and learning experiences

The purpose of the school is to identify the learning strengths and areas for development of each pupil in order to provide individual education plans to promote and enhance academic, personal and social potential.

The 6th Form offers pupils the opportunity to develop the social skills and independence they need in order to thrive in whatever setting they choose to go to when they leave the school.

The proposed new building will have a community cafe which will enhance pupil learning around a number of key curriculum areas and will be a valuable learning experience.

One of the main concerns currently on each site is the dining arrangements that pupils currently have- either sharing facilities with others or eating in the classrooms. The new building will have dedicated primary and secondary dining areas and will give pupils flexibility to eat within a group or on their own. The dining experience will be well thought out and will ensure that the majority of students will engage positively.

4.6 Impact of the proposal on care, support and guidance

Currently pupils are fully supported in the learning process at all key stages by Teaching Assistants who support individual social/emotional needs through 1:1 work and study skills as well as clubs and creative lunchtime sessions for target groups. Higher Level Teaching Assistants (HLTAs) work within all subject areas planning work with subject leaders to identify pupils requiring additional support. Speech and Language Therapists (SALT) provide individual and group programmes which are delivered by both SALT Assistants and class based staff.

The Inclusion Team, comprising of SALT assistants and behaviour and sensory support workers, also support our pupils to access the curriculum by identifying barriers to learning and putting bespoke plans in to support the pupils.

The proposal will ensure that when these specialists come into the school they have small group rooms and areas where they can work effectively and comfortably with the learners. By bringing all staff onto one site the Local Authority see the benefits for the staff personally in terms of support, guidance and development as well as the benefits for learners as they move through the school in a familiar environment therefore ensuring a smoother transition from each key stage.

4.7 Impact of the proposal on leadership and management

Wording to follow...

5. Impact of the Proposal

This proposal will ensure that the new school build will meet the needs of the learners and will ensure that Denbighshire have enough pupil places such as this for the future.

Currently the demand for these types of places cannot be met and pupils have to stay in their current school or are out of education.

Pupils join the school at different points in their education journey, dependent upon a number of factors unique to each pupil, their need and their situation. As the numbers below demonstrate the age profile of the pupils is not level across the whole school.

Current pupil numbers by Year are below-taken from Sept 2021:

Nursery	Rec	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8
0	1	2	5	8	6	2	9	20	11

Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11	Yr 12	Yr 13	Yr 14
21	15	11	11	10	4

Outside of the higher needs provision, the school is structured as an all-through special school. Some pupils will begin their journey in the foundation phase and progress up through primary, into secondary, post 16 and beyond. Others will join at different steps in their life journey, typically as a mainstream school is considered to no longer best meet their need. Transition is always particularly difficult for pupils with additional learning needs and the all-through nature of this school in one building will allow for a softening of this transition brought about by familiarity of surroundings, systems, and policies.

5.1 Transport costs

Transport arrangements will continue to be made in accordance with the County Council's home to school transport policy.

5.2 Transitional arrangements

Pupils will remain at the existing school sites until the new build is ready for occupation.

As the build progresses pupils will be invited to visit the site at appropriate times with staff.

Entering a new situation (e.g. a new classroom and a new teacher) can be a stressful time for any pupil, but for pupils with ASC, the lack of control over change and the concept of moving to a new situation with new people and routines can be especially threatening. We will work closely with the school to manage the transition to the new build in such a way that we alleviate any stress. The school will lead on this to ensure pupils are well prepared to move into the new building.

5.3 Advantages and Disadvantages of the Proposal

Advantages:

- Increase capacity of the school,
- Tailor to the school's needs- autism friendly features- facilities fit for 21st Century learning,
- All pupils and staff on the same site,
- Transition of pupils through the key stages much easier on one site,
- Subject specific rooms e.g. science lab,

- Enterprise opportunities that a new build will allow,
- Transport all coming to one site,
- Proposed site is in DCC ownership.

Disadvantages:

- Increase in traffic on site as all transport to one site,
- Play area for all- will it be too noisy?
- School organisation consultation would be needed in regards to increase in capacity and change of location,
- Approval of business case from Welsh Government for 75% grant funding to build the new school required.

5.4 Risks

Risk	Mitigation
1. Failure to obtain statutory approval to implement the proposal.	The Local Authority will work closely with the school and the Governors to ensure everyone is supportive of the proposal therefore if anyone does have any concerns this can be addressed in a positive manner. The Local Authority will follow the guidelines as set out in the School Organisation Code 2018.
2. Demand for provision diminishes.	This is unlikely as the demand for places outweigh the number of places currently available.
3. Integration of pupils into the new school building.	The Local Authority will work closely with the successful building contractor in ensuring there is a smooth transition and integration into the new build for both pupils and staff,

5.5 WESP

The Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 (the ALNET Act 2018) was introduced in January 2018 and has been implemented from September 2021. The ALNET Act 2018 requires LAs to keep the arrangements for supporting learners between the ages of 0 to 25 with ALN under review and consider whether these arrangements are sufficient. It includes a statutory requirement to take reasonable steps to create a Welsh medium and bilingual system of support for learners with ALN.

