



Objections Report:

To reduce the capacity of the primary school, which is part of the Abertillery Learning Community, from 980 to 770, to reduce the physical capacity of Abertillery learning Community by closing Roseheyworth Road Campus and to move pupils to the remaining campuses (Six Bells Campus and Tillery Street Campus) with phased implementation commencing from September 2026 and with full implementation by September 2027.

This Objections Report complies with Welsh Governments, School Organisation Code 2018 (V2) guidance.

This document is also available in Welsh

1. Background Summary

Consultation Proposal

Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council established the Abertillery Learning Community in September 2016. The learning community comprises three primary campuses located on Roseheyworth Road, Six Bells Road and Tillery Street along with one secondary campus on Alma Street: together forming an All Through School. It has been nearly 9 years since implementation. Over the last few years there has been a decline in birth rates across the county borough resulting in surplus places.

Prior to any decision being made on this proposal to reduce primary capacity in the Abertillery Learning Community, the Council undertook a formal statutory consultation in March/April 2026. This was necessary due to the fact that if the proposal is implemented, this will result in a reduction in the capacity of the primary phase at Abertillery learning Community, the closure of one primary phase campus and the transfer of pupils from that campus to one of the two remaining primary phases campuses.

2. Publication of the Statutory Notice

The out-turn report from this statutory proposal was presented to the Council's Cabinet on 30th April 2026 where the Cabinet agreed to publish a statutory notice on the preferred option, which was to:

To reduce the capacity of the primary school, which is part of the Abertillery Learning Community, from 980 to 770, to reduce the physical capacity of Abertillery Learning Community by closing Roseheyworth Road Campus and to move pupils to the remaining campuses (Six Bells Campus and Tillery Street Campus) with phased implementation commencing from September 2026 and with full implementation by September 2027.

3. Summary of Objections

A total of 84 email objections were received along with 306 hand delivered objections to the Council's General Offices, in response to the statutory notice bringing the total number of responses to 390.

Of the 390 responses received, one was withdrawn, leaving 389 valid objections. All responses opposed the proposal.

Breakdown:

- 389 (100%) object to the proposal
- 228 (58.61%) objected but with no reason for the objection.
- 158 (40.61%) provided reasons for their objections **contained in item 8 below**.
- 3 (0.77%) are from pupils

The council were only able to acknowledge all email submissions, the hand delivered objections were recorded in the objections log. As above the 228 (58.61%) objections did not provide sufficient detail to enable thematic categorisation, as no grounds have been provided. As such, it would not be

possible to provide a substantive thematic analysis response to them in line with the requirements of the Code.

4. Thematic Analysis

The objection report summarises the submissions received during the objection period through thematic analysis. The responses presented in this report have been grouped under the following themes:

Concerns:

<u>Theme 1</u>	Education Impact and Equality
<u>Theme 2</u>	Wellbeing and Vulnerable learners
<u>Theme 3</u>	Community Impact & Cohesion
<u>Theme 4</u>	ALN Provision
<u>Theme 5</u>	Transport, Safety & Accessibility
<u>Theme 6</u>	Financial Concerns / Value for Money
<u>Theme 7</u>	Personal Experience Narratives
<u>Theme 8</u>	Capacity, Planning & Projections
<u>Theme 9</u>	Consultation Process / Trust Issues
<u>Theme 10</u>	Childcare / Wraparound Provision
<u>Theme 11</u>	Policy / Legal Compliance
<u>Theme 12</u>	Governance & Transparency

Council responses and mitigation measures in relation to the themes of objections received have been collated and are set out in **Section 6: *Summary of Objections Received and Council Responses***. Across all themes, mitigation will be delivered through structured transition planning, ongoing monitoring of educational outcomes and learner wellbeing, and continued engagement with stakeholders. These arrangements will support the early identification of risks and ensure timely and appropriate action is taken.

5. Next Steps

The objection report will be presented to Council to determine whether to implement the proposal as published, implement it with modifications, or not proceed to reduce the capacity of Abertillery Learning Community – Primary Phase by closing the Roseheyworth Road Campus.

6. Summary of Objections Received and Council Responses

The table below sets out the themes arising from the objections received and the Council's responses to each theme. Across all themes, mitigation will be delivered through structured transition planning, ongoing monitoring of educational outcomes and learner wellbeing, and continued engagement with stakeholders. These arrangements will support the early identification of risks and enable timely and appropriate intervention.

	Point and Concerns Raised	Response Number and Percentage	Council Responses & Mitigation of Risk
1.	Educational Impact & Quality This represents the most frequently raised concern within the objection responses. Overwhelming Concern About Educational Impact The most dominant theme across responses relates to the perceived negative impact on educational quality. • Respondents consistently highlight the risk of: ○ Overcrowded classrooms ○ Reduced individual support and differentiation ○ Deterioration in literacy and numeracy outcomes • Concerns are amplified by references to: ○ Existing capacity pressures ○ Reports of teaching occurring in unsuitable spaces (e.g. corridors) Conclusion: There is a general belief that the proposal would reduce educational standards rather than improve them.	109 (28%)	The Council recognises concerns regarding the potential impact of the proposal on class sizes, teaching quality and educational outcomes. The proposal is not intended to increase class sizes beyond acceptable limits; rather, it seeks to align provision with projected pupil numbers and ensure the efficient and effective use of resources. The consolidation of provision onto two primary campuses will support improved collaboration between staff, stronger leadership oversight and greater consistency in curriculum delivery. This is expected to maintain, and where possible enhance, educational standards. The Council confirms that all statutory requirements will continue to be met, including the legal limit of 30 pupils per class in Key Stage 1. Class organisation will be determined by pupil numbers and educational need, ensuring compliance and the continuation of high-quality teaching and learning. The Council does not accept that the proposal would result in a reduction in educational standards. Rather, it considers that operating across fewer sites will enable more effective deployment of staff and specialist resources, improved consistency in teaching practice, and stronger strategic leadership, all of which support improved educational delivery. In respect of concerns regarding unsuitable teaching spaces, the Council confirms that accommodation requirements have been assessed and that the receiving campuses have sufficient capacity

			and appropriate facilities to support teaching and learning. Any necessary adaptations will be delivered through planned works in advance of implementation. Mitigation • Class sizes will remain within statutory limits, including Key Stage 1 requirements. • Detailed curriculum and workforce planning will ensure appropriate class organisation and support for all pupils. • Ongoing monitoring of educational outcomes, including attainment in literacy and numeracy. • Support from the Local Authority School Improvement Service and Estyn. • Review and adaptation of learning environments, where required, to ensure suitability and compliance with standards. In summary, while concerns have been raised regarding potential impacts on educational quality, the Council is satisfied that standards can be maintained and strengthened through effective planning, appropriate resourcing and ongoing monitoring.
2.	Wellbeing & Vulnerable Learners This is one of the most consistently raised concerns across responses. Significant Risks to Wellbeing and Vulnerable Learners A substantial majority of objections emphasise the emotional and psychological impact on children. • Key risks identified include: ◦ Disruption to routine, relationships, and stability ◦ Increased anxiety, distress, and disengagement • Particular concern is raised for: ◦ Pupils with Additional Learning Needs (ALN)	106 (27%)	The Council recognises concerns regarding the potential impact of the proposal on pupil wellbeing, particularly for learners who may be vulnerable or have Additional Learning Needs (ALN). It is acknowledged that changes to established environments, relationships and routines can be challenging for some pupils if not carefully managed. The proposal does not seek to reduce the level or quality of support available. Existing ALN provision, including Individual Development Plans (IDPs), specialist staff and targeted interventions, will transfer with pupils and continue in line with statutory requirements. The consolidation of provision is expected to improve the consistency and coordination of support through more effective deployment of specialist resources. Pupil wellbeing has been a central consideration in the development of the proposal. The approach seeks to sustain high-quality pastoral care and wellbeing support across the Learning

	Children with ASD, ADHD, and anxiety-related conditions Conclusion: The proposal is widely viewed as incompatible with supporting pupil wellbeing, especially for vulnerable groups.		Community, while enabling stronger oversight, improved coordination of services and more consistent access to specialist provision. The Council is satisfied that, with appropriate planning and support, the needs of vulnerable learners can be effectively met within the receiving campuses. This will be underpinned by structured transition arrangements, continuity of provision and ongoing monitoring. Mitigation - Development of a phased and structured transition programme tailored to individual pupil needs. - Early identification of pupils who may be particularly vulnerable to change, with targeted support plans in place. - Continuity of pastoral care and wellbeing support, including access to specialist services. - Close collaboration between school staff, ALN teams and relevant external professionals. - Retention of familiar staff relationships where practicable to support continuity. - Ongoing monitoring of pupil wellbeing, attendance and engagement, with timely intervention where concerns arise. In summary, while concerns have been raised regarding the potential impact on wellbeing, particularly for vulnerable learners, the Council is satisfied that these risks can be effectively managed through proactive planning, targeted support and continuous monitoring, ensuring that pupil wellbeing remains a priority throughout implementation.
3.	Community Impact & Cohesion Loss of a Critical Community Asset The school is consistently described as a central community hub, particularly within a disadvantaged area. Respondents highlight:	78 (20%)	The Council recognises the important role of the Roseheyworth Road Campus within the local community and acknowledges the concerns expressed regarding the potential loss of community identity and cohesion. The proposal seeks to balance these concerns with the need to ensure sustainable, high-quality education provision across the Learning Community. It does not seek to diminish community

	○ The school's role in social cohesion, local identity, and support networks ○ Its function as a base for: ▪ Community events ▪ Family services ▪ Informal support systems Conclusion: Closure is perceived as having long-term negative consequences for community resilience and cohesion.		engagement; rather, it aims to maintain and continue these functions within a smaller number of sites that are better aligned with current and projected pupil numbers. The Council is satisfied that community-focused activities, parental engagement and local support networks can continue to be delivered through the remaining campuses, supported by appropriate planning and ongoing engagement with stakeholders. Mitigation • Continued engagement with parents, carers and community representatives to support transition and maintain community links. • Retention and development of community-focused activities across receiving campuses. • Consideration of opportunities to maintain access to family and support services within the Learning Community. • Ongoing assessment of community impact through established monitoring and evaluation processes. • Consideration of the future use of the Roseheyworth Road site within the education estate, subject to further assessment and engagement. In summary, while concerns have been raised regarding the potential loss of a valued community asset, the Council is satisfied that community cohesion and support can be maintained through proactive planning, continued engagement and the effective use of remaining provision.
4.	ALN Provision Insufficient Provision for Additional Learning Needs (71%) There is strong concern regarding the loss of specialist ALN provision, particularly the "Nest" environments. • Key issues:	75 (19%)	The Council recognises that a proportion of objections raise concerns regarding the potential impact of the proposal on Additional Learning Needs (ALN) provision, including specific concerns about the loss of specialist environments such as "Nest" provision. Respondents have highlighted risks relating to continuity of support, the availability of specialist space and resources within receiving campuses, and the potential impact on pupils who may be more vulnerable to change. The Council acknowledges the strength of

	○ Lack of clarity on how support will be maintained ○ Limited space and resources in receiving schools ○ Risks of regression and unmet needs Conclusion: Respondents do not believe the proposal demonstrates compliance with inclusive education principles.		these concerns and the importance of maintaining high-quality, inclusive, needs-led provision for all learners. The Council confirms that the proposal does not seek to reduce the level or quality of ALN provision. Existing arrangements, including Individual Development Plans (IDPs), specialist staff and targeted interventions, will transfer with pupils and continue in accordance with statutory requirements. The consolidation of provision is expected to support more consistent and effective deployment of specialist resources, strengthening the overall approach to inclusion. In relation to specialist provision such as “Nest”-type environments, the Council recognises their value and confirms that appropriate support will continue to be delivered within the receiving campuses. Detailed planning will be undertaken by the school, supported by the Local Authority, to ensure that suitable environments and interventions are in place to meet identified needs. The Council also confirms that ALN provision will continue to be delivered in accordance with the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018, ensuring that statutory duties to identify, plan for and meet learners’ needs are fully met. Mitigation • Continuity of Individual Development Plans (IDPs), with all support arrangements transferring with pupils. • Retention and effective deployment of specialist ALN staff across receiving campuses. • Planned provision of appropriate specialist learning environments, including continuation of “Nest”-type support where required. • Development of individualised and phased transition plans for pupils with ALN. • Ongoing monitoring of pupil progress, wellbeing and provision through established ALN processes. • Close collaboration between school leadership, ALN teams and the Local Authority to ensure provision remains responsive and effective.
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			In summary, while concerns have been raised regarding the potential impact on ALN provision, the Council is satisfied that the proposal will maintain high-quality, inclusive support, underpinned by statutory compliance, structured planning and targeted mitigation.
5.	Transport, Safety & Accessibility Transport, Safety, and Accessibility Concerns A majority of respondents identify significant logistical and safety challenges. - Common issues include: - Longer walking distances, particularly for younger children - Traffic congestion and unsafe drop-off conditions - Limited access for families without private transport Conclusion: The proposal is seen as creating barriers to access, particularly for lower-income families.	73 (18%)	The Council recognises concerns regarding transport arrangements, traffic congestion and safety at receiving campuses. While initial analysis indicates that the majority of pupils will remain within walking distance, it is acknowledged that the proposal may affect traffic patterns and access arrangements, particularly at peak times. Eligibility for home to school transport will continue to be applied in accordance with the Council's Home to School Transport Policy. Where necessary, additional transport provision will be secured to ensure that eligible pupils can access education safely and reasonably. Mitigation - Application of the Home to School Transport Policy to ensure eligible pupils receive free transport. - Consideration of discretionary transport support where appropriate, particularly for vulnerable families. - Detailed transport and traffic impact assessments to inform implementation. - Review and ongoing monitoring of walking routes to ensure they are safe and suitable for pupils. - Partnership working with Neighbourhood Services to manage traffic congestion, parking and access arrangements at receiving campuses. - Implementation of site-specific safety measures, including traffic management plans and safe drop-off and collection arrangements. The Council recognises that safe access to education extends beyond transport eligibility and cannot rely solely on enforcement.

