

WEST BARRY SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFORMATION: COMMUNICATION BRIEF (JANUARY 16)

'The results of the public consultation held in 2015 on proposals to reorganise three of the secondary schools in Barry showed clearly that there is support amongst parents and other key stakeholders for both the expansion of Ysgol Bro Morgannwg and the development of mixed-sex secondary schools to replace the single sex Barry Comprehensive School and Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School. This echoed the results of a previous consultation exercise undertaken in 2013 which also showed clear support for the principle of a move to mixed schooling in Barry.

The results of last year's consultation also made clear that more work was needed to develop a plan for the expansion of Ysgol Bro Morgannwg and the creation of two new mixed-sex English medium schools that addressed the needs and concerns of all those that would be affected.

This is why in January 2016 an advisory board was established. The Advisory Board is chaired by Councillor Chris Elmore, Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Schools, and includes the Director of Learning and Skills and other senior managers from the Council, the headteachers and chairs of governors of the three schools, the Principal and Chief Executive of Cardiff and Vale College and a range of professionals from across the education sector.

The Board's first priority has been to develop an engagement strategy that ensures the views of students, teachers, parents and governors would be at the centre of the development of any new proposals. This piece of work is now well underway. The board has now begun to consider other key issues such as pupil numbers, sixth form provision for the English-medium students, and how to make best use of the existing school sites.

To ensure that all those who have an interest in the future of education in Barry are able to keep up to date with the work that is ongoing the board will issue a statement after each of its meetings. These statements will be available at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk as well as on the individual school websites.'

WEST BARRY SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFORMATION: COMMUNICATION BRIEF (23/3/16)

The Advisory Board developing proposals for the future of secondary schools in Barry met for the third time on 22 March.

The members of the Advisory Board, who include representatives of Barry Comprehensive, Bryn Hafren Comprehensive and Ysgol Bro Morgannwg as well as representatives of primary schools, further education and higher education, considered feedback from recent workshops involving pupils and staff about their ideas for the future development of the three schools. The benefits of co-educational (mixed) education, the importance of better buildings, the value of community involvement and the need to preserve aspects of the schools' heritage were all emphasised.

The Advisory Board reviewed the main points from the first replies to a survey of parents. The first 125 responses highlighted the importance of having mixed sex English medium schooling, of raising standards at Barry and Bryn Hafren schools, of the use of IT in the classroom and the need for improved facilities.

The Board also considered options for the future of the three schools. They agreed in principle that the preferred option was to:

- o Expand Ysgol Bro Morgannwg on its current site with a new, second entrance provided from Port Road
- o Build a brand new 11-18 co-educational school on the site of Barry Comprehensive School
- o Create a modern, 11-18 co-educational school by refurbishing and modernising the Bryn Hafren buildings
- o To ensure meaningful collaboration with Cardiff and the Vale College and Cardiff Metropolitan University to deliver high quality post 16 education with a range and choice of vocational studies at the College and a joint sixth form providing academic courses at the schools

The next stage will be to continue with the workshop and survey work and to further discuss and engage with the three governing bodies and the trade unions.

The Advisory Board will meet again in April to consider the further feedback from the workshops, survey and meetings. They will also discuss an indicative timetable and transition arrangements for implementing the preferred option.

The recommendations of the Board will then be presented to the Council's Cabinet in June. At that time Cabinet would consider whether or not to go ahead with further, formal consultation.

The discussions at the meeting of the Board on 22nd March represented a significant step forward to transforming secondary education in Barry.

WEST BARRY SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFORMATION: COMMUNICATION BRIEF (May 2016)

The advisory board developing proposals for the future of secondary schools in Barry met for the fourth time on 26 April.

The members of the advisory board, who include representatives of Barry Comprehensive School, Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School and Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg as well as representatives of primary schools and further and higher education, considered further feedback from recent engagement activity. The additional feedback included the views of Barry Youth Forum, a further 57 parent survey forms and from a meeting with trade union representatives.