The school are committed to promoting the Welsh language as an integrated part of school life. The majority of the pupils come from homes where English is the first language; however the school promotes an ethos where Welsh culture and heritage is supported and celebrated. A proportion of the staff are first language Welsh

speakers and therefore Welsh is used as a language of communication throughout the school.

Governors and SLT are committed to developing the Welsh language skills of all the staff and provide training to achieve this. Welsh is not used as a language of instruction in any Key Stage or subject, but the school welcomes pupils whose first language is Welsh and provides the necessary resources for them to access the whole curriculum through the medium of Welsh.

5.6 Financial implications- Revenue

Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn is funded in accordance with Denbighshire County Council's funding formulas and will receive resources in the same basis as any other school within the County Council, based on the new schools pupil numbers and facilities.

The 2021-22 revenue delegated budget for Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn is £3.3m and the school's unit cost per full time equivalent pupil is £23,957.

The ESTIMATED revenue delegated budget for 2024/25, based on the School Budget Formula for Special schools delegated budgets would be

5.7 Admission arrangements

Admission to the school is via the Admissions Panel which meets 6 times a year and consists of representatives of the 6 North Wales local authorities. All pupils admitted to the school have a Statement of Special Educational Need indicating autism as the prime need.

5.8 Alternative options considered-

Option 1- Do nothing- Maintain the status quo- no additional investment required and no school organisation proposal needed, however the school would remain over 4 sites and the waiting list for places at the school will continue to increase.

Option 2- Do minimum- Clear the maintenance backlog at each site- relatively cheap option, however the school would remain over 4 sites and the waiting list for places at the school will continue to increase.

Option 3- Intermediate- Undertake Refurbishment works to increase capacity to 220- this looked at refurbishing the Park Lane site and utilising areas of Denbigh High to move all Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn students and staff onto the one site. This option was slightly cheaper than the preferred option and would increase the amount of pupil places. This option would bring all staff and pupils together on one site, however the design of the space may not fit in with what the school needs. The main concern was how the refurbishment could occur with pupils from Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn and Denbigh High on the site- there would be considerable disruption to the delivery of education to a large number of pupils in both settings.

Option 4- Preferred option- Provide a new facility to increase the capacity to 220 on a new site in Denbigh. This option is the most expensive, however it will meet the demand for places in the area and the building will be fit for 21st Century learning. The proposed site is already in the Local Authorities ownership and is still in the town of Denbigh, therefore travel times for pupils will not be significantly different. This will bring all pupils and staff together on one site. Pupils will be able to remain at their current site whilst the building works are ongoing therefore their education will not be disrupted in any way.

5.9 Transport impact assessment

Transport will be provided in accordance with the requirements of a Statement of Special Educational Needs issued by the Authority or where a pupil/learner is the subject of the statutory assessment procedure where they have learning difficulties which the Local Authority considers makes transport 'necessary'. Assessments will be subject to regular review. The type and nature of transport provided will be determined by a Risk Assessment.

5.10 How the proposal will affect staff

Due to the current demand for places we believe that the school will face an increase in the numbers of pupils when the new build opens in late 2024. The school will need more staff as a result but we believe there is sufficient time to plan for these changes working with HR to ensure the school will be ready to provide the necessary resources required.

5.11 Capital receipts

There will be no capital receipts from this proposal as the current sites share with other facilities. Options for the re-use of the sites will be considered further including the use of the secondary provision at Park Street by their neighbours Denbigh High.

5.12 Impact of the proposal on the Welsh Language

As set out in the Welsh Government's School Organisation Code, it is a requirement to publish a Community, Equality and Welsh language impact assessment. The full assessment can be found in Appendix 2.

The main positives emerging from the impact assessment are on the educational provision- providing an improved education offer represents an opportunity to strengthen Welsh education in the area and as a result strengthen the Welsh language.

5.13 Equality

As set out in the Welsh Government's School Organisation Code, it is a requirement to publish a Community, Equality and Welsh language impact assessment. The full assessment can be found in Appendix 2.

Overall the impact from the equality impact assessment is positive. There are a number of impact considerations which the proposal has no impact on due to the school being classified as a Special school.

The main positives from the assessment are the increases in the number of places that the proposal will bring for this type of specialised places. It will allow all staff and pupils to come together on one site and it will also be a facility the community can access out of hours.