			As such, practical and sustainable measures will be implemented to manage traffic and safety risks effectively. In summary, while concerns have been raised regarding accessibility, safety and potential barriers for some families, the Council is satisfied that appropriate measures will be in place to ensure that pupils can access education safely and reasonably, in line with statutory requirements. These arrangements will be closely monitored following implementation and adapted as necessary to ensure their continued effectiveness and the safety of all pupils.
6.	Financial Concerns / Value for Money Weak Financial Justification. Many objections challenge the economic rationale for closure. - Concerns include: - Lack of transparent cost-benefit analysis - Omission of likely costs such as: - Transport - Infrastructure upgrades - Safety improvements - Perception of inefficient resource allocation elsewhere Conclusion: The proposal is widely viewed as financially unconvincing and potentially short-sighted.	56 (14%)	The Council acknowledges concerns regarding the financial rationale for the proposal. The Learning Community is currently operating with significant surplus capacity, which reduces pupil-led funding and places increasing pressure on school budgets. The proposal is intended to improve long-term financial sustainability by reducing the number of operational sites, thereby lowering premises and staffing costs. This approach will enable resources to be prioritised more effectively towards teaching, learning and pupil support. The Council has identified that the proposal will deliver significant net annual savings, taking into account estimated additional costs such as transport and minor capital works. These savings will contribute to addressing current and projected budget pressures while supporting the continued delivery of high-quality education provision. Mitigation - Ongoing financial monitoring and robust budget management. - Reinvestment of savings to support teaching, learning and pupil outcomes. - Continued review of school funding in line with pupil numbers and operational requirements. - Transparent reporting of financial impacts through established governance and scrutiny arrangements.

			In summary, while concerns have been raised regarding the financial case, the Council is satisfied that the proposal is supported by a robust and evidence-based financial rationale, and represents a sustainable approach to managing resources while maintaining high-quality education provision.
7.	Personal Experience Narratives Less than a quarter of respondents draw on direct personal experience to evidence their objections, adding strong qualitative weight to the concerns raised. What respondents emphasise: - Children are currently: - Happy, settled, and thriving - Benefiting from strong relationships with staff - Parents describe: - Noticeable academic progress - Improved confidence, behaviour, and engagement - Many families highlight: - Long-standing ties to the school (including multi-generational attendance) - Recent life choices (e.g. moving house, employment arrangements) based on access to the school Interpretation: These narratives: - Provide lived evidence that the current provision is effective - Reinforce concerns that closure would lead to:	50 (13%)	The Council acknowledges that these lived experiences demonstrate the high value placed on the current provision and reflect positive outcomes for many pupils. It also recognises concerns that changes to provision may result in disruption, including potential impacts on progress, emotional wellbeing and family routines. However, while these experiences are important and have been fully considered, the Council must also take into account the wider strategic context, including declining pupil numbers, surplus capacity and financial sustainability. The proposal does not seek to diminish the positive outcomes currently reported, but rather to ensure that high-quality education can be sustained across the Learning Community over the longer term. The Council is satisfied that the strengths identified within the Roseheyworth Road Campus can be maintained and built upon within the receiving campuses through strong leadership, continuity of staff where practicable, and well-planned transition arrangements. Mitigation - Development of a phased and carefully managed transition programme to minimise disruption to pupils. - Retention of existing pupil groupings and friendship networks, where possible. - Continuity of staffing, where practicable, to support established relationships. - Enhanced pastoral and wellbeing support during and after transition. - Ongoing monitoring of pupil progress, engagement and wellbeing, with timely intervention where required.

	○ Regression in progress ○ Emotional disruption ○ Practical hardship for families Conclusion: Personal testimony strongly supports the view that Roseheyworth is a highly valued and effective learning environment, with outcomes that stakeholders fear cannot be replicated elsewhere.		• Continued engagement with parents and carers to support families throughout the transition process. In summary, while personal testimony highlights the positive impact of the current provision, the Council is satisfied that these outcomes can be sustained within a reconfigured model, supported by planned mitigation and careful implementation.
8.	Capacity, Planning & Projections Concerns About Capacity and Future Planning Over half of respondents question the robustness of pupil projections and planning assumptions. • Issues raised: ○ Existing schools already near capacity ○ Exclusion of nursery and pre-school cohorts ○ Failure to account for: ▪ New housing developments ▪ Population growth Conclusion: The proposal is seen as lacking long-term strategic planning.	47 (12%)	The Council recognises that a proportion of respondents have raised concerns regarding the robustness of pupil projections and the assumptions underpinning future planning. The Council acknowledges the importance of ensuring that school place planning is based on accurate, transparent and forward-looking data. The proposal has been informed by detailed pupil projections, including birth rate data, admissions trends, and available demographic information. These projections indicate a continued decline in demand for primary school places within the area over the medium to long term. In relation to nursery provision, the Council confirms that statutory school capacity calculations are based on school-age pupils and do not include nursery cohorts, in line with established practice. Nursery provision has, however, been considered separately to ensure that sufficient places remain available across the Learning Community. This approach reflects recognised national methodology for school capacity planning. The Council also confirms that planning assumptions take account of known housing developments and wider demographic trends where data is available, and that these factors are kept under regular review as part of ongoing place planning processes. While respondents have questioned whether the proposal reflects a sufficiently long-term strategic approach, the Council is satisfied that the proposed reduction in capacity will retain an appropriate level of flexibility within the remaining campuses. This will allow the school estate to respond to any future increases in demand without creating unnecessary surplus capacity in the short term.

			Mitigation • Ongoing monitoring of pupil projections, including birth rates, admissions data and demographic trends. • Regular review of local housing developments and their potential impact on school place demand. • Separate planning and provision for nursery places to ensure continued availability. • Retention of sufficient surplus capacity within the remaining campuses to accommodate future fluctuations in demand. • Periodic review of the school estate to ensure alignment with changing local needs. In summary, while concerns have been raised regarding future planning assumptions, the Council is satisfied that the proposal is underpinned by robust projection data and provides a balanced approach to reducing surplus capacity while maintaining flexibility to meet future demand.
9.	Consultation Process / Trust Issues Lack of Trust in Consultation Process Almost half of respondents express concerns about the integrity and transparency of the consultation. • Feedback suggests: ○ Perception of a predetermined outcome ○ Insufficient engagement with stakeholders ○ Lack of clear and robust evidence Conclusion: This has contributed to low stakeholder confidence in the decision-making process.	41 (10%)	The Council acknowledges concerns regarding the consultation process, including perceptions relating to transparency and the extent to which stakeholder views have influenced the proposal. The Council confirms that both the consultation and subsequent objection period have been undertaken in full accordance with the Welsh Government School Organisation Code (2018). A comprehensive consultation document was published, a range of engagement opportunities were provided, and all responses were formally logged, reviewed and analysed. This Objection Report demonstrates how stakeholder views have been considered and how they have informed the Council's assessment of the proposal. While the Council is satisfied that all statutory requirements have been met, it recognises that compliance alone may not fully address stakeholder perceptions. The Council has therefore sought to reflect these concerns transparently within this report, including by providing clarification and additional detail where issues have been raised, to support understanding and strengthen confidence in the process.

			Mitigation • Transparent reporting of all consultation and objection responses. • Clear demonstration of how feedback has been considered and addressed within the decision-making process. • Ongoing engagement with stakeholders, including parents, staff, governors and the wider community. • Provision of clear and accessible information to support understanding of the proposal and its rationale. • Continued governance and scrutiny through Cabinet and established Council processes to ensure accountability. In summary, while concerns have been raised regarding trust and transparency, the Council is satisfied that the process has been conducted in accordance with statutory requirements and is committed to maintaining openness, responsiveness and accountability throughout the decision-making and implementation stages.
10.	Childcare / Wraparound Provision Impact on Childcare and Working Families A significant proportion highlight the importance of wraparound provision, including: • Mini Mes childcare • Breakfast and after-school clubs Concerns focus on: • Loss of provision • Reduced ability for parents to maintain employment Conclusion: Closure is expected to have wider socio-economic impacts beyond education.	37 (9%)	The Council recognises concerns that the proposal may affect childcare and wraparound provision, including Mini Mes, breakfast clubs and after-school services. Concerns have focused on continuity of provision and the impact on working families. The Council acknowledges the importance of reliable childcare in supporting employment and wider socio-economic wellbeing. The Council confirms that the proposal does not seek to reduce childcare or wraparound provision. Breakfast clubs, after-school provision and other extended services will continue to be delivered at the receiving campuses. The Council will work closely with the school and existing providers, including Mini Mes, to ensure continuity of provision and, where necessary, support alternative arrangements. The Council also recognises the wider socio-economic implications raised and confirms that these have been considered as part of the overall assessment of the proposal. Ensuring that families retain access to appropriate childcare provision remains an important priority.

			Mitigation • Continuation of breakfast clubs, after-school provision and wraparound childcare at receiving campuses. • Engagement with existing childcare providers, including Mini Mes, to support continuity or relocation where required. • Monitoring of demand to ensure sufficient childcare provision is maintained. • Ongoing engagement with parents and carers to understand and respond to childcare needs. • Consideration of wider socio-economic impacts through ongoing assessment and implementation planning. In summary, while concerns have been raised regarding the potential impact on childcare provision and working families, the Council is satisfied that appropriate arrangements can be maintained to support families, minimise disruption and ensure continued access to wraparound care.
11.	Policy / Legal Compliance A significant minority of responses raise concerns that the proposal may conflict with statutory frameworks and national policy expectations. What respondents reference: • School Organisation Code (Wales) ◦ Requirements around accessibility, community impact, and learner wellbeing • Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 ◦ Duties relating to long-term thinking, equality, and community resilience • Additional Learning Needs (ALN) Act ◦ Obligations to provide appropriate, needs-led support • Learner Travel (Wales) Measure	31 (8%)	The Council recognises that a number of objections raise concerns regarding the alignment of the proposal with statutory requirements and national policy frameworks. These include references to the Welsh Government School Organisation Code, the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018, and the Learner Travel (Wales) Measure, alongside broader principles relating to children's rights and inclusive education. The Council confirms that the proposal has been developed and progressed in accordance with all relevant legislative and policy requirements. The statutory consultation and objection processes have been undertaken in full compliance with the Welsh Government School Organisation Code (2018), with all responses formally recorded, analysed and reported. In respect of wellbeing and long-term planning, the proposal has also been considered in the context of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, balancing the need to secure sustainable, high-quality education provision with wider community and equality considerations.

	○ Duty to ensure safe and reasonable access to education • In some cases: ○ Broader principles of children’s rights and inclusion Interpretation: These responses: • Move beyond opinion to challenge the proposal on procedural and legal grounds • Suggest that: ○ The consultation may be incomplete or insufficiently evidenced ○ Key statutory duties may not yet be demonstrably met Conclusion: There is a clear expectation that any final decision must be robustly aligned with statutory guidance and policy obligations, with stronger evidence provided.		The Council further confirms that it will continue to meet its duties under the Additional Learning Needs legislation, ensuring that all learners receive appropriate, needs-led support, and under the Learner Travel (Wales) Measure, ensuring that pupils have safe and reasonable access to education. While respondents have raised concerns regarding the extent to which these duties are demonstrated within the proposal, the Council is satisfied that the relevant legal and policy frameworks have been applied throughout. Compliance will continue to be demonstrated through ongoing monitoring, impact assessment and established governance processes. Mitigation • Continued compliance with the Welsh Government School Organisation Code (2018) throughout decision-making and implementation. • Ongoing application of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, ensuring consideration of long-term impacts, equality and community resilience. • Full adherence to the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018, including continuation of needs-led provision and statutory support arrangements. • Application of the Learner Travel (Wales) Measure to ensure safe and reasonable access to education for all eligible learners. • Integration of equality, community and wellbeing considerations through ongoing impact assessments and monitoring. • Transparent reporting and governance to demonstrate continued compliance with statutory and policy requirements. In summary, while concerns have been raised regarding legal and policy compliance, the Council is satisfied that the proposal aligns with statutory duties and national policy expectations, and that these requirements will continue to be met through implementation and ongoing monitoring.
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12.	Governance & Transparency A proportion of respondents express low trust in the rationale and decision-making process, with some questioning underlying motives. What respondents suggest: • Perception that the closure may be: ◦ Driven by budget pressures rather than educational need • Concerns about: ◦ Alternative uses of the site (e.g. housing development) ◦ Lack of transparency regarding future plans • Criticism of: ◦ Leadership decisions ◦ Perceived top-heavy management structures • In some cases: ◦ References to political accountability and protest activity Interpretation: This theme reflects: • A broader confidence gap between stakeholders and decision-makers • A belief among some respondents that: ◦ The process lacks openness and genuine engagement Important nuance: • While not universal, this theme is significant because it:	26 (7%)	The Council recognises that a number of objections reflect a lack of confidence in the rationale for the proposal and the decision-making process. Respondents have expressed concerns that the proposal may be primarily financially driven rather than based on educational need, and have questioned the transparency of future plans for the Roseheyworth Road site. The Council confirms that the proposal has been developed in response to a combination of factors, including declining pupil numbers, significant surplus capacity and increasing financial pressures, all of which present a risk to the long-term sustainability of education provision. These considerations have been set out transparently through the consultation process and supporting documentation. In relation to the future use of the Roseheyworth Road site, no alternative use has been determined. The site will remain within the Council's education portfolio, and any future proposals would be subject to a separate decision-making process, including appropriate consultation and governance arrangements. The Council recognises the importance of transparency and accountability in maintaining stakeholder confidence, and notes that these concerns have been considered as part of the overall assessment of the proposal. Mitigation • Continued transparent reporting through consultation, objection and decision-making processes. • Clear communication of the rationale for the proposal, including both educational and financial considerations. • Ongoing engagement with stakeholders, including parents, staff, governors and the wider community. • Commitment that any future proposals for the site will be subject to separate consultation and formal decision-making processes. • Use of established governance arrangements, including Cabinet/Council oversight, to ensure accountability and scrutiny.
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	○ Shapes how other concerns are interpreted ○ Reinforces perceptions that evidence presented may be incomplete or biased Conclusion: Concerns about transparency and intent contribute to reduced trust in the proposal, amplifying overall opposition.		In summary, while concerns regarding motives and transparency have been raised, the Council is satisfied that the proposal has been developed on a clear and evidenced basis and is committed to maintaining openness and accountability throughout the decision-making and implementation process.
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Conclusion

The Council fully recognises the concerns raised through the objection process and the strength of feeling expressed by stakeholders. All objections have been carefully considered and have informed both the Council's response and the development of mitigation measures. Having reviewed all available evidence, the Council maintains that no viable or deliverable alternative has been identified that would more effectively address the combined challenges of declining pupil numbers, surplus capacity and financial sustainability.

The proposal therefore remains a necessary, proportionate and deliverable response.

Should the proposal proceed, the Council is committed to implementing it in a controlled, transparent and responsive manner, with ongoing monitoring and reporting to ensure that risks are effectively managed and outcomes are achieved as intended.

7. Alternative Options

The below notes the alternative options received for consideration during the objection period and the Council's analysis and response to those alternative options. These options are in addition to the 3 options already considered within the consultation outturn document, of which the Council deems its analysis still valid as not considered a viable or proportionate alternative.

