

Appendix 5



Modernising Education Programme

Review of Primary School Provision in the Ruthin Area

- Proposal 4: Ysgol Llanfair DC and Ysgol Pentrecelyn**
- Proposal 5: Ysgol Bryn Clwyd and Ysgol Gellifor**
- Proposal 6: Ysgol Bro Famau**

June 2013

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Proposal 4: The Way Forward for Ysgol Llanfair DC and Ysgol Pentrecelyn

1.0 Introduction

This brief provides a proposed way forward for two schools in the Ruthin area;

- Ysgol Llanfair DC;
- Ysgol Pentrecelyn;

2.0 Recommendation:

Phase 1 – Retain both schools and recommend for both Governing Bodies to enter into discussions regarding forming a federation. Denbighshire County Council would seek for an agreement to be in principle by January 2014 with a view to the federation being established by 1st of September 2014.

Phase 2: To close both schools and establish a new area school in Llanfair DC as part of Denbighshire County Council's Band B proposals (2019 onwards). This phase is subject to sufficient capital being available and being secured.

3.0 Rationale

The geographical proximity of both schools lends itself for greater collaboration between the two schools. The Federation model allows for a formal partnership to develop between both schools whilst retaining their individual identities.

When Welsh Government Band B funding becomes available (Expected 2019) it is recommended that a proposal is submitted to establish a new area school for the area located in Llanfair DC as a second phase. A new area school would provide an improvement in facilities on what is provided currently in both schools where there are shortcomings, creating a suitable school to maintain provision for the area in the long term.

4.0 Alternative Options

4.1 Maintain the status quo

Surplus places would remain in the schools. A permanent Headteacher would be required for Ysgol Pentrecelyn.

4.2 Establish a new school for Llanfair DC only and retain the status quo in Ysgol Pentrecelyn

Ysgol Pentrecelyn would retain a surplus, would require a Permanent Head teacher and would be vulnerable to changes in parental preference towards a new school in Llanfair.

4.3 Close both Schools and establish a new area school permanently on a new site in Llanfair DC immediately.

The funding required to implement the new build would not be available until Band B of the 21st Century Schools Funding. Therefore currently this option cannot be delivered in light of commitments to other proposals.

4.4 Close Ysgol Pentrecelyn

The current facilities and capacity for Welsh Medium education in the Ruthin area is insufficient to accommodate the closure of Ysgol Pentrecelyn. There is insufficient capacity in Llanfair DC and the facilities at Ysgol Pen Barras are not currently a suitable alternative to provision at Ysgol Pentrecelyn.

5.0 Additional Information

Language Category

Language Category	School
Category 1: Welsh Medium	Pentrecelyn
Category 2: Dual Stream Medium	Llanfair DC

Numbers on Roll (NOR) & School Capacity

School	NOR 2013	Nursery Admissions '13	Admission Number	School Capacity (Full Time)	Capacity provided by mobile
Llanfair DC	90	10	16	113	54
Pentrecelyn	31	2	8	56	0

Surplus Places

School	Surplus Places	Surplus Places %	Projected Surplus Places 2017/18	Projected Surplus Places %
Llanfair DC	23	20.35	84	25.7
Pentrecelyn	25	44.64	46	17.9

6.0 Site Analysis

Ysgol Llanfair Site Visited 20/03/2013

Brief	Assessment of existing site (inc. playing fields) to assess potential maximum capacity of the site and ensure school's facilities are fit for purpose.
Site Analysis	<p>The classroom areas in the main building are reasonably well related, allowing some flexibility in use, but some of the ancillary areas are cramped and poorly arranged.</p> <p>The school is reliant on two mobile classrooms to provide classrooms for years 5 & 6 with year 4 located in a first floor area.</p> <p>Areas of concern: Access to the first floor is via a narrow staircase. Alternative fire escape from the first floor is required as a matter of urgency. Toilet provision is below the statutory minimum for the current pupil numbers. No separate hall or dining facilities. Road safety concerns for drop off / pick up of children.</p>
Energy Assessment	£11/m2 per annum.
Potential for Development	<p>There does not appear to be acceptable solutions to the provision of parking/drop off/pick up facilities on the existing site with concerns about the safety of the existing arrangement.</p> <p>As a result development isn't recommended.</p>
Costs	Refurbishment only: £153,983

Ysgol Pentrecelyn Site Visited 06/03/2013

Brief	Assessment of existing site (inc. playing fields) to assess potential maximum capacity of the site and ensure school's facilities are fit for purpose.
Site Analysis	<p>An option to develop the site to cater for 105 pupils has been illustrated but it is probably pushing the capacity too far. To achieve the required area the extension would need to be two storeys with attendant problems of access, including the provision of new lift and escape stairs.</p> <p>Any Development would require the extension of 30mph speed restriction.</p>
Energy Assessment	£10/m2 per annum.
Potential for Development	An option to develop the site to cater for 105 pupils has been illustrated but it is probably pushing the capacity too far. To achieve the required area the extension would need to be two storey with attendant problems of access, including the

Costs

provision of new lift and escape stairs.

