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Our Ref./Ein Cyf.
Your Ref./Eich Cyf. SN/CG/LP

Contact:/Cysylltwch â: Lynn Phillips

Date:/ Dyddiad: 17th December 2020



To:-

- Staff (teaching, non-teaching & support) of Pen y Cwm Special School.
- The Governing Body of Pen y Cwm Special School.
- Parents/carers of pupils attending Pen y Cwm Special School.
- Statutory Consultees and Other Interested Parties.

Dear Consultee,

Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council's Executive Committee has agreed to commence a formal consultation on the following proposal:

Proposal to Extend the Capacity at Pen y Cwm Special School

Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council propose to extend the capacity at Pen y Cwm Special School from 120 to 175 places, with effect from September 2021. In order to facilitate the extended capacity, the Council will remodel the existing learning environment to create additional classroom spaces and associated facilities i.e. toilets. In addition, and alongside this, the Council will work with the school to develop a long-term plan to support sustained growth and development. Therefore, this proposal will be delivered in 2 parts:

- Part 1, to increase the capacity of Pen y Cwm Special School from 120 to 175 places in preparation for 2021/22 academic year, which would involve physical works to the existing building including:
 - Re-location of the Post 16 base (including 3 classrooms, a common room, life skills room, toilets and hygiene facilities)
 - Re-location of the current administrative area and office space (including a staff room, PPA room, conference facility and a small meeting room)
 - Creation of 2 additional primary classrooms
 - Creation of 1 additional secondary classroom and associated facilities
 - Re-location of the soft-play area to the ground floor
 - Re-development of the Science and Technology room
- Part 2, the development of a long-term plan to secure additional capacity to facilitate sustained growth and development.

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.

The consultation period will begin on Monday 26th April 2021 and will close on Sunday 6th June 2021. 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.

Any comments/observations on the proposal can be made:

- By email: 21stcenturyschools@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk

Or by completing a response pro-forma (attached to the Consultation document) and returning to Claire Gardner, Service Manager – Education Transformation and Business Change, Education Directorate, Floor 8 Anvil Court, Abertillery, NP13 1DB or via the below link:

<https://wh1.snapsurveys.com/s.asp?k=161701999055>

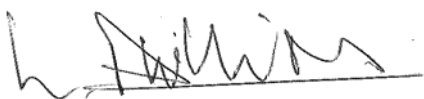
Please note that due to the current COVID-19 emergency situation, public drop in consultation sessions will not be held as part of the consultation process. Dedicated arrangements will be made for children and young people to participate in the consultation, which will include, where possible, the views of the Grand School Council. Pupils will be issued with their own version of the consultation document and will have an opportunity to discuss the proposals and submit their views and comments.

The Education Transformation team from the Council will ensure all comments/views made are recorded to allow informed decisions to be made at the appropriate time. The consultation document in relation to the proposal can be found on Blaenau Gwent's Council website. The link is here:

<https://www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/en/council/consultations/proposal-to-extend-the-capacity-at-pen-y-cwm-special-school/>

For ease of reference, the consultation document is attached. If you require any further information or paper copies of the documents, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,



Lynn Phillips
Corporate Director for Education
Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council



Cyngor Bwrdeisdref Sirol

Blaenau Gwent

County Borough Council

a better place to live and work
lle gwell i fyw a gweithio