Proposed in options

Options	Description	Conclusions
1.	Move half the children from the Abertillery Learning Community primary site of Tillery Street Campus to Roseheyworth Campus	While redistribution may appear to offer a compromise, it does not resolve the core challenges of surplus capacity, financial sustainability and efficient delivery of education. It is therefore considered a high-risk option that would defer, rather than address, the need for structural change within the Learning Community.
2.	Use the Roseheyworth Campus for additional training capacity	While training activity may form part of future considerations for the site, retaining the Roseheyworth Campus specifically for training does not address the fundamental challenges of surplus capacity, financial sustainability or efficient estate management, and is therefore not considered a viable or proportionate alternative.

8. Objection Responses Received

	Objection
1	National Education Union – Formal Response to Statutory Consultation The National Education Union (NEU) submits this response on behalf of our members working at Abertillery Learning Community regarding the proposal to close the Roseheyworth Road Campus (RR). Our members have significant concerns about the potential impact of the proposed closure on pupils, staff and the wider community. The following points are offered to support a full and informed consideration of the likely consequences of any decision, with reference to relevant statutory frameworks and established educational principles. 1. School Organisation Code (Wales) The School Organisation Code requires that proposals for school reorganisation take full account of accessibility, learner wellbeing, inclusion, community impact, suitability of accommodation and safe travel arrangements. NEU members are concerned that the proposed closure would create additional barriers for pupils and families, particularly those already experiencing disadvantage. Members note that the redistribution of pupils to other campuses will increase pressure on sites that already experience space, access and capacity challenges, and that these impacts need to be carefully evaluated against the Code's expectations. 2. Impact on the Local Community Roseheyworth Road Campus plays an important role as a community anchor in an area with limited local services, restricted transport options and higher levels of socio-economic challenge. Members report that many families rely on the proximity of the campus for daily stability, routine and engagement with education. The potential loss of a school presence risks weakening community cohesion, reducing local accessibility to education, and further isolating families who already face barriers to participation. 3. Attendance, Wellbeing and Pupil Engagement Members anticipate that the proposed closure could have a significant impact on attendance and engagement, particularly for vulnerable pupils. For many families, transfer to another campus would involve a walking journey of approximately 30 minutes each way, often without access to private transport. Members are concerned that longer journeys, poor weather, caring responsibilities and cumulative daily pressures may lead to reduced attendance, increased lateness or disengagement. There is also concern about the emotional impact on younger pupils and those who find transitions difficult, which could affect wellbeing and readiness to learn. 4. Transport, Parking and Site Safety Members report that parking, drop-off and pick-up arrangements at the remaining campuses are already challenging. Narrow streets, limited parking availability and existing congestion present daily operational difficulties and safety concerns. An increase in pupil numbers would intensify these pressures, potentially affecting pedestrian safety, increasing stress for families and staff, and creating difficulties for emergency access. Members believe that any reconfiguration would require very careful planning to manage these risks effectively. 5. Suitability of the Roseheyworth Road Site

	Roseheyworth Road Campus is regarded by staff as one of the most accessible sites within the Learning Community, with comparatively better traffic flow, safer access points and more usable outdoor space. Members note that this campus is frequently used for inter-campus activities, meetings and events because of these practical advantages. The loss of this site would reduce operational flexibility and may increase logistical challenges for staff and pupils across the wider Learning Community. 6. Space, Class Sizes and Learning Environment Members report that classrooms and shared spaces at the remaining campuses are already under pressure. Class sizes are described as high, with limited flexibility to accommodate additional pupils without further overcrowding. In some cases, areas originally intended for staff or specialist use have been adapted for teaching. Members are concerned that further increases in pupil numbers could negatively affect learning environments, reduce opportunities for small-group work, and increase workload and stress for staff. 7. Additional Learning Needs (ALN) Members have highlighted particular concerns regarding pupils with Additional Learning Needs. There is currently limited space at the remaining campuses for nurture provision, calm rooms or dedicated 'nest' areas. Staff are concerned that pupils who struggle in mainstream classroom environments may have fewer opportunities for appropriate support and regulation. The loss of specialist or flexible spaces could make it more difficult to meet individual needs in line with the ALN Code's emphasis on inclusive, needs-led provision. 8. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Members are mindful that decisions taken now may have long-term implications for children, families and communities. Concerns have been raised about how reduced accessibility, increased travel demands and pressure on remaining campuses may affect long-term learner wellbeing, equality of access and community resilience. These considerations are relevant to the Act's focus on prevention, long-term thinking and supporting a healthier, more equal and resilient Wales.
2	I am writing to formally object to the proposed closure of Roseheyworth School during the statutory notice period. I strongly believe that closing the school would have a damaging impact on the children, families, and wider community it serves. Roseheyworth School is more than just a building — it is a vital part of the local community and provides stability, support, and continuity for many pupils. I am particularly concerned about: • The emotional and educational impact the closure would have on children currently attending the school. • The disruption caused by moving vulnerable children away from familiar staff, friendships, routines, and support systems. • Increased travel times and the effect this may have on attendance, wellbeing, and family life. • Pressure being placed on surrounding schools and resources. • The long-term effect this decision could have on the local community. I do not believe sufficient weight has been given to the views and concerns raised by parents, carers, staff, and community members throughout this process.

	I also have concerns regarding whether alternative motives, including future housing development opportunities, are being prioritised above the educational needs and wellbeing of local children. I respectfully ask the Council to reconsider this proposal and fully explore all alternative options before proceeding with any closure decision. Please accept this letter as my formal objection to the proposed closure of Roseheyworth School.
3.	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth Campus. My eldest daughter attends this school and has loved every minute being at this school, she gets the most amount of support from the staff within the school. My youngest daughter is due to start nursery at this school in September, she has major separation anxiety and has got used to the school grounds with her sister being at the school and attending Mini Mes which is also attached to the school. Closing Roseheyworth will cause major distress and anxiety to many if not all students who attend the school, they have made attachments to friends, and staff. Some parents already struggle to get their children to school, moving them to a different school will make it harder for the parents. Moving all students from Roseheyworth to either Six Bells, or Tillery street will make them school overcrowded, it has already been mentioned by parents that children are working in corridors, adding more students will make this situation worse. The ability for our children to be able to thrive in school will deteriorate, the teachers will not be able to support so many children within their classrooms. Parking at both Tillery Street and Six Bells are awful, parents and residents of them areas already complain and mention how dangerous is it for cars, members of the public and the students. Adding more cars to these areas will increase the dangers and risks of an accident. At Roseheyworth School we have the Nest, which is dedicated to our ALN students, the nest give these students the comfort, the learning, and a quiet setting that the students need, all the ALN students' needs are met within the nest. Moving the students who attend the nest will cause major distress.
4	I object, the reasoning I don't want this school to shut is because, it will affect the kids in need and even the parents that's need the help! if you shut this school the overcrowding in the other schools is going to be ridiculous, as a TA myself your just taking away the jobs of the people who actually want to help the kids and the kids that are in need!
5	I would like to fully object to the closure of Roseheyworth Rd Campus School. This school is very important to the Roseheyworth community and it is part of the structure of the Roseheyworth surrounding estates. It is not just a building near these estates but a hub for the community and for parents and families. It is a central point, that brings people together in the community and it has been used over the years for various activities and a meeting place, where events are held. The Parents, staff and more importantly the people of Abertillery have fought very hard to try to raise the profile of the school and make you aware of how important it is, not just to themselves but to other families in the future. It makes no sense to close a school that has a good reputation and provides a great start to a child's educational journey and as done so to so many children over the years. The school is chosen by lots of families with children with extra needs as it is a smaller environment, which is very nurturing and gives the sense of feeling safe and has a caring nature. This not only helps the parents who are often anxious and feel that larger schools with a higher number of children is not an appropriate place for the children as they would be afraid they will get lost in the system and be left

	behind, this will cause even more upset and stress, which will add more pressure. In a smaller school there is far less bullying and distractions. Families should be allowed choice as they know their child's abilities and what their children want. The closure of Roseheyworth will have a damning effect on everyone. The local support of everyone in Abertillery and the surrounding area has been overwhelming. BGCBC LISTEN TO THE PEOPLE!!!! Please reconsider this proposal which will damage a community and the public trust in the council as they feel it has been a done deal from day one and the consultations have only been to conform in the law of how a closure can be upheld. Please don't ignore the pleas of the parents and the community who have tried to show their objections with petitions and letters, along with their strength of the objection to the closure.
6	Please regard this email as an objection to the proposal stated above. With class sizes going to be increased in both Abertillery Primary and Six Bells Campus, it will provide children with a more crowded environment to learn in and put more pressure on staff. I believe the effects of this will be felt further down the line, when the damage will already have been done. Also, neither of these schools have the facilities to accommodate any more traffic at pick up and drop off times. A visit from yourselves at those particular times would enlighten you on this issue alone. It is manic, severely congested and a hazardous task to encounter and more traffic from additional pupils can only make it far more dangerous. The carpark at Six Bells campus is shared with visitors to Ty Ebbw Fach, nearby residents, dog walkers and anyone visiting the Guardian memorial. Also, there is insufficient parking facilities for anyone using the Community Centre, which is situated directly behind the school, and many are forced to search the school car park for a space when using the centre. All in all, an extremely inadequate state of affairs with poor planning from the commencement of designing and building this school. Lastly, the distance for some children to have to walk is ludicrous! If the school had been built on the old leisure centre site in the first place, with it being a more central, accessible location, maybe there would not have been as much opposition.
7	I do not support the proposal to close Roseheyworth School I am a former volunteer "Friend of the Classroom" and would regularly help our pupils with their reading and writing, our local schools, pupils, teachers and support staff are all fantastic and are a credit to our community I do not support the closure of Roseheyworth School many of the pupils have additional learning difficulties and some have Individual Development Plans, as a child growing up with trauma I am very aware of the detrimental effect I feel is going to be imposed upon our most vulnerable pupils because as I see it top heavy management structure I feel that now would be a great opportunity to do something different not do the same thing and waste money and get the same results How can the 13 top salaries be over £1,000,000 per annum? Would it be better to reduce the highest payroll and use the savings to run and maintain a better Abertillery Learning Community? I am a former Recruitment and training officer, I worked with the Welsh Development Agency and education service providers such as BBC Education and NACRO and helped bring Japanese, American and international businesses into our area, I'm off to Japan tomorrow

	Why haven't we got these international links in our schools? This I believe would encourage better citizens and bring much needed employment and international links into our community. I also worked on the pilot series of The Biz (dragons den) with the WDA, Welsh Government and BBC Wales, it would i feel be brilliant to link this to the Roseheyworth School Entrepreneurial Program? I have documents and reports about the Abertillery Learning Community and how things could be improved moving forward, I'm happy to have a meeting to discuss If ALC goes backwards it will not look good for you I have also started back the Abertillery Film Academy which had a very successful night at the Met, would be brilliant to put a film together and contact the BBC to show all the positive work that is being done in Abertillery?
8	I am writing this email, to STRONGLY OBJECT to the proposed closure of Roseheyworth School. It will have a massive effect on the children, in the 3 schools. If the children and their siblings are split up into different schools, how on earth can the parents be at different schools at the same time in order to pick the children up? You have stated that the closure of this school is because of lack of funds!!! Why employ 13 deputy heads if there is no funding available? Why are you stopping the intake of children Into Roseheyworth School? Surely there are other ways that you could save money? WE WILL FIGHT HARD IN ORDER TO KEEP ROSEHEYWORTH SCHOOL OPEN!!!!
9	I STRONGLY OBJECT to the closure of Roseheyworth School, Abertillery. It will have a devastating effect on the children, as well as the community of Abertillery. There isn't enough room to house the children from Roseheyworth in the other two other schools. If this proposal is allowed, this would be devastating.
10.	I am a mother and grandmother living in Abertillery and have grandchildren both at primary and comprehensive schools. I have been amazed and very disappointed over the years to see the decline in the school system here. Children were, in my opinion taught better before the ALC campus came into being. To close Roseheyworth School would put a very unfair pressure on the already struggling Abertillery site to accommodate those children and the ability to teach them properly when the site is already under special measures. It's a great concern to me that my grandchild at Abertillery Primary School receives the best education possible and I think extra pupils at the school will only add to the struggle there at the moment. Blaenau Gwent and especially the ALC needs improvement, and this closure will not help the improvement in the standard of Education at all.
11.	I am writing as a parent of two children attending Roseheyworth Primary Campus to formally object to the proposed closure of the school. This proposal would have a deeply negative impact on my children, other pupils, and the wider community. I do not believe the long-term effects on children and families have been fully understood or properly considered.

	My children feel safe, supported, and valued at Roseheyworth Primary. The staff know the children well and provide an environment where they are able to learn, develop confidence, and thrive emotionally as well as academically. Closing the school would remove that stability and force children to adjust to unfamiliar settings, teachers, and peer groups, which could seriously affect their wellbeing and educational progress. I am also concerned about the availability and suitability of alternative school places. Moving pupils to other schools may result in larger class sizes, reduced support, and increased pressure on neighbouring schools. For some families, including those with children who have additional needs or vulnerabilities, a transfer could be particularly distressing and disruptive. The proposed closure would also create practical difficulties for families. Increased travel distances would place additional financial and logistical burdens on parents and carers and could negatively affect attendance, punctuality, and children's ability to participate in after-school activities. Beyond education, Roseheyworth Primary is an important part of the local community. It provides children and families with stability, support, and a strong sense of belonging. Losing the school would have a lasting impact on the area and reduce opportunities for future families within the community. I do not believe that all reasonable alternatives to closure have been fully explored. I would urge the decision-makers to consider other options that could allow the school to remain open and continue serving local children and families. I respectfully ask that my objection is formally recorded and fully considered before any final decision is made.
12.	Removed comments as per respondent's request.
13.	After reviewing the documentation and considering the practical realities faced by pupils, staff, and the wider community, it is clear that the proposal is incomplete, insufficiently evidenced, and fails to account for the educational, social, and financial consequences of the changes being suggested. Firstly, the educational impact of such closure - The proposal does not address how fundamental learning will be protected in the face of increased class sizes. Larger classes will inevitably reduce the quality of teaching and limit the ability to deliver targeted support - particularly in literacy and numeracy and where Cap9 scores already highlight the need for focused intervention. As a 3-16 school, the Secondary phase is significantly underperforming in these 3 areas against National levels. Research and evidence from around the globe, predominantly Europe and South Asia show smaller classes are fundamental to pupil learning experiences. The primary phase should be about raising foundational standards of reading, writing and basic math as well as fostering an inclusive and supportive approach, where pupils feel welcomed, supported and championed in all aspects of school life from individual learning to individual wellbeing, and thus, able to thrive in the beginning years of their education. It is also concerning that teaching is already taking place in corridors at Tillery St Campus due to space pressures. This is neither safe nor conducive to learning, and the proposed model risks worsening these conditions. The Curriculum for Wales (CfW) sets out clear core purposes, including supporting ambitious learners, healthy individuals, and ethical citizens. These purposes cannot be met in overcrowded environments with reduced access to natural spaces (of which Roseheyworth has an abundance of), limited freedom for children to develop both independently in their learning journey as well as socially, and increased pressure on staff. In addition, the proposal does not sufficiently consider the mental health and wellbeing of ALN and the most vulnerable pupils. Larger, more impersonal settings and longer travel times will have a detrimental effect on children who rely on stability and routine. This will not only impact ALN/vulnerable learners

that are currently at Roseheyworth Campus but those learners already at Tillery St Campus and Six Bells Campus. ALN provision is notably absent from the documentation. Learners with additional needs require consistency, specialist support, and environments designed around their individual requirements. The proposal does not demonstrate how these needs will be met. Young carers in the Roseheyworth catchment community are also overlooked. These pupils depend on proximity, predictability, and community support. Any disruption to their school environment risks placing additional strain on children who already carry significant responsibilities.