Any Development would require the extension of 30mph speed restriction.

Extension: £1,951,885 Refurbishment: £119,849

7.0 Informal Consultation Response

7.1 A summary of the issues raised during the Informal Consultation can be found in Appendix 1. Section 2.6.7 and 4.3 refer to Ysgol Llanfair DC and Section 2.6.9 and 5.2 refer to Ysgol Pentrecelyn.

Proposal 5: The Way Forward for Ysgol Bryn Clwyd and Ysgol Gellifor

1.0 Introduction

The brief relates to two schools in the Ruthin area;

- Ysgol Bryn Clwyd;
- Ysgol Gellifor;

2.0 Recommendation:

Retain both schools within the existing Federation and request the Governing Body to:

- a) Moving one or both schools along the Welsh Language Continuum
- b) Address the current imbalance in pupils between both schools

3.0 Rationale

During the informal consultation stage it was recommended that Ysgol Bryn Clwyd would be included within Ruthin review despite its close geographical proximity to Denbigh. This was because the recommendation of the review is solely for the Federation of Ysgol Bryn Clwyd and Ysgol Gellifor.

One of the matters queried during the informal consultation stage was the language categories of both schools. Currently both schools are identified as Category 5 which means that only the minimum amount of Welsh has to be taught in the schools. Moving along the Welsh language Continuum would see the minimum amount of Welsh taught in the schools increase as a response to the views of stakeholders.

The imbalance of pupils attending each school is still apparent, 87 pupils currently attend Ysgol Gellifor and 23 pupils attend Ysgol Bryn Clwyd. Therefore it is emphasised that the Governing Body addresses the imbalance in pupil numbers between the two schools. The current catchment of Ysgol Gellifor is illustrated on page 8 of this document.

4.0 Additional Information

Type of School	Ysgol Gellifor – Category 5 English Medium Ysgol Bryn Clwyd – Category 5 English Medium
FTE Pupil Numbers	Gellifor – 87
January 2013 PLASC	Bryn Clwyd – 23
Capacity	Gellifor – 91 Bryn Clwyd – 71
Surplus Places January 2013	Gellifor – 4

	Bryn Clwyd – 48
Nursery Applications September 2013	Gellifor –10 Bryn Clwyd – 1

5.0: Site Analysis of Ysgol Gellifor

Comments from site Analysis	The inspection didn't identify any fundamental problems with the existing arrangement of the building. There is concern that the staff accommodation is all at first floor level and accessible via a steep and narrow staircase. The School has no car parking facilities on site.
Energy Costs	£9 /m2
Potential for Development	The lack of parking facilities is considered an important consideration to any major growth on site.
Cost of Refurbishment / Extension	£321,371 (Refurbishment)

* Please note that no site analysis has taken place at Ysgol Bryn Clwyd as they were not originally included in the consultation.

6.0 Informal Consultation Response

A summary of the issues raised during the Informal Consultation can be found in Appendix 1 section 2.6.5.