5.14 Impact on the community

As set out in the Welsh Government's School Organisation Code, it is a requirement to publish a Community, Equality and Welsh language impact assessment. The full assessment can be found in appendix 2.

Overall, the proposal will have a positive impact on pupils, parents/carers and their families. The increase proposed has considered impact on the local community, along with the demand for places.

The school have an aspiration for the new building to be accessible to the community out of hours and they will need to identify any gaps they could potentially fill in terms of the offer in the town.

Throughout the consultation period if there are any justified impacts noted the impact assessment will be reviewed and measures will be considered so that any impact is minimised.

5.15 Sustainability

This proposal will improve sustainability of education provision in regards to these types of specialist places in the County.

The current situation at the school with its limiting capacity means pupils that need this provision cannot access it. As mentioned the impact of the pandemic is already being felt with delayed assessments, however as a Local Authority we believe that this increase in capacity in a flexible building will ensure the sustainability of the school in the years to come.

6. Next steps - How to make your views known

There are several ways in which you can share your views with us. Attached to this consultation proposal is a consultation response form. This can be completed and returned to us at the addresses below.

You may submit comments to us via email. The email address for this correspondence is:

modernisingeducation@denbighshire.gov.uk

Access and submit the form online at:

.....

Letters of response should be sent to: Modernising Education, Denbighshire County Council, PO Box 62, Ruthin, LL15 9AZ

All responses must be received no later than

Comments will not be counted as objections at this stage.

7. What happens next?

7.1 Consultation report

Within 13 weeks of the end of the period allowed for responses (and in any event prior to publication of the proposals), the Local Authority will publish a consultation report which will:

- Summarise each of the issues raised by consultees;
- Respond by means of clarification, amendment to the proposal or rejection of the concerns, with supporting reasons.
- Set out Estyn's view of the overall merits of the proposal as set out in their consultation response.

The consultation report may also make recommendations – for example, if the Local Authority should proceed i.e. to publish the proposals as consulted on with any appropriate amendments, to abandon the proposals and retain the status quo or to review the proposals and make significant changes and re consult.

The Local Authority will ensure that any views expressed by children and young people affected by the proposals are highlighted in the consultation report and that it is made accessible to them.

The consultation report will be published electronically, on Denbighshire County council's website, in addition the notice will be displayed at the entrance of the school. Hard copies will be made available on request.

7.2 The Statutory process

The consultation process is subject to the requirements of the School Organisation Code, document number 011/2018.

Following the end of this consultation, [REDACTED], the Local Authority will publish a report on the consultation which will be available on the Council's website.

The report will be presented to Cabinet in September 2022.

If the recommendation is accepted then a statutory notice will be issued and a 28 day objection period will begin. A report will be published on the views expressed during the objection period, and will be available on the Council's website.

7.3 Consultation period

This consultation period will run from [REDACTED] to [REDACTED].

Responses received during this period WILL NOT be counted as objections. Further responses will need to be submitted during the 'Statutory Notice' published timescale (subject to the publication of Statutory Notices) if consultees would like to submit an objection to the proposals.

7.4 Publication of statutory notices

This is subject to the approval of a Post Consultation Report due to be presented to Cabinet in September 2022.

7.5 Determination of proposals

Should the Local Authority proceed with the publication of the statutory notice the results of the statutory notice will be presented to the local authority November 2022. The local authority will then assess the consultation process and determine whether to implement the proposal.

7.6 Decision notification

Subject to any proposal being progressed a decision notification will be made available to all consultees. This notification will also be published on Denbighshire County council's website, in addition the notice will be displayed at the entrances of the school as soon as possible following the decision.

Appendix 1

Formal Consultation response form

The Local Authority are proposing the proposal to relocate Ysgol Plas Brondyffryn to a new site in Denbigh and increase its capacity from 116 to 220 from September 2024 when occupation of the new school building is proposed.

We would like to hear your views regarding the proposal. You can let your views be known in the following ways;

- If you are accessing this document online then please click [here](#) to complete the online survey;
- If you have received a hard copy of the consultation proposal please return your response form tono later than
- Visit our website at : and follow the survey link;
- Alternatively you can scan the attached form and email it to us at modernisingeducation@denbighshire.gov.uk
- Please let us have your responses by

1. Are you in favour of the proposal?

(Please tick one box)

Yes	
No	

2. Please provide comments regarding the proposal and any suggestions on alternative proposals which should be considered in the box below:

Your Comments:-

3. Your Details

Name:	
Address	
Email:	
Telephone:	

Please tick box if you wish to be notified of the publication of the consultation report

Please Note: This sheet is for consultation purposes only. All comments will be considered within the consultation process, however, individual responses will not be provided.

DRAFT