Secondly, the statistics/data used in the report - The consultation documentation makes reference to future birth rates but provides no source for these statistics. Any claims used to justify structural change must be supported by verifiable data. Furthermore, the report does not consider Rising 3s. This omission raises serious questions about capacity planning and the long-term sustainability of the proposed model. The area is experiencing new housing developments and shifting migration patterns, yet these factors are also not reflected in the projections. According to gov.wales, Blaenau Gwent is expected to see a **projected population increase of 5.6% between 2022 and 2032**. This projection is predominantly driven by long term fertility, mortality and migration assumptions. Whilst assumptions may be made, gov.wales also notes that Blaenau Gwent Council's own strategies of improved transport connectivity (e.g. Ebbw Valley railway), regeneration of some areas, as well as the development of projects driven by the Heads of the Vallet Strategic Programme (that was essentially aimed at creating jobs that will attract new people to the area) are the core reasons behind the inward migration projections. With housing costs in the Abertillery area being lower than surrounding areas in Blaenau Gwent, could it not be considered that the projected 5.6% population increase could be in fact mostly based in the local area, therefore requiring more school places between now and 2032? With 127 pupils currently on role in Roseheyworth, the school clearly plays a vital role in the community, and its importance cannot be dismissed. There certainly will not be neutral/to no impact to the local community (as stated in your community assessment) should these plans go ahead. The proposal acknowledges £1 million in expenditure that would be needed to maintain Roseheyworth, growing to £4 million in the next few years however your report fails to justify how this aligns with claims of financial efficiency. Costs of transition, safe routes to school and vital amendments to traffic routes to school as well as providing transport for learners from Roseheyworth surely is going to mount up. Where are the true costing numbers of all these aspects to show closure of Roseheyworth is the most viable option moving forward? Significant investment will be required to manage increased traffic, expand parking, and ensure safe routes to school. These costs are not reflected in the financial summary.

Attendance issues are also cited without recognising that the 3–16 structure itself contributes to these challenges. Treating the school as a single campus masks the real attendance patterns of individual age groups. This is the only data cited in the report that is used as a single campus figure and not broken down into the 4 separates. The council's own mission statements emphasise **community, inclusion, and wellbeing**. This proposal does not align with those commitments.

Thirdly, additional concerns – As previously noted there is no evidence of traffic surveys, parking assessments, or safe-route-to-school analysis in your report. These are essential components of any proposal that will increase movement at each campus. Both Tillery St and Six Bells already experience significant challenges, in terms of traffic flow and parking, adding additional pupils to these campuses is only going to worsen the situation. As of last year, the Welsh Government is rolling out a 'safe routes to school' initiative ([Wales.gov](https://gov.wales)) – for this to be implemented correctly, local councils are being tasked with setting up safety assessments (which must assess safety routes to schools and work to mitigate risks such as poor infrastructure, high traffic speeds and unsafe crossing points) as well as finding alternatives to working should the route be deemed unavailable or unsafe. Surely, to maintain the aims set out by the Welsh Government, your council would not be sufficiently meeting these aims should all this not be considered. For this to happen, there will be a substantial financial element to the project. Providing transport for Breakfast Club has not been addressed. Without reliable transport, many families will lose access to this essential provision. The Welsh Government Breakfast Club Initiative aims to improve health, nutrition and educational attainment

	(gov.wales). If funding is not provided to allow the 60 children at Roseheyworth that currently attend breakfast club to access the provision at the other campuses, surely again the aims of the Welsh Government initiative are not met by your Council. It is deeply concerning that the pupils' voices are not suitably included because they were not informed of the purpose behind the Senedd Meeting. This contradicts the principles of the Curriculum for Wales and the rights of the child. Community initiatives such as Mini Mes and breakfast club are central to the identity and wellbeing of local children. Their loss or disruption would have a profound impact on families. The whole human element is entirely missing from the proposal. Decisions of this magnitude must consider the lived experiences of the children, staff, and families affected. Finally, the proposal, as presented, is incomplete and lacks the evidence required to justify such significant change. It fails to address educational quality, wellbeing, ALN provision, community impact, transport, safety, and long-term financial sustainability. Until the council can provide valid and accurate information on the list highlighted below, this proposal cannot be considered viable: • Verified and referenced statistics that are cited in the report • A clear plan for ALN and vulnerable learners • A clear plan that ALL learners will be able to successfully learn under the new Curriculum for Wales Framework, despite the existing challenges of up-to-capacity class sizes and teaching in corridors. • Traffic, parking, and safety assessments at both Tillery St and Six Bells • A costed infrastructure plan to show Roseheyworth closing is the correct option financially • Consideration of the Rising 3s intake and local population growth through new housing developments already in place • Genuine engagement with children and the local community The reality is simple: children deserve stability, safety, and an environment that nurtures their potential. Roseheyworth School has been and continues to be a fantastic setting where children are given the very best educational experiences. This consultation does not demonstrate how those needs mentioned above will be met by relocating Roseheyworth pupils into the other 2 campuses. I urge the council to reconsider the proposal and to engage meaningfully with the community to develop a plan that allows Roseheyworth to remain open and one that truly reflects the needs of the children it serves. Finally, it is also a matter of concern that several findings in the initial consultation report were inaccurately recorded. This undermines confidence in the process at a time when critical decisions are being made regarding our children's educational future. The closure of the school would have severe and far-reaching consequences, causing significant and lasting harm to the children it serves, the teaching staff, and the wider community.
14.	I am writing to formally object to the proposed closure of Roseheyworth school and the resulting increase in pupil numbers at Tillery street primary school. I am extremely concerned about the impact this decision will have on traffic congestion and road safety in the local area. The roads around the school are already heavily congested during school drop-off and especially collection times, unsafe parking, blocked driveways and difficulty for residents accessing their homes especially in the lane to the rear of 112-125 Tillery street which I have reported several times to the school and to the council app and been told that it's a police matter as it's a public highway,

	Increasing the number of pupils attending the school will significantly worsen these issues. More vehicles in an already overcrowded area will create serious safety risks for children, parents, pedestrians, cyclists, and local residents. Emergency vehicle access could also be affected during peak times. In addition to traffic concerns, the increased congestion will lead to higher noise levels, pollution, and disruption for people living nearby. I do not believe the current road infrastructure is capable of safely supporting a substantial rise in pupil numbers without improvements being made first. Which again I will mention the lane at the back of 112-125 Tillery street which is in a terrible condition with potholes that I have also reported on the council app several times but they are just made worse by the amount of vehicles that use the lane(blocking the lane) every day I urge you to reconsider this proposal and fully assess the long-term impact on the local community before any final decision is made. Residents' concerns regarding safety, traffic management, and quality of life should be given proper consideration. Thank you for taking the time to consider my objection. I would appreciate confirmation that my concerns have been formally recorded
15.	Please accept this email as a formal objection to the closure of Roseheyworth campus. The reasons for this are as follows - • Out of all the schools in the ALC, Roseheyworth is the one best situated in terms of logistics/ traffic management and accessibility. • It services one of the most deprived areas in Wales • It is a central part of a community that has little to nothing else • The knock on effect to other areas has not been properly evaluated (traffic chaos/ impact on children's wellbeing etc) • No proper impact assessment has been done yet • Why now? There must have been issues for several years prior to this - where were you then? Why no earlier intervention? Why build 2 new schools? • Is Roseheyworth paying the price for being part of ALC? Does the 3-16 model even work? • How is 35 pupils per class the best for our kids? I write this as a Cwmtillery resident and former governor of ALC.
16.	Hello there i am absolutely disgusted and totally oppose the closure of Roseheyworth school. My child attends this school and to have to move her to an overcrowded school just to save you a few quid is beyond, she has autism and ADHD and this such thing is going to really impact her. I'm glad Labour has finally gone and I hope the so scoundrels at BGCBC are to be replaced to.
17.	Dear Sir/Madam, I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposed closure of Roseheyworth campus due to financial deficits. As a former student of the school, I understand that financial pressures are difficult. However, I strongly believe that closing the school would have a serious negative impact on students, families, and the wider community. The school is more than just a building. It has always provided stability, support, and opportunities for young people in the area. Many students rely on familiar teachers, local friendships, and access to education near their homes without commuting. Closing the school will lead to longer travel times, overcrowding in neighbouring schools, and unnecessary disruption to students' education and wellbeing.

	In addition, the school plays a pivotal role in the local community and has a heritage that should not be overlooked. Once a school is closed, it is extremely difficult to replace the sense of community and identity it provides. The council should most definitely reconsider this decision and explore alternative solutions before proceeding with the closure. Other options to ease financial deficits should be explored because the closure of this school will be detrimental. Thank you for taking the time to read my concerns. I hope the council will carefully consider the long-term effects this decision could have on current and future students.
18.	Dear Council Members and members of the Education Committee and who it may concern, I am writing to formally object to the proposed closure of Roseheyworth School. Drawing on the recent consultation questions and conversations with parents, staff and members of the community, I wish to highlight the following critical concerns, which have been raised in all corners of the Ebbw Fach Valley Roseheyworth School is a vital pillar in one of the most deprived areas in Wales. Its closure would remove a source of stability, support, and opportunity for families already facing significant challenges. The school has served as a vital and much-loved a place of safety and support for over 26 years, and its loss would further marginalise vulnerable families and undermine the aspirations and future prospects of countless children, who would continue to be nurtured in this familiar and much coveted environment The school provides essential pastoral support for children with emotional, social, and psychological needs, as well as those with additional learning needs and disabilities. Closing the school would disrupt this support network, leaving many children and families without the stability, structure and assistance they rely on. There is a pressing need for clarity on how these children will be supported if the closure goes ahead and I do not believe this has been made clear enough to give parents/guardians any certainty that the needs of their children will be adequately met. From what I have read to date, there is insufficient evidence that closing Roseheyworth School is the most cost-effective solution. Key questions remain unanswered regarding projected savings, the costs of staff redundancies, and the financial implications of transporting children to other campuses. Alternative cost-saving measures should be fully explored and transparently compared before any decision is made. Following the public meeting at the rugby club, I do not have any confidence that things have been thoroughly explored and questions regarding financial issues were not fully answered. The closure would result in larger class sizes (some classes are already overcrowded) at alternative campuses, which may negatively impact teaching quality, learning, and educational outcomes. It is essential to provide data supporting the assumption that these changes will not harm children's education. Many of these children will have to walk to school in all winds and weathers up to 1.8 miles and therefore will not qualify for home to school transport. How is this conducive to learning? I don't believe that 5–8-year-olds would arrive at school ready to learn after this walk and I can predict a drop in attendance at the very least There are serious concerns about the transparency and fairness of the consultation process. It is vital that all alternative solutions arising from this consultation are genuinely considered, independently reviewed, and shared openly with parents and staff. The community must be assured that this is not a predetermined decision, which is presently what local people believe and who can blame them? In summary, I urge the council to reconsider the closure of Roseheyworth School and to fully address the financial, educational, and social consequences outlined above. The school's role in supporting our community cannot be overstated, and its loss would have far-reaching negative effects for generations

	to come. I also believe that this is only the start and that other schools will be considered for closure when BG start recruiting for the new Welsh medium school. The Council need to look closely at how this affects other local schools. I hope that these issues will be fully considered and not just counted as a number in a pile of objections.
19	I'm writing this letter to raise my objection to the proposed closure of the Roseheyworth School. My objection is based on several common-sense reasons. • The school is a brilliant environment for the children who attend, it has the largest outdoor space of all the ALC campus' for the children to learn about wildlife, nature and wellbeing. • My daughters have attended this site since starting Mini Me's at the age of 2. • My eldest daughter is now 13 and is a model pupil and excelling in her secondary school. I put this down to the support, kindness and understanding from the teaching team at Roseheyworth as well as parenting at home. • My youngest daughter is seven and in year 2 at Roseheyworth...she is with a group of peers she has known since the age of 2, starting at Mini Me's. She is a well behaved, polite child who is also flourishing in school. Again thanks to the teaching team at Roseheyworth. • Concern about class sizes at the other proposed campus' overcrowding will lead to children being left behind, there are also health and safety implications with regard to fire safety/ evacuation procedures. Also the incident of the stomach bug that wiped out half of Roseheyworth campus this week...imagine that in the other campus' with the overcrowded classes...it would be horrendous. • Access to vehicles also cause a health and safety issue.... school drop off and pickups at the other campus' will be even more chaotic than they are already, it's only a matter of time before there is an accident or a child gets hurt. • As a resident of Blaina, and a working mother.... travelling to the campus' in either Tillery St or Six Bells will add time onto my journeys between Blaina to Brynmawr Foundation School and back to Abertillery for primary school. at the moment the routine allows me time to get to my place of employment in Blackwood at the correct time...this will not be the case if I'm to be trapped in school drop off chaos at another campus. • While I'm at work ..my 70 year old mother takes up the responsibility of collecting the children from school and cares for them until I arrive home. She is not prepared to be inconvenienced by travelling further so this will mean I will have to hand in my notice at work and become unemployed. • This proposal is not backed by any reliable evidence and there seems to be no thought into the ripple effects it would have on the community at the Roseheyworth/ Arael View/ Bournville area. The families in this part of the town NEED that school ...they need it for the children and they need it for their family lives to continue in the way that have done for the past 26 years since the school was opened. I oppose the proposal to close the Roseheyworth campus whole heartedly.
20	This is my formal objection to the closure of Roseheyworth School Abertillery! Both my children have attended this school from the age of two. They have made stable and lifelong friendships and this will be severely affected if the closure takes place. From the consultation the numbers you have provided will NOT benefit the children of Roseheyworth or the children where they are intended to be placed! Class numbers will increase, and the quality of learning will be affected. The school is not just a school it's a central part of our community, bringing not only the children but families and friends together.