7.0 Catchment of Ysgol Gellifor

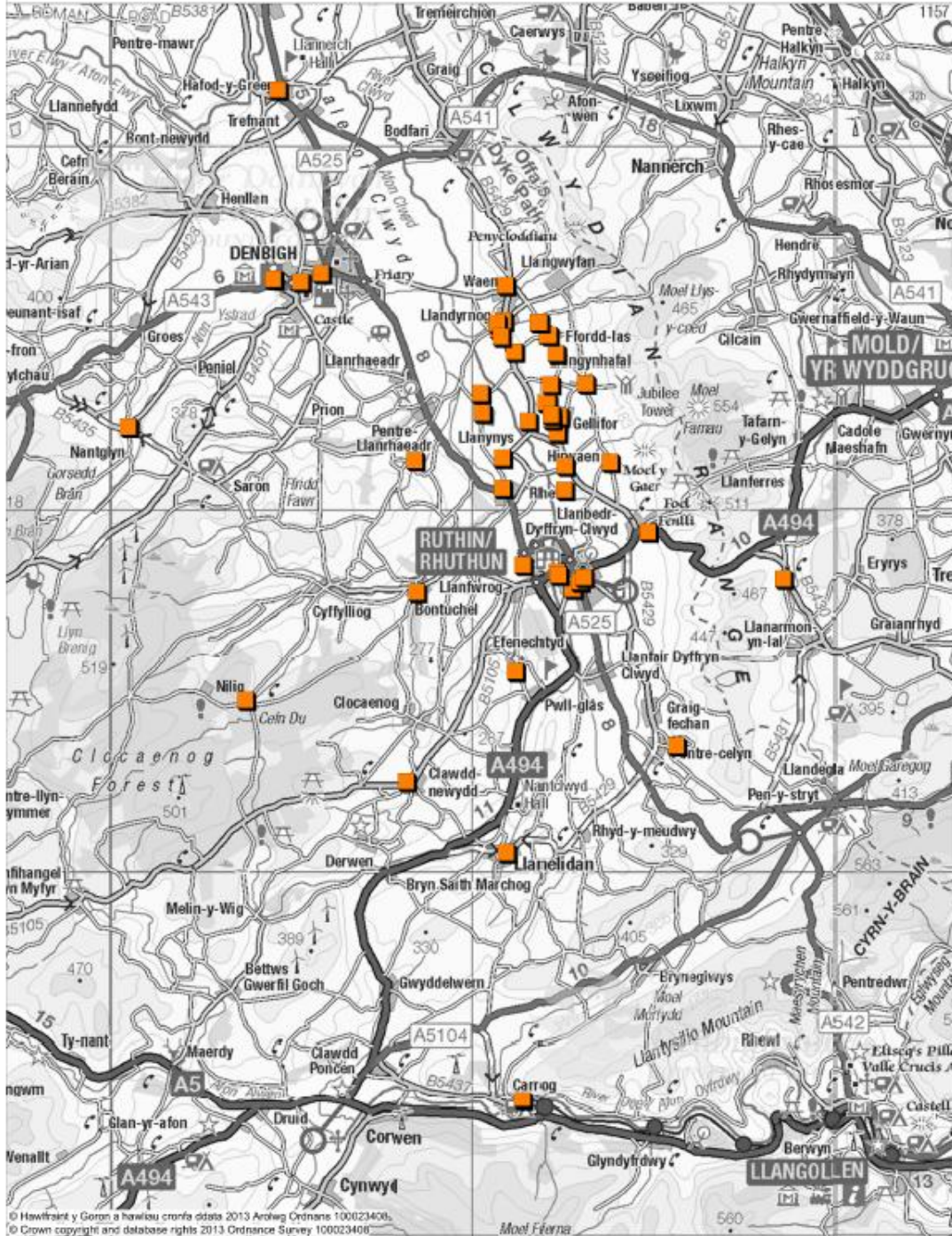
See page 8.



Dalgylch Ysgol Gellifor Catchment of Ysgol Gellifor



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Proposal 6: The Way Forward for Ysgol Bro Famau

1.0 Introduction

The brief relates to Ysgol Bro Famau;

2.0 Recommendation:

It is recommended that Ysgol Bro Famau is retained. It is the only school in a large geographical area. Surplus places are significant and therefore it is recommended that the Governing Body review how space within the school is used to ensure current capacity represents use by the school.

3.0 Rationale

The school utilises the space on both sites and the distribution of pupils on both sites are good. The capacity of the school is much larger than current pupil numbers but consideration needs to be given to the fact that surplus places are distributed on two sites. A review of capacity would ensure that capacity figures represent the current use by the school.

4.0 Additional Information

FTE Pupil Numbers January 2013 PLASC	92
Capacity	135
Surplus Places January 2013	43
Nursery Applications September 2013	7
Pupils living within the catchment area	95

5.0: Site Analysis

	Llanferres	Llanarmon yn Ial
Comments from site Analysis	<p>The internal inspection demonstrated that recent extensions have provided much needed facilities but that some of the existing teaching spaces are quite small and awkwardly shaped.</p> <p>The existing conservatory was identified as a space that could be improved due to problems with stepped access, roof leaks and lack of heating.</p> <p>There is a potential conflict between school staff/pupils and vehicular traffic was noted as an issue when accessing the MUGA/playground.</p>	<p>An internal inspection demonstrated that there were no significant issues with the arrangement of the ground floor accommodation and that the most recent work to refurbish the school house and link it to the main school building was a worthwhile improvement.</p> <p>Additional nursery toilets would be a worthwhile investment.</p> <p>Catering facilities are restricted and are transported from the Community Hall.</p>
Energy Costs	£16 /m2	£11 /m2
Potential for Development	There is scope to extend the building to accommodate 105 FTE on site. This would require the removal of an area of habitat which would require an ecological assessment.	There is little scope to extend the school without impacting negatively on external space.
Cost of Refurbishment / Extension	£1,454,451 (Extension and Refurbishment)	£159,631 (Refurbishment)

6.0 Informal Consultation Response:

A summary of the issues raised during the Informal Consultation can be found in Appendix 1, section 2.6.2.