The board considered forecasts of future pupil numbers to ensure there are enough places at Ysgol Bro Morgannwg and the two proposed English-medium schools over the next 15 years. They also gave advice on the possible catchment areas for the two English-medium schools in order that both schools have pupils from a wide range of backgrounds.

Initial consideration was given to the requirements for specialist accommodation to ensure that all three schools are fully inclusive and can meet the needs of students who are more able and talented as well as those with a wide range of additional learning needs. The board discussed an early report about transition arrangements. This included some information following a visit by three headteachers to a school in Aberdare which opened recently following the amalgamation of a girls school, a boys schools and a mixed school.

The advisory board will meet twice in May to discuss the admission arrangements and transition arrangements in more detail. The recommendations of the Board will then be presented to the Council's Cabinet on 6 and 20 June. At that time the Cabinet will decide whether or not to go ahead with further, formal consultation. The discussions at the board meeting on 26 April represented another important step towards transforming secondary education in Barry.

Date/Dyddiad 14th December 2016
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www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk
www.bromorgannwg.gov.uk

To: Parents Carers and Guardians of students attending Barry and Bryn Hafren Comprehensive Schools and Y Daith Pupil Referral Unit;

Parents Carers and Guardians of pupils attending feeder schools linked to Barry and Bryn Hafren Comprehensive Schools, Barry;

School Council and pupils of Barry and Bryn Hafren Comprehensive schools

Headteacher, Staff and Governing Body of Barry and Bryn Hafren Comprehensive Schools, Barry and the Management Committee of Y Daith Pupil Referral Unit; and

Prescribed Consultees

Dear Consultee,

Proposal to establish new English medium mixed-sex secondary schools in Barry

We are grateful to everyone who took the time to consider our proposal and would like to thank those who let us know their views. All comments were considered by the Council's Cabinet on the 12 December 2016 who agreed to the publication of a statutory public notice on the proposal.

The consultation report is available to view online at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/barryschools

If you would like a hard copy of the document please contact M Matthews on 01446 709727 or e-mail at MMatthews@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk The document is also available to view at respective schools.

Yours sincerely

Lisa Lewis

Lisa Lewis
Access and Policy Manager

Date/Dyddiad 3rd January 2017
Ask for/Gofynwch am M Matthews
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Prescribed Consultees

Dear Consultee,

Proposal to establish new English medium mixed-sex secondary schools in Barry

I am writing to advise that the Councils Cabinet have agreed to publish a statutory notice to establish two new English medium mixed-sex secondary schools in Barry. A copy of the notice is enclosed that can also be viewed online at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/barryschools

Yours sincerely

Lisa Lewis

Lisa Lewis
Access and Policy Manager

Correspondence is welcomed in Welsh or English/Croesawir Gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg neu yn Saesneg



**THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL,
CIVIC OFFICES, HOLTON ROAD,
BARRY CF63 4RU**

**STATUTORY NOTICE TO ESTABLISH TWO NEW MIXED SEX 11 – 18 ENGLISH MEDIUM
COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOLS ON THE CURRENT SITES OF BARRY COMPREHENSIVE AND
BRYN HAFREN COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOLS FROM SEPTEMBER 2018**

NOTICE IS GIVEN in accordance with sections 41 and 43 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the School Organisation Code that The Vale of Glamorgan Council, having consulted such persons as required, propose to:

1. Discontinue the following English medium community single sex 11 – 18 schools currently maintained by The Vale of Glamorgan Council:
 - Barry Comprehensive school, Port Road West, Barry CF62 8ZJ
 - Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School, Merthyr Dyfan Road, Barry CF62 9YQ
2. Establish two new mixed sex 11 - 18 English medium community schools on the current sites of Barry Comprehensive, Port Road West, Barry CF62 8ZJ and Bryn Hafren Comprehensive schools Merthyr Dyfan Road, Barry CF62 9YQ to be maintained by The Vale of Glamorgan Council
3. Establish a joint sixth form, provided across both schools

The Vale of Glamorgan Council undertook a period of consultation before deciding to publish this proposal. A consultation report containing a summary of the issues raised by consultees, the proposer's responses and the views of Estyn is available to view on The Vale of Glamorgan website at the following address www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/barryschools

It is proposed to implement the proposal on 1st September 2018. The new schools will be community schools.