	My son has severe anxiety and is currently being assessed for this, the school has been amazing in supporting him. He has said that if it was to close he don't know how he would cope with this. The relocation of pupils to Tillery street campus or Six bells is totally impracticable, not only from pupil numbers per class but it also has other implications for those families who do not drive. Walking over 1 mile to school every day in all weathers is not acceptable or practical. Those who do drive , will increase the traffic to these schools, there is not enough suitable parking for this. This in turn will make roads and crossings unsafe for those on foot. I really hope that the future of our children's lives are really considered in this not just to save money! Education is not a luxury it is a necessity and there are other cost savings that could be looked at instead of closing a well-run school, with amazing teachers and facilities for the children of the area.
21	I wholeheartedly object to this proposal. My children both attended Roseheyworth and it is a fantastic school. The impact on moving the children between the other two campuses will be enormous and I believe very detrimental. I understand that the other campuses are already quite full. The impact that it will have on the children's learning is likely to be extremely negative, with potential overcrowding of classes. I also believe that the emotional wellbeing of the children will be affected as it is likely to disrupt established friendship groups and cause unnecessary worry and stress to these children. Our school is a place that the children feel safe, loved and valued. This will especially affect children with additional learning needs that are already settled and thriving at Roseheyworth. These children will struggle even more with the transition. Local residents of both the Tillery street and the six bells campuses have already previously expressed concerns over the safety of pick up and drop off times due to the amount of traffic in the areas. Adding the children from Roseheyworth will only worsen this issue. Roseheyworth is currently the best place for drop off and pick up times due to the car park and the site being on the outskirts of most of the residential properties in the immediate area. Children that live in the catchment area of Roseheyworth will have a lengthy walk to another campus with no transport being provided from the council. I have been a member of staff at Mini Mes, which is located on the Roseheyworth site for almost 10 years , and I am very disappointed about the way this has been proposed, with no warning whatsoever from the council. We found the information out from social media. We provide a vital service for families in the area with childcare and wraparound for children from age 2. As a flying start setting, I believe that losing this service in the Abertillery area will cause a shortage of early years places in the community, especially with flying start expanding their entitlement to more postcodes regularly. We currently offer wraparound for children receiving the childcare offer. These children come from working families and if we aren't open at Roseheyworth to offer this service then parents would struggle to find alternative childcare in order to go to work. As I've previously mentioned, I do not believe that the other childcare settings in the area would be able to absorb all of our children into their settings. This could potentially force parents with no childcare to have to drop their working hours, or even give up their jobs altogether, causing even more harm to our community and also to the economy. I urge you to please reconsider your proposal and find a way forward that can allow our lovely school to stay open.
22	I am writing to formally register my strong objection to the proposed closure of the Roseheyworth Road Campus, scheduled for full implementation by September 2027. As a parent, I am deeply against this proposal for the following reasons: Impact on Education: I am concerned that relocating pupils to the Six Bells and Tillery Street campuses will lead to overcrowding and larger class sizes, which may negatively affect the quality of education and individual attention pupils receive. Travel and Accessibility: The closure will force families to travel much further. This is particularly difficult for those without private transport and may lead to increased costs and safety concerns for children walking longer distances.

	Community and Support: Roseheyworth is a vital part of our local community. Its closure risks disrupting established social networks and support systems that many families rely on. Impact on Vulnerable Pupils: I am specifically concerned about how this move will affect children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN) who require a stable and familiar environment. While I understand the council's financial pressures, I believe the long-term impact on our children's wellbeing and education far outweighs the projected savings. I urge the Cabinet to reconsider this decision and explore alternative solutions that keep Roseheyworth Road Campus open. I look forward to receiving acknowledgement of this objection and hearing how these concerns will be addressed in the final Objection Report.
23	I am writing in regards to the proposed closure of Roseheyworth road school. I object to the closure, I am a mother to two children currently attending the school, my daughter is 2 and attending Mini Me's which are based in the school, and my son who is 8 is currently in year 3, he also is a SEND child with autism and ADHD. Closing the school would have a massive effect on my son who like many children with ASD struggle with change to their daily routine, he has been at the school from the beginning, and feels safe and happy there, he actually enjoys going there. I also have an 18 year old who attended Roseheyworth and I myself attended when it was first opened, it's an amazing school with teachers who actually care for our children's needs, it's not just a school it is a community, one built on many years of family and friendships. It's also in a great location for surrounding families, moving our children to the other suggested schools would just not work for those families as the other schools are just too far for them to walk, especially during bad weather conditions. But for my son the change of school is just not an option, he is currently thriving in Roseheyworth, he is happy and content, with being a child with autism is difficult at the best of times, moving him would set him right back to being in a shell and just refusing to attend school where his attendance would drop even more. As for my daughter her favourite place in the world is mini me's, all my children attended there and they are by far the best childminding service, they are also a flying start childminder, which is perfect for working families in the area. I feel those wanting to close the school are not thinking of the actual effects it will have on our children especially our special needs children. I fully object to the closure of the school.
24	this is to say I strongly object to the closure of Roseheyworth school. more pupils at the other 2 campuses will mean overcrowding and even more parking issues. also no thought has been given to mini me's pre school
25	this is to say I strongly object to the closure of Roseheyworth school. more pupils at the other 2 campuses will mean overcrowding and even more parking issues. also no thought has been given to mini me's pre school
26	I am writing to object to the proposal to close Roseheyworth campus. My reasons are that the numbers have not significantly dropped over a long enough period to see if this will continue to decline. The children that have to be moved to another school Tillery Street is nearly at full capacity, adding more children to classes is unfair it is going to spread staff even more thinly.

	I have seen no positive impact from creating the 3-16 campus. The schools hardly cross over all that is it has created for the primary schools is more work to ensure they are learning the same and covering the same topics. By going back to individual schools you can reduce the SMT this will significantly lower costs
27	This email is to object to the proposal to reduce the capacity at Roseheyworth school.
28	I am writing to formally object to the proposal to close the Roseheyworth Road Campus as part of the reduction in primary capacity at Abertillery Learning Community. While I understand the financial pressures facing the Council, I do not believe this proposal sufficiently considers the long-term impact on pupils, families, staff, and the wider community. Closing the campus would remove an important local educational provision and place unnecessary strain on the remaining campuses. The Roseheyworth Road Campus is more than simply a building. It provides children with stability, familiarity, and a strong sense of community. Relocating pupils risks disrupting their education, wellbeing, friendships, and emotional security at a crucial stage in their development. I am also deeply concerned about the wider consequences of this proposal, including: - Increased travel difficulties and costs for families. - Greater pressure on staffing, classroom space, and resources at the remaining campuses. - Reduced accessibility for local children. - The long-term decline of community facilities and opportunities within the area. Although declining pupil numbers have been referenced, school numbers can fluctuate over time, whereas the loss of a school campus is often permanent. Once closed, it is extremely difficult and costly to restore such provision in the future. I strongly urge the Council and Full Council members to reconsider this proposal and explore alternative solutions that protect educational quality without closing the Roseheyworth Road Campus. Financial challenges should not outweigh the educational and social needs of children and families. I respectfully request that this objection is fully considered as part of the statutory process and that all alternative options are transparently reviewed before any final decision is made.
29	The Community Council held an extraordinary meeting on Wednesday 18 March to discuss the proposed closure of Roseheyworth school and the Council's response to that proposal. It is with some dismay that the Council has heard about this proposal, given the current poor state of education within our area and all the indices that show that Blaenau Gwent is near the bottom nationally in educational achievement. We are also concerned that the Community Council was not brought into the debate around our schools at an early stage. We have heard a great deal recently about the need to work in partnership, but it seems yet again we have not been part of the process. You either treat us as partners and as adults or you don't. This sort of action does nothing to cut off the overall skepticism that that has built up about the use of The Charter and "The Deal" We are aware of the financial difficulties that many local authorities are faced with and that some tough decisions have to be made but the Community Council feels that this proposal flies in direct opposition to the Marmot principles, especially "Give every child the best start in life", that the Council has been espousing in its selling of "The Deal".

We feel that instead of cuts to education, there should be better investment and this proposal smacks of short-termism to plug a current financial gap with no regard for the social and financial costs that this will lead to 5 or 10 years down the line and irrespective of the direct damaging impacts to children and their families.

There are several things we wish you to note, and we would be pleased to hear your response:

1. We are disappointed that the closure is purely a budgetary decision and not fully considering the quality of the Children's educational needs.
2. Studies have shown that smaller class sizes have a beneficial effect on attainment, albeit small. Closing the school will lead to bigger class sizes elsewhere in the ALC area.
3. As per point 2, a more strategic approach to catchment areas could easily deliver smaller class sizes to ensure our children have a better foundation for their future learning.
4. 30 is the statutory maximum for a primary class. With over 150 children being added to the 2 remaining schools, class sizes will inevitably be close to or above this maximum (excluding numbers in corridors).
5. For comparison the average pupil teacher ratio in Wales is 1 teacher to 21.4 children.
6. Average class sizes in Wales are 24.7 Infant and 26.1 Junior. Surely if Blaenau Gwent children are to improve, they need class sizes below the National Average to give a stronger foundation for learning due to current educational attainment in Blaenau Gwent.
7. Wales has the LOWEST levels of attainment of all the UK nations in the PISA tables. This proposal does nothing to address this issue.
8. From 2024 to 2025, Wales lost 567 Full Time Equivalent Teachers and 785 Full Time Equivalent Support Workers. Surely this trend cannot continue with the PISA results and Blaenau Gwent's results on Educational Attainment.
9. Educational outcomes in Blaenau Gwent are among the worst in Wales! A* to A grades at GCSE in the highest performing authority in Wales is 29.1%. In stark contrast in Blaenau Gwent, it's 11.5% and even at A* to C grades the highest is 73.3% compared with a disappointing 56.6% in Blaenau Gwent.
10. Transport is a major issue in this area. School sites are regularly log jammed in the mornings and at the end of school with more vehicles than the area's roads can manage. This will only add to the problems in Tillery Street and Six Bells. Neither site, given the congestion, would be able to accommodate any form of bus transport as access to both sites is severely limited.
11. However if no transport is provided, we will have children as young as 4 having to walk over a mile to get to either of the remaining sites. This cannot be the best way for them to start the day if they are accessing their education tired from the exertion. Do you have figures on the number and age groups of children who will now have to walk to schools?

	12. Access to pre and post school clubs and activities will be constrained by the availability (or lack of) of parents to provide transport at different times, and if children are expected to walk this will make their school day exceedingly long and tiring. 13. Access to pre and post school clubs and activities will be constrained by the availability (or lack of) of parents to provide transport at different times, and if children are expected to walk this will make their school day exceedingly long and tiring. 14. The only alternative to this is even more concerning in an area of Blaenau Gwent with one of the most financially deprived areas having to pay for taxis or service bus fares at a cost of between approximately £6 and £10 each way per day. 15. Personal consideration for the students at Roseheyworth clearly is not a factor here as far as the Authority is concerned. The children would have many of their friendship groups split, a significant loss of green space for their leisure and free time, problems accessing extracurricular provision and corridor working which, at least one of the remaining sites, is already being substantially overused. 16. Another major consideration is the needs of children with ALN and/or with IDP. The upheaval for these children will be immense and COULD even leave children feeling unable to attend school due to the level of disruption to the routines they rely on to cope with the educational situation. 17. Finally, as a minor authority who should be given far more information, if we are really to be considered part of 'The Deal' here in Blaenau Gwent, a full set of Financial details needs to be sent to us alongside a full set of personal and educational implications for our children also, a full report on the student and community impact that this closure will have for our area. 18. The proposal only gives the numbers for children of school age, it has not included the numbers of Nursery and Reception children who would have flowed through to Roseheyworth school in the next few years. 19. Can you inform us what other proposals were considered within the Blaenau Gwent area to make up the shortfall in the budget? 20. We were astonished to see that 13 senior staff at Abertillery Learning community have combined salaries of £1.1 million, so can you point out where this top-heavy management structure actually helps to educate our children and is this same top heavy management structure duplicated across other schools within the Blaenau Gwent area?
30	I am writing to oppose the proposed closure of Roseheyworth Campus. The plan raises serious concerns about safety, capacity, and fairness for local families. Roseheyworth is not an old building. It opened in 2000, and the staff and pupils clearly work hard to keep it looking presentable. If there are any problems with the structure or facilities, that is the council's responsibility as the body in charge of maintenance. Any lack of investment over the years should not now be used as a reason to shut the school or disadvantage the community. The alternative sites simply do not have the space to take on more pupils. Abertillery Primary is already in a tight, heavily congested area with constant traffic issues. Adding extra children would create overcrowded classrooms and unsafe drop-off conditions. This is not a suitable or sustainable solution.

	Closing Roseheyworth also removes all spare capacity in the area. There would be no room to cope with future increases in birth rates or the arrival of resettlement families. Removing an entire campus leaves the community with no flexibility at all, which is poor planning. Blaenau Gwent faces some of the worst health inequalities in Wales. According to the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation, the area ranks lowest in Wales for overall health and has the highest premature mortality rates. Overcrowded schools are linked to higher infection rates and poorer ventilation, which is especially concerning in an area already struggling with poor health outcomes. Cramped conditions also make it harder to support children with physical health needs, chronic conditions, mobility issues, or neurological differences. There is also understandable concern about what the council intends to do with the site. It is unlikely that a relatively modern building would be demolished or left empty with ongoing security costs. This raises questions about whether there are other plans for the land, and the community deserves transparency before any decision is made. The proposal also appears to conflict with several Welsh Government duties, including the Well-being of Future Generations Act, the School Organisation Code, the Learner Travel Measure, and the ALN Act, all of which emphasise safety, accessibility, and long-term planning. For these reasons, I strongly urge the council to reconsider. Closing Roseheyworth would create more problems than it solves and would negatively affect children, families, and the wider community.
31	I am writing to formally object to the proposed closure of Roseheyworth Primary School Campus in Abertillery. It was encouraging and very interesting to see the support from Plaid and Reform Senedd Members at the recent peaceful protest outside St Michaels Church (No Labour BG Councillors present - disgusting). BGCBC does not want this to become a political football but momentum is making this into a political snowball that is growing by the day! This decision raises serious concerns not only for the pupils currently attending the school, but also for their families, staff, and the wider community. Roseheyworth School provides a vital, supportive, and specialised learning environment that many of its students rely on to thrive both academically and personally. Disrupting this provision risks significant negative impacts on their education, wellbeing, and development. Also the land is earmarked for 32 dwellings and the school isn't very old and could easily be repurposed to still benefit the community. The whole thing stinks like a fish market and is just a quick fix to make a fast buck at the expense of the people. I am totally opposed to this decision as are many hundreds of local residents.
32	I am writing to strongly object to the proposed closure of Roseheyworth Primary Campus. This decision would have a devastating impact on my children and many other families in the community. My daughter has ASD and ADHD and attends the Nest provision within the school. Roseheyworth has provided her with the support, understanding, stability, and safe environment she desperately needs to thrive. Children with additional learning needs do not cope well with major disruption and change and moving her from the school she feels secure in could seriously affect her emotional wellbeing, development, and education. The staff at Roseheyworth understand xx individual needs and have worked hard to build trust, routine, and consistency around her. This cannot simply be replaced elsewhere. Specialist support and familiar relationships are essential for children like xx, and closing the school would take that away from

	her. My other daughter, is currently in Year 3 and is also happy and settled at the school. Roseheyworth is more than just a school building — it is a caring community where children feel safe, supported, and valued. I believe the council must fully consider the impact this closure will have on vulnerable children, especially those with additional needs. Disrupting their education and emotional stability should not be taken lightly. Please listen to the voices of parents, carers, children, and staff before making such an important decision. I respectfully urge you to reconsider the proposed closure of Roseheyworth Primary Campus.
33	I am strongly objecting to the proposed closure of Roseheyworth Road Campus. There are many reasons that are more numerous due to the lack of detail, clarity and openness of the consultation document. Objective 1 of the document was to lead to "improved education and engagement ". I fail to see how larger class sizes, possibly more mixed year groups in classes and children walking for up to an hour before school begins can lead to improved education. This statement is also derogatory to the dedicated staff that currently provide the education at Roseheyworth Road. The document also states this will " lift education", and "widen scope of intervention" as staff are concentrated in 2 primary campuses. Physically there will be no space in which to carry out intervention. Groups and individuals need areas to concentrate and focus on their intervention, a busy working class with many voices and distractions is not the right environment. Also there has been a severe lack of clarity regarding the provisions that would be in place for the learners with ALN. Currently 2 primary campuses have 'Nest' classrooms. These classes have high staff to pupil ratio and provide an adapted learning environment and routine for their learners. ESTYN report said "provision for ALN is generally strong, especially in lower school" and the Nests "play an important role in supporting social and emotional development, inclusion and wider community engagement". However, although the document states "ALN provision will not be affected by this proposal", there have been no assurances that there are plans or space for this to continue. If the closure should happen and pupil numbers increase in the 2 remaining campuses as well as classes being larger there will also be an increase in the number of children sitting for lunch, accessing the breakfast club, after school clubs and outside areas at break times, meaning that these spaces may be difficult to organise. I also believe that both surrounding areas of Tillery Street and Six bells Campus are unsuitable for extra vehicle numbers as pupils are dropped off and collected from school. Parking is already an issue at both schools, roads are congested for pupils, parents and local residents. For those children that will need to walk to either campus the journey will be long with many roads to cross. There has not been mention of safe walking routes or road crossing patrols at dangerous points along the walking route. As this decision is mostly about money saving, I also object to the closure of Roseheyworth Road while premises will need to be found for the nursery children as the 2 remaining primary schools will be for "4-11" year old. As a 3-16 school to separate the nursery children into alternative accommodation

	while closing a building seems a ridiculous solution as this building will still need staffing and maintaining calling the proposed budgeting savings into question. Finally, the most recent ESTYN report read that "attendance a notable strength", moving children away from their local community will impact the improvement made in attendance. Time constraints, road safety and weather conditions and the economic impact of bus fares will impact attendance. I hope that an alternative solution can be found, one that follows the Gwent Wellbeing Plan, showing action support neighbourhoods and communities.
34	I formally object to the closure of the Roseheyworth primary school. I have recently moved into the area to be able to walk my kids to and from school as transport was becoming too expensive. Now this closure will mean me having to spend more time and money using public transport again! My kids love their school and their father has been to that school before them! I've seen older schools stay open longer it just seems to be a waste of a beautiful school and beautiful grounds! So for me I do not accept the proposal to close the school!
35	I am writing to formally object to the proposed closure of Roseheyworth Campus within Abertillery Learning Community. Roseheyworth is a vital and valued educational site that should not be considered for closure. The campus was only built in 2000, making it a relatively modern facility that continues to serve pupils and the community effectively. Closing a school of this age is neither financially responsible nor in the best interests of learners, especially when it remains fit for purpose and provides a safe, spacious, and nature-rich environment. The council has stated that financial savings must be made, but these savings should not come at the expense of children's education, wellbeing, or safety. Schools and pupils should not suffer because of budget pressures. Once a school is closed, the impact on families and the community is permanent and cannot be reversed. Abertillery Primary, the next nearest school, is located in the middle of a busy street with significant traffic and parking issues. The area already struggles with congestion, and there is no realistic capacity to safely accommodate additional pupils. The site lacks the space, facilities, and infrastructure needed to absorb the numbers that would be displaced from Roseheyworth. In contrast, Roseheyworth offers extensive grounds, fields, and natural surroundings that support children's wellbeing, outdoor learning, and physical activity—benefits that cannot be replicated elsewhere. I also wish to highlight the strategic importance of maintaining capacity across the wider Abertillery Learning Community. Six Bells Campus was specifically designed with additional capacity to ensure resilience should anything happen to Sofrydd School, which has historically had low pupil numbers and is in a poor structural condition. This contingency planning was intentional and necessary. If Roseheyworth is closed and its pupils are redistributed, Six Bells will no longer have the essential spare capacity required to safeguard provision should Sofrydd become unusable. Removing this buffer undermines long-term planning and puts the entire cluster at risk. In addition, several Welsh Government policies and statutory duties are relevant to this proposal: 1. The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 This Act requires public bodies to make decisions that support long-term community wellbeing, sustainability, and resilience. Closing a modern school with safe outdoor space contradicts the Act's goals of a healthier Wales, a resilient Wales, and cohesive communities. 2. The School Organisation Code (2018) Under this Code, local authorities must demonstrate that any school closure proposal is in the best interests of learners, does not reduce access to local education, does not create overcrowding, and fully considers the impact on travel, safety, and community cohesion. Given the lack of space and safety concerns at alternative campuses, this proposal does not meet these requirements.

	3. The Learner Travel (Wales) Measure 2008 This legislation requires councils to ensure that children have safe and reasonable travel routes to school. Moving pupils from Roseheyworth—a safe, spacious site—to a congested, traffic-heavy location raises serious concerns about compliance with this duty. 4. The Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 Many pupils rely on stable, familiar, and accessible school environments. Displacing children, particularly those with ALN, to a more crowded and less suitable site risks breaching the duty to provide appropriate learning environments and reasonable adjustments. 5. Welsh Government’s commitment to community schools Policy guidance emphasises the importance of maintaining local schools that serve their immediate communities. Closing Roseheyworth would force many families to travel further, increase traffic pressures, and undermine the principle of community-based education. For all these reasons, I strongly oppose the closure of Roseheyworth Campus and urge the council to reconsider this proposal in the best interests of pupils, families, and the wider community.
36	My son is currently in year 4 and attends Roseheyworth primary school, this school has been amazing for my son, he has developed close friendships which will only be affected if they have to move schools, all of his teachers know him very well and have helped grow his confidence in his learning, my son is currently undergoing screening for dyslexia at his school this will be affected if he has to move, my son receives daily interventions to help with his reading and if put into another school with already nearly max capacity things like that will not be able to happen due to increased numbers and less staff. I have heard the Tilley street and six bells are already struggling with numbers and parking is a massive problem for collections and drop offs. My son also attends breakfast club at Roseheyworth, this is vital for me being able to get to work on time, would breakfast club be able to accommodate all the new children? He also attends Mini Me’s childminder who have their own room at Roseheyworth, again this is vital to me being able to work, it is also very convenient for my son as all he has to do is walk down the corridor to Mini Me’s, where will Mini me’s go if the school closes? Will it increase the cost as it will mean my son will need to be collected instead? This closure of Roseheyworth will not benefit children/staff or parents! It will only make things harder for all, that school is amazing and should not be closed due to expenses that are not the fault of anyone but the council. I do not want this closure of Roseheyworth primary school and other alternates should be considered instead.
37	The closure of this school is absolute nonsense. Firstly, the top 11 earning £1.1million and that figure going up even though you will be getting rid of a school? How does that maths work out? You say you're keeping the building in education - again how does that maths work out? How can you save money if the building is still in education. You still need to fix everything from the same budget? Those ALN children deserve better. Some struggle now. Yet you say there will be no conscioues. Utter rubbish. Moving those children will do more harm than good.

	Classes are maxed out in the other primaries. And there is barely any room to build more classrooms. How do you propose this will work? Sounds like a big farce.... you are using the Roseheyworth Road children as a scapegoat for something and you're not saying what. Shame on you all. I will be voting out any councillors next year who vote yes to this proposal
38	I wish to formally object to the closure Roseheyworth School. Having carefully reviewed the consultation document and supporting evidence, I do not believe that the proposal presents a sufficiently robust, evidence-based case for closure. The consultation fails to adequately address the educational, social, community, transport, and financial implications of the proposal and does not demonstrate that closure would be in the best interests of pupils, families, or the wider community. Educational Impact The proposal provides insufficient detail regarding how educational standards will be maintained following the redistribution of pupils across other campuses. In particular, there is little evidence to demonstrate how increased class sizes will support improved outcomes in literacy and numeracy, especially when existing data identifies these areas as priorities for improvement. As a 3–16 school, the secondary phase is already performing below national benchmarks in several key areas. Evidence from educational research consistently demonstrates that smaller class sizes support improved attainment, particularly during the primary years when pupils are developing fundamental literacy, numeracy, communication, and social skills. The Estyn report identified the need to improve the quality of teaching and strengthen opportunities for pupils to develop literacy and numeracy skills. The proposal does not explain how these recommendations will be addressed following closure and, in reality, risks making improvement more difficult by increasing class sizes and reducing opportunities for personalised support. Furthermore, the ambitions of the Curriculum for Wales—to develop ambitious, capable learners, healthy and confident individuals, and ethical, informed citizens—are best achieved in environments that provide adequate space, strong pupil-teacher relationships, and opportunities for both academic and personal development. Roseheyworth School benefits from extensive outdoor learning opportunities and a nurturing environment that directly supports these objectives. Impact on Wellbeing and Vulnerable Learners The consultation gives insufficient consideration to the wellbeing of pupils, particularly those with Additional Learning Needs (ALN), anxiety-related conditions, or other vulnerabilities. Many pupils rely on familiarity, routine, consistency, and trusted relationships to engage successfully with education. Relocating learners into larger settings, alongside increased travel times and changes to established support structures, creates significant risks to wellbeing, attendance, behaviour, and attainment. Of particular concern is the limited consideration given to ALN provision. Learners with additional needs require specialist support tailored to their individual circumstances. A change of setting may lead to increased anxiety, school avoidance, behavioural regression, and disruption to progress identified within Individual Development Plans (IDPs) and Education Health Care Plans (EHCPs).

The consultation also fails to address the impact on young carers. These children often depend upon local schooling, predictable routines, and community support networks. Disrupting these arrangements risks placing additional pressure on pupils who already undertake significant caring responsibilities.

Questionable Pupil Projections and Capacity Assumptions

The proposal relies heavily on projected pupil numbers and birth-rate forecasts; however, the sources underpinning these projections are not clearly presented within the consultation documentation.

Transparency is essential when making decisions of this magnitude. Any projections used to justify closure should be publicly available, independently verifiable, and capable of scrutiny.

The consultation states that Roseheyworth School has 127 pupils. However, this figure excludes nursery-aged children and Rising 3s. When these learners are included, the number is closer to 161 pupils. This discrepancy raises concerns regarding the accuracy of the assessment and the assumptions being used to determine future sustainability.

In addition, insufficient consideration has been given to local housing growth, inward migration, and regeneration initiatives. Blaenau Gwent is projected to experience population growth over the coming decade, supported by investment in housing, transport infrastructure, and economic regeneration.

Approximately 56 new homes are anticipated within the local area between 2026 and 2029.

Given the affordability of housing within the Abertillery area and ongoing regeneration efforts, it is reasonable to question whether future demand for school places may increase rather than decline.

Community Impact

Roseheyworth School serves as a significant educational and community asset. As the Millennium School, it holds an important place within the local community and provides facilities and services that extend beyond education alone.

The conclusion within the Community Impact Assessment that closure would result in minimal or no impact is difficult to accept and appears inconsistent with the evidence available.

The proposal would also affect associated community services, including Mini Mes childcare provision, which provides essential wraparound care and after-school support for local families. Any disruption to these services would have practical, financial, and emotional consequences for parents and carers.

Schools are often at the centre of community life, and their closure can have long-lasting consequences for social cohesion, community identity, and local participation.

Financial Concerns

While the proposal references a projected deficit exceeding £900,000 and forecasts future pressures of up to £4 million, it does not clearly demonstrate how the closure of Roseheyworth School will generate meaningful long-term savings.

Several potentially significant costs appear to be underrepresented or omitted entirely, including:

Home-to-school transport for displaced pupils.

Infrastructure improvements required to support safe routes to school.

- Traffic management measures.
- Additional parking provision and site adaptations at receiving campuses.
- Transitional costs associated with pupil relocation and support services.

Furthermore, the financial argument relating to the age and maintenance costs of the building is weakened by the council's own statement that the site will remain within the education portfolio. If the building is retained for educational purposes, maintenance liabilities are unlikely to disappear and may continue to generate expenditure.

Transport and Safety Concerns

The consultation lacks detailed evidence regarding traffic assessments, parking capacity, and safe routes to school.

Both the Tillery Street and Six Bells campuses already experience challenges associated with congestion and parking. Increasing pupil numbers at these sites will inevitably place additional pressure on existing infrastructure.

The Welsh Government's Safe Routes to School principals require local authorities to identify and mitigate risks relating to traffic, pedestrian safety, and accessibility. The absence of any detailed analysis within the consultation represents a significant omission.

The proposal also fails to explain how breakfast club access will be maintained for pupils requiring transport. Without reliable transport arrangements, many families may lose access to a service that supports attendance, health, wellbeing, and educational attainment.

Whilst transport costs are estimated at £30,000 annually, there is little reassurance regarding the long-term sustainability of these arrangements, particularly given reductions to similar services in neighbouring authorities.

Insufficient Evidence Base

Attendance concerns are cited as part of the rationale for change; however, these figures are presented at a whole-campus level rather than being analysed across the distinct phases of the 3–16 model. This approach limits transparency and may obscure important differences between age groups.

Overall, the consultation does not provide sufficient evidence to justify such a significant and irreversible decision. Key issues relating to educational quality, pupil wellbeing, ALN provision, transport, safety, community impact, and long-term financial sustainability remain inadequately addressed.

Conflict with Marmot Principles

Blaenau Gwent Council has committed to the Marmot principles of reducing inequalities, strengthening communities, and improving health and wellbeing outcomes.