It is proposed that parents of pupils in years 7 to 10 will be asked to express a preference for a place at one of the new schools. Pupils entering year 11 will remain in their existing classes and will be registered at the school that opens on the site of their existing school. Pupils entering year 12 will choose their Post 16 options in the spring of 2018 and will attend the school that offers their course from September 2018. Pupils moving into year 13 will remain in their current class.

New school catchment areas will be established for the new schools. The catchment areas are available to view online at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/barryschools or at the Learning and Skills Directorate, Provincial house, Kendrick road, Barry CF62 8BF.

The Vale of Glamorgan Council will be the admission authority. Admissions to the sixth form will be delegated to the governing body of both schools. The admission number for pupils entering year 7 aged 11/12 at both the new schools in September 2018, the first school year in which the proposals will be implemented, will be 180. The admission number for pupils entering the joint sixth form in September 2018 at year 12 aged 16/17 will be 200. Admission arrangements for years 7 to 11 do not make provision for selection by ability (pupil banding). The requirement for entry to the joint sixth form courses is five grade C GCSE passes or equivalent. The capacity of both schools will provide for 1,100 secondary school places on each school site.

The All Wales Learner travel arrangements provide eligibility for school transport if pupils reside beyond walking distance to their nearest or designated catchment area school. Walking distance is defined as two miles for primary age and three miles for secondary age, as measured by the

nearest available route. The Vale of Glamorgan provides transport in accordance with the above. As a result of the changes to the school catchment areas, a review of pupil's eligibility will be undertaken.

Within a period of 28 days after the date of publication of these proposals, that is to say by 31 January 2017 any person may object to the proposals.

Objections should be sent to Paula Ham, Interim Director of Learning and Skills, The Vale of Glamorgan Council, Provincial House, Kendrick Road, Barry CF62 8BF or e-mail JMJones@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Signed:



Paula Ham, Interim Director of Learning and Skills
3rd January 2017

EXPLANATORY NOTE – which does not form part of the statutory notice

The Council proposes to transform English medium secondary education in Barry by establishing two new mixed sex 11-18 English medium comprehensive schools on the current sites of Barry Comprehensive and Bryn Hafren Comprehensive schools. The Council further proposes to create a joint sixth form led by a single head of sixth form with courses being offered across both sites, with each school specialising in specific subject areas.

Significant capital investment will be made, subject to Welsh Government funding, in establishing the new schools and developing state of the art facilities. The estimated cost of the project is £44m of which £32.5 million will be spent on building a new school and Centre of Behavioural Excellence on the Barry Comprehensive School site and £11.5 million spent on modernising and creating new facilities the current Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School site.

The two new mixed sex schools would be established in September 2018 prior to a full investment and new build programme for the schools. By September 2018 work would be carried out to ensure that there are separate toilet and changing facilities for boys and girls at both schools. In 2020 a full Investment programme would commence to include a new build school for Barry Comprehensive School together with modernised and new facilities at Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School facilities. The investment programme would be completed by 2022, subject to funding.

As both schools share the same catchment area at present, two new school catchment areas will be established. The new school on the Barry Comprehensive School site would largely serve the west of the town and the new school on the site of Bryn Hafren Comprehensive the east.

The Council will be the admission authority for the schools. Admissions to the sixth form will be delegated to the governing body of both schools. Normal admission arrangements will apply from years 7 to year 11 where attendance at a linked feeder school and living in catchment area is a high priority for entry in the event of oversubscription. The requirement for entry to the joint sixth form courses is five grade C GCSE passes or equivalent.

It is proposed that the two mixed sex schools will open in 2018. Parents of pupils in years 7 to 10 will be asked to express a preference in September 2017 for a place at one of the new schools. Pupils entering year 11 will remain in their existing classes and will be registered at the school that opens on the site of their existing school. Pupils entering year 12 will choose their Post 16 options in the spring of 2018 and will attend the school that offers their course from September 2018. Pupils moving into year 13 will remain in their current class.