This proposal appears inconsistent with those commitments. The disruption caused to children's education, the impact on vulnerable learners, and the weakening of local community infrastructure risk increasing inequalities rather than reducing them.

	Personal Experience As a parent of children currently in Year 4 and Year 1 at Roseheyworth School, I have witnessed firsthand the positive impact that the school's environment, class sizes, and individualised approach have had on their educational development. My son is currently reading at a comprehensive-school level and is excelling in literacy and numeracy. My daughter, despite being in Year 1, is already working at a level approaching Year 3 in reading, literacy, and numeracy due to the support and opportunities provided within her mixed-age class. It is difficult to conclude that these outcomes would have been achieved in a larger, more crowded educational setting where opportunities for individual attention are inevitably reduced. These experiences reflect a broader concern shared by many parents: that increased class sizes and reduced access to personalised support will have a detrimental impact on pupil attainment and wellbeing
39	We As Roseheyworth PTFA fully object to the closure of Roseheyworth Primary School. This proposal does not meet the needs of our community & it certainly does not fall under Blaenau Gwent County Borough Councils new mission statement as a Marmot Council with Torfaen County Borough Council. The proposal is incomplete, insufficiently evidenced, and fails to account for the educational, social, and financial consequences of the changes being suggested. The needs of the wider community, vulnerable individuals including ALN Children, staff & pupils at Roseheyworth have been pushed aside. Educational Impact Our primary concern is the educational impact on our children. Larger class sizes will inevitably reduce teaching quality. The Iestyn report states that better opportunities need to be provided to improve literacy & numeracy skills for pupils. It also states that teaching quality needs to improve so that pupils can make suitable progress. With larger class sizes how will targeted support be provided? We know that as a 3-16 model the secondary school is significantly underperforming in these areas so how do larger class sizes help with this situation? Larger class sizes & lack of teacher support due to redundancies will inevitably reduce the amount of targeted support and enhanced educational qualities our children & teaching staff currently maintain at Roseheyworth. Evidence of research in Europe says that smaller class sizes in Europe & other areas around the world are fundamental to enhanced learning experiences. We have learned whilst gathering evidence over the past 5 weeks that two whole classes of children at Tillery Street Campus were until recently being taught FULL TIME in one of the corridors because of lack of space. It was addressed by parents & swept under the carpet. We were appalled at learning this. This is neither safe or practical for learning standards & this could repeat itself if Roseheyworth is closed. Our children should be championed in all aspects of the foundational stage from individual learning to individual wellbeing. Larger class sizes will decrease the chances of this.

Larger classes are also of massive concern to us especially after the recent Sickness & Diarrhoea outbreak within Abertillery Learning Community. Roseheyworth had to be closed for a deep clean for 24 hours because of this incident. How will further outbreaks be manageable with such large class sizes? How many more days of school would our children miss due to such occasions? Surely this puts our children at larger risk of becoming ill?

Overcrowded environments will not benefit the mental health & wellbeing of our pupils or our staff. We have an abundance of space at Roseheyworth including a new forest school area and yard areas that almost exceed the overall space of outdoor play & learning at Tillery

Street & Six Bells combined. As PTFA we have been fundraising tirelessly to upgrade our outdoor spaces & have recently looked into funding & have been quoted for the resurfacing & replacement of outdoor areas & play/educational equipment at no cost to Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council. We also use these areas to host events throughout the year that welcome the community hence improving the mental health & wellbeing of not just everyone at school but also the wider community.

The other two campuses have not been able to hold events as large because of lack of space & safety aspects.

Our children & staff also use the field next to school as it is a completely safe & accessible transition from the school yard for our children. No roads need to be crossed & there is zero risk from traffic intervention, making it an ideal place for our children to play & learn.

ALN

ALN provision is one of the most important things that needs to be addressed and yet it is notably absent from the consultation document.

Our ALN children at Roseheyworth have built trusting, safe relationships with our staff. A change of campus for our ALN children at this crucial foundation stage could cause regression in behaviour & learning, increased anxiety, school avoidance & increased need for educational & emotional support. This would lead to increased pressure on parents, children & staff.

Most ALN pupils rely heavily on routine, familiarity and stable environments. Even short term disruption would affect their Education Health & Care Plans & their Individual Development Plans. This would delay their Literacy & Numeracy interventions & will impact

their attendance all adding to stress upon theirs, their parents & their teachers mental health & wellbeing & leading to decreased attendance levels at school & negative responses to the lestyn report.

ALN pupils with sensory needs & social communication difficulties who are currently comfortable in their learning/social environment at Roseheyworth will struggle massively with increased class sizes, larger social groups, busier playground & canteen environments.

This also applies for the ALN children that already attend the other two campuses, how will they cope with the change? You have not addressed how any of our ALN children's needs will be met. We currently have two 'Nests' at Roseheyworth for ALN children. They both have safe areas for the children to learn & play and our ALN children thrive in these areas. Moving these children to mainstream learning or forcing them into ALN provisions at Tillery Street & Six Bells that are already pushed for resources would be detrimental to a healthy future for these children & the children that already attend the other two campuses.

Tell us what has happened to the planned resource base at Roseheyworth? We know that a further resource base is desperately needed in Abertillery and we know that the resource base in Six Bells is at maximum capacity. Our ALN children cannot under any circumstances be expected to transition into mainstream.

Young Carers

We have a number of young carers at Roseheyworth. These children have been completely overlooked. Their responsibilities are already at a strain & moving them away from the proximity to the people that they care for will only add to this stress.

Pupil numbers & Nursery/rising 3 exclusion from the proposal

We currently have 161 pupils in attendance at Roseheyworth. This includes 30 nursery children & 5 rising 3's as of this term (April).

As a 3-16 model the nursery/rising 3 numbers should never have been excluded from this consultation. A question that was raised at our Public meeting has never been answered. How do Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council propose to accommodate the current 102 nursery/rising 3 children within the statutory numbers? As currently as it stands, down to your figures there will not be enough space to accommodate these children.

Rise in population

With upcoming planned redundancies in Ystruth Primary School & the current lack of space across the borough how will it be possible to accommodate unplanned intakes.

We recently had an influx of children on the role at Roseheyworth from a migration situation. What happens if we are in this situation again? 22 affordable homes aimed at young families are to be built by Melin on the former Bowls Club site on Vivian Street in Six Bells & between 2026 - 2029 there are a minimum of 56 affordable homes projected to be built in the local area not to mention an influx of Children's Care Homes currently planned for various sites in the borough.

How will the influx of children be accommodated? How robust & stress tested are your projections based on this planned housing growth, alongside migration patterns & future change in parental preferences in particular with the stresses that will be put upon lack of school transport?

What are your sources for future birth rates as the consultation provides no evidence for this? Gov.Wales have projected a population increase of 5.6% in a ten year period between 2022 & 2032 for Blaenau Gwent. With your own plans of creating a transport link & the railway line being extended to Abertillery, local regeneration including The Heads of the Valley Strategic Programme bringing new jobs & hence new families to the area, also being attracted by the prospect of some of the lowest house prices in the UK in our borough (Abertillery in particular) & with great transport links to Cardiff & Bristol when the new station at Abertillery arrives, then how can you possibly project the intake of new children at ALC?

It is our prediction that at this point that two Primary campuses will not be able to accommodate the influx of children.

Figures

Since the proposal was released we as PTFA have requested numerous freedom of information documents & figures from various sources. Your figures & the responses to us need to be looked into by yourselves.

The last maintenance report produced for ALC was during 2022. Would it not have made sense to obtain the current maintenance report which is due in June 2026 before even considering putting forward this proposal?

We requested a schedule of works at Roseheyworth & we know that most have been carried out & that the majority of work needed on the building is cosmetic. The building has also only recently since Christmas had new security doors fitted on the corridors & a new CCTV system.

It was stated by Steven Thomas during our public meeting that the school will 100% be kept within the education sector. Then surely these maintenance costs will still need to be met & what is the difference in keeping it open as a primary school than as of something else in education? How do you plan on saving the money?

Why are recent election candidates stating that the site is ear marked for 32 dwellings? Have we been lied to? By moving Roseheyworth students how will you plan to balance the figures & save money from the projected deficit?

You mentioned in our Public meeting about restructure & possibly even adding space to Six Bells & Tillery Street Campuses this will inevitably cost 100's of thousands of pounds. With the added pressure of extra works traffic at already congested drop off & pick up times.

Adding to this cost will be the safety assessment & adjustments to the road safety aspects. Extra road crossings, increased street lighting, extra salting of pavements in winter months, extra car parking spaces including access for more disabled vehicles, improved emergency access & inevitably the cost of parking wardens or police presence when the traffic becomes so congested with the added cars from Roseheyworth parents. Traffic flow is already at maximum stress levels at Tillery Street & Six Bells.

As per guidance from the Welsh Governments 'safe routes to school' initiative, what happens if the routes to Tillery Street & Six Bells are deemed to be unavailable or unsafe? We know that Gladstone Street & Oak Street in particular are high traffic areas & are particularly dangerous especially with Gladstone Street being the main bus route from Abertillery to Brynmawr. How do you plan on getting our children to school safely & mitigating the costs of this?

Someone was recently knocked down on Gladstone Street & roads had to be closed for some time. There are constant accidents along Gladstone Street & Oak Street.

Added to this is the proposed £30,000 a year cost to transport a small proportion of children who currently attend Roseheyworth to & from Tillery Street & Six Bells. This solution is not cost effective as the majority of children at our school will not qualify for this service as they live under the required mileage radius.

Breakfast Club, After School Provision & Mini Me's Pre-School

We currently provide 60 children with breakfast club supervision at Roseheyworth. The Welsh Government Breakfast Club Provision aims to improve health, nutrition and educational attainment. If funding is not provided to allow the 60 children at Roseheyworth that currently attend breakfast club to access the provision at the other campuses, surely the aims of the Welsh Government initiative are not met by Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council.

Mini Me's also currently provides after school provision for a number of Roseheyworth pupils, how will you plan to help the parents of these children during the proposed transition?

	Minis is currently running at full capacity. The setting also provides Flying Start provision. Can you assure parents that Mini Me's will stay within the Roseheyworth Community? There are parents that currently walk their children to Mini Mes from the Roseheyworth Community. Will you foot the transport costs for these children to a new setting? There are also working parents that drop children to Breakfast Club at Roseheyworth & then younger siblings to Mini Me's how do you plan to help the working parents that currently do this? There are also parents that don't drive but don't live in your free transport catchment area. These parents also have children that attend Roseheyworth & have siblings at Mini Me's. How do you plan to help these parents? Community Impact The support that Roseheyworth Primary & Roseheyworth PTFA have been shown since the proposal release has been unprecedented. We have taken the time to chat to people within the community & not one person has disagreed with our objection to closure. We have the full support for non closure from the recently elected Plaid Cymru & Reform Senedd members. They have listened to our concerns and even attended our recent protest in support. The community feedback from this protest was 100% objection to closure. Roseheyworth Primary has both Emotional & Historical significance being the Millenium School & its closure would have a massive impact on the people of Roseheyworth & surrounding areas as it is the heart of the community. As previously mentioned, Roseheyworth PTFA have held many events at Roseheyworth Primary, including Summer Fayres, Christmas Markets, Easter Egg Hunts, Community Bingo nights to name just a few. These events bring our community together & the loss of these events would be catastrophic. Your community assessment states that there will be neutral to no effect on the surrounding community & this could not be further from the truth. Your new Marmot Council mission statement says: 'We're committed to a bold and important ambition: to reduce health inequalities and improve the lives of everyone in our communities - no matter where they live, what they earn, or what background they come from' If you want everyone to 'thrive in a fair, inclusive & resilient community' as you state then we as Roseheyworth PTFA urge you to retract this proposal & keep Roseheyworth Primary open for our children & their families, our teachers and our community. Listen to our concerns & provide us with a brighter, healthier future. Stand by your statements because our children deserve stability, safety, and an environment that nurtures their potential. Roseheyworth Primary has been, and continues to be a fantastic setting where children are given the very best educational experiences. We hope you take our concerns on board. ALC Roseheyworth Primary PTFA
40	I hereby formally OBJECT to the closure Roseheyworth Primary School. My reasonings are as follows:

Educational Impact

The proposal provides insufficient detail regarding how educational standards will be maintained following the redistribution of pupils across other campuses. In particular, there is little evidence to demonstrate how increased class sizes will support improved outcomes in literacy and numeracy, especially when existing data identifies these areas as priorities for improvement.

As a 3–16 school, the secondary phase is already performing below national benchmarks in several key areas. Evidence from educational research consistently demonstrates that smaller class sizes support improved attainment, particularly during the primary years when pupils are developing fundamental literacy, numeracy, communication, and social skills.

The Estyn report identified the need to improve the quality of teaching and strengthen opportunities for pupils to develop literacy and numeracy skills. The proposal does not explain how these recommendations will be addressed following closure and, in reality, risks making improvement more difficult by increasing class sizes and reducing opportunities for personalised support.

Furthermore, the ambitions of the Curriculum for Wales—to develop ambitious, capable learners, healthy and confident individuals, and ethical, informed citizens—are best achieved in environments that provide adequate space, strong pupil-teacher relationships, and opportunities for both academic and personal development. Roseheyworth School benefits from extensive outdoor learning opportunities and a nurturing environment that directly supports these objectives.

Impact on Wellbeing and Vulnerable Learners

The consultation gives insufficient consideration to the wellbeing of pupils, particularly those with Additional Learning Needs (ALN), anxiety-related conditions, or other vulnerabilities. Many pupils rely on familiarity, routine, consistency, and trusted relationships to engage successfully with education. Relocating learners into larger settings, alongside increased travel times and changes to established support structures, creates significant risks to wellbeing, attendance, behaviour, and attainment.

Of particular concern is the limited consideration given to ALN provision. Learners with additional needs require specialist support tailored to their individual circumstances. A change of setting may lead to increased anxiety, school avoidance, behavioural regression, and disruption to progress identified within Individual Development Plans (IDPs) and Education Health Care Plans (EHCPs).

The consultation also fails to address the impact on young carers. These children depend upon their local schooling at Roseheyworth, predictable routines, and community support networks. Disrupting these arrangements risks placing additional pressure on pupils who already undertake significant caring responsibilities.

Questionable Pupil Projections and Capacity Assumptions

The proposal relies heavily on projected pupil numbers and birth-rate forecasts; however, the sources underpinning these projections are not clearly presented within the consultation documentation. Transparency is essential when making decisions of this magnitude. Any projections used to justify closure should be publicly available, independently verifiable, and capable of scrutiny.

The consultation states that Roseheyworth School has 127 pupils. However, this figure excludes nursery-aged children and Rising 3s. When these learners are included, the number is closer to 161 pupils. This discrepancy raises concerns regarding the accuracy of the assessment and the assumptions being used to determine future sustainability.

In addition, insufficient consideration has been given to local housing growth, inward migration, and regeneration initiatives. Blaenau Gwent is projected to experience population growth over the coming decade, supported by investment in housing, transport infrastructure, and economic regeneration. Approximately 56 new homes are anticipated within the local area between 2026 and 2029. Given the affordability of housing within the Abertillery area and ongoing regeneration efforts, it is reasonable to question whether future demand for school places may increase rather than decline.

Community Impact

Roseheyworth School serves as a significant educational and community asset. As the Millennium School, it holds an important place within the local community and provides facilities and services that extend beyond education alone. The conclusion within the Community Impact Assessment that closure would result in minimal or no impact is difficult to accept and appears inconsistent with the evidence available.

As Co. Chair of PTFA the fact that 'Little or no community impact' has been stated within this proposal has shocked and saddened me. I regularly help to organise community events at Roseheyworth Primary to which the entire surrounding community attend. From Christmas Markets, Summer Fayres, Bingo Evenings to Easter Events & many many other fundraising activities. We invited outside independent businesses to these events too & this helps them to thrive! The loss of these events would be catastrophic to Roseheyworth and the wider community.

The proposal would also affect associated community services, including Mini Mes childcare provision, which provides essential wraparound care, breakfast care and after-school support for local families. Any disruption to these services would have practical, financial, and emotional consequences for parents and carers.

Schools are often at the centre of community life, and their closure can have long-lasting consequences for social cohesion, community identity, and local participation.

Financial Concerns

While the proposal references a projected deficit exceeding £900,000 and forecasts future pressures of up to £4 million, it does not clearly demonstrate how the closure of Roseheyworth School will generate meaningful long-term savings. Several potentially significant costs appear to be underrepresented or omitted entirely, including:

- Home-to-school transport for displaced pupils.
- Infrastructure improvements required to support safe routes to school.
- Traffic management measures.
- Additional parking provision and site adaptations at receiving campuses.
- Transitional costs associated with pupil relocation and support services.

Furthermore, the financial argument relating to the age and maintenance costs of the building is weakened by the council's own statement that the site will remain within the education portfolio. If the building is retained for educational purposes, maintenance liabilities are unlikely to disappear and may continue to generate expenditure.

Transport and Safety Concerns

The consultation lacks detailed evidence regarding traffic assessments, parking capacity, and safe routes to school.

Both the Tillery Street and Six Bells campuses already experience challenges associated with congestion and parking. Increasing pupil numbers at these sites will inevitably place additional pressure on existing infrastructure.

The Welsh Government's Safe Routes to School principles require local authorities to identify and mitigate risks relating to traffic, pedestrian safety, and accessibility. The absence of any detailed analysis within the consultation represents a significant omission. Both Gladstone Street and Oak Street are both dangerous routes to school. The only other route being the main A467.

The proposal also fails to explain how breakfast club access will be maintained for pupils requiring transport. Without reliable transport arrangements, many families may lose access to a service that supports attendance, health, wellbeing, and educational attainment.

Whilst transport costs are estimated at £30,000 annually, there is little reassurance regarding the long-term sustainability of these arrangements, particularly given reductions to similar services in neighbouring authorities.

Insufficient Evidence Base

Attendance concerns are cited as part of the rationale for change; however, these figures are presented at a whole-campus level rather than being analysed across the distinct phases of the 3–16 model. This approach limits transparency and may obscure important differences between age groups. Overall, the consultation does not provide sufficient evidence to justify such a significant and irreversible decision. Key issues relating to educational quality, pupil wellbeing, ALN provision, transport, safety, community impact, and long-term financial sustainability remain inadequately addressed.

Conflict with Marmot Principles

Blaenau Gwent Council has committed to the Marmot principles of reducing inequalities, strengthening communities, and improving health and wellbeing outcomes. This proposal appears inconsistent with those commitments. The disruption caused to children's education, the impact on vulnerable learners, and the weakening of local community infrastructure risk increasing inequalities rather than reducing them.

Personal Experience

As a parent of two children currently in Year 4 and Year 1 at Roseheyworth School, I have witnessed firsthand the positive impact that the school's environment, class sizes, and individualised approach have had on their educational development.

My son is currently reading at a comprehensive-school level and is excelling in literacy and numeracy. My daughter, despite being in Year 1, is already working at a level approaching Year 3 in reading, literacy, and numeracy due to the support and opportunities provided within her mixed-age class, she is also a MAT learner.

	It is difficult to conclude that these outcomes would have been achieved in a larger, more crowded educational setting where opportunities for individual attention are inevitably reduced. These experiences reflect a broader concern shared by many parents: that increased class sizes and reduced access to personalised support will have a detrimental impact on pupil attainment and wellbeing. I fully object to this proposal. Keep Roseheyworth Primary open, for our children, for our teachers & staff, for a brighter future for everyone.
41	I'm writing to object against the closure of Roseheyworth school in Abertillery. My first reason for this is that you will be taking the children out of there safe environment and putting them into a foreign environment where they will not know the classrooms ,teachers and also taking them out of their friendship groups . My second reason is the parking at the other campuses as it is already horrendous as working parents we are not always able to walk to school, the council keep rolling out in there replies, that they would look at this if this is giving the go ahead, yet have not done anything in the last ten years so I have no confidence in them doing anything at all about this and when there is an accident which is only a matter of time, then it will be on Blaenau Gwent's hands, also you would not get an emergency vehicle up there now let alone after this proposal .Also where would be people with disability be able to drop off or pick up as there are not enough spaces at present. Also u say under this proposal it would be ok to walk 4 5 and 6 years as its under 1.2 miles ,well I would like know who has walked this as it would be over that to Tillery street its up massive hills so they would be exhausted by the time they got school and having to cross 2 busy roads, or to six bells it would mean walking alongside the busy a467 or down a unlit path in the winter and yet again over 1.2 miles so where is the welfare for the children being thought about how are tired children going to be able to strive and learn. Also you say there is space available in the other schools yet some children in Tillery street are already being taught in hallways how can that for one thing be within health and safety rules in the event of a fire or lock down. Also bigger class sizes has been proved to be worse for children's education ,yet this is what as a council you are doing and you have already stated that your biggest saving is going to be on teachers so bigger classes and less teachers equals a worse education, and as the Estyn report was not great last time it's only going to get worse and lead the alc going into special measures and when this does happen will the people who have pushed for this namely Steve Thomas, Sue Edmunds and the other cabinet resign as they would not be fit for purpose. My next reason is ALN provision, everybody at the other two schools is saying they are up to the maximum so where are the ALN children going to go from Roseheyworth which really does alarm me. My next reason is breakfast clubs which is vital to working parents being told that Tillery st and six bells is virtually full so where are the children from Roseheyworth going to go. Then you have mini mes a vital part for pre-school children, a vital part to your government's flying start programme the idea surly is to drop your children into school then your pre-school children into the same setting, but this has been totally overlooked so the council is quite happy to lose this yet the government is pressing for more places seems a very odd policy by the council.

	That bring me to your summer school food and fun which is held in Roseheyworth and very popular because of the massive school grounds compared to the other schools yet no plan has been made for this will this scheme be lost or children crammed into another school with less numbers. My next point is the council keep saying it's a back log of maintenance on the building, yet when pressed on this they have not provided what the maintenance is what are they trying to hide? Is it that the other site buildings that are costing a lot more on maintenance The vast majority of children ,parents and wider communities of Roseheyworth ,Abertillery and surrounding areas were totally against this proposed closure of Roseheyworth school ,and this was in the proposed stage replies yet as a council you have gone against the public outcry on this and gone to the objection stage, absolutely shocking decision you are supposed to serve the public yet you have totally ignored them. As a council you keep saying about the new deal so this looking like a dud to Abertillery straight away as all we have seen is a proposal to close a school. And finally not once have the children or the community been thought about at all ,it does appear the council just looks at numbers on a piece of paper ,it's an absolute shocking look for the council. Not once has the chief executive spoke about the proposal yet again not a good look for the council. So I absolutely oppose the closure of Roseheyworth school.
42	I am emailing with my strong objection to the proposed closure of Roseheyworth primary school. I am totally against this closure for many reasons and reasons i hope will be listened to. My children attend Roseheyworth and for their sakes and all the other local children within the ALC, i am writing this email. Firstly, it has been brought to my attention that both Tillery street and six bells campuses are both very full already with one school using the corridors as classrooms, surely not!? This is a safety concern already!? Where are our extra children from Roseheyworth going to go!? What happens if their is a fire alarm/lockdown procedures are put in force and corridors are already crowded but now with full class sizes!? It is worrying and now poses health and safety risks. Also posing health and safety is the parking at each school. Living locally, I have seen firsthand how crowded and jam packed the car parks at each school already are. As a working parent, i have no choice other than to drive the children to school on my workdays on my way to work. With more cars in an already crammed car park, i am really concerned that this is an accident waiting to happen and concerned for the safety of the children in our community. What if there was an emergency because no emergency service vehicles would be able to access the campuses if people are already struggling to access them in their cars. Parents are already parking illegally on double yellow lines, in bus bays and disabled spots to be able to pick up their children up on time, which leads to me to my next question, how many disabled spots are there at each campus!? My mother is a blue badge holder and we rely on her to pick up the children on our working days, she needs to be able to park closely and i am concerned that with people parking in these spots as no other alternative spaces already that this is another concern for the health and wellbeing of many in the community. What about children with disabled parents!? Not to mention disabled children and those with ALN needs!? What on earth will happen with our ALN children as they are used to having space in the NEST and being with their friends from a young age. As little as 2 years old at mini me's. Do you seriously think moving them to completely different busy and crowded schools is going to be good for their wellbeing. As a mother and an early years practitioner, i can tell you this will be detrimental to their happiness and wellbeing which is my utmost priority in maintaining for my children. I am afraid of my children becoming unhappy and withdrawn being put into new classrooms with new children away from a lot of their friends, I haven't met 1 person along the way since the proposal was leaked to us, that even has a good point about this that even suggests it could work!?

This comment has been redacted as it has no reference to the consultation.

As mentioned before, I drive my children to school on my working days, i do try to walk them on my day off a week where the children enjoy looking for the wildlife on the Roseheyworth playing fields and love the routes we take. Other than walking busy main roads, or unlit secluded paths, there is no safe route to either other campus and walking the children along busy main roads isn't my idea of safe and makes me worry about the educational impact that children will have walking further afield to school. There are no safety crossings in place, narrow pavements, blind bends/junctions to pass and along castle street to walk down to six bells, there isn't even a continuous pavement. Young children cannot reasonably walk this route independently. Poor lighting, high speed traffic on the a467, congestion during school drop off and pick up times all amount to being unsafe. I feel for those who don't drive and will have to walk their children, some with ALN needs or younger siblings and even disabled parents and children walking these routes. This all being more dangerous with weather and seasonal changes, such as inadequate winter lighting, reduced visibility, flooding and icy paths. These routes will increase travel time and will negatively affect attendance, punctuality, and wellbeing of children and families, which leaves me astounded as the closure of Roseheyworth removes a school that children and families can safely access within the local community.

Children as young as 2 are currently attending the Roseheyworth grounds as they attend mini me's which both of our children attended, where they made friends, developed vital social skills and prepared for school life in their school surroundings. The benefits from this early years provision being in the school are clear but to mention the amount of younger siblings that attend there currently and use the wraparound care is massive. They benefit from using the schools forest school and playing fields which help maintain exercise, health and wellbeing and these children usually go on to attend the Roseheyworth nursery and use the wraparound services that mini me's offer. The children here can also have hot school lunches if they stay for lunchtime care which is has such a positive influence on social skills and preparing them for nursery. Where are all of these local children going!? Many of their parents unable to drive, because expecting 2- and 3-year-olds to walk that distance in all weathers on unsafe routes is absolutely ridiculous.

I can't see where the happiness and wellbeing of any of the children, right from mini me's through to year 6 have been thought about in any of this. Let alone their families and this gives me no confidence in our council.

We rely on breakfast club services at Roseheyworth but have been told they are full in the other schools, this is a government funded benefit so I'm assuming we won't be turned away but where will all these children safely go!?

Lastly, the food and fun summer scheme runs from Roseheyworth school for 2 weeks during summer holidays and it's been said its run here because the classrooms, play areas and carparks are all spacious and on one level so it is more practical, what will happen to this scheme? Keeping the level of practicality and benefits to the children to as high standard as it is running at Roseheyworth? Or will this be another blow and a scheme lost in our already deprived community.

I strongly object to the closure.

43 I would like to formally object to the proposed closure of Roseheyworth Primary school Abertillery. The closure of this school is going affect an already struggling community. Roseheyworth is one of the poorest areas in Blaenau Gwent and by closing this school the pressures on some families will be unbearable and also impossible for them to get their kids to school.

Here are a few points I'd like to make,

	1. Wellbeing of the children. This is and should be the most important area to consider. Each and every child will be affected, familiar surroundings, teachers, parents, friendship groups, transition for them is going to be difficult and their mental health is already affected. 2. Leaked document and Facebook post. We as families should never have been told or found out about massive upheaval this way. Very unprofessional, not everyone has Facebook. One week we had to wait before the formal consultation started and more details were available to us. We cannot protect our kids and families from rumours hearsay and uncertainty if you're not doing this simple task. Communication around this was appalling. 3. Overspend, it is not the fault of the families that you have overspent and there isn't enough money for these 4 schools. The heads and deputy heads in the 4 schools alone are costing £1.2 million. How is this justified? 4. Safe routes to schools. Nothing has been done about this, and we have not been informed if any safe routes to the other schools. Hilly areas, dangerous in the winter. 5. Catchment area for transport. Only a small percentage of families live outside the catchment area (2 families I believe). Everyone else lives within 1.5 miles of Tillery street or six bells. 1.5 miles is too far for a 4-year-old to walk to Tillery street. Again, the welfare of the families not taken into consideration at all. 6. Parking, congestion at six bells and Tillery st. For the 'lucky' ones who drive the impact on the 2 other schools will be overwhelming. It is already chaos and dangerous at drop off and pick up times. More children, more cars, more congestion. This is an accident waiting to happen. 7. ALN. Children with ALN will definitely not be able to deal with this massive change. 'Slotting into mainstream classes will have no effect' this has been said to us as families on countless occasions. This is the most ridiculous out of the lot. Children with ALN will not be able to adapt to a mainstream larger classes of 30 children. At the moment they have access to 2 Nests, one lower end (up to year 2) and upper end (year 3-6). These are quieter areas with smaller groups and with teachers and Ta's who know their needs. All the children depend on these areas. This is not an option in the 2 other schools. Yes by law the IDP and EHCP will move schools with them, but primarily it's not just what's in the IDP/EHCP it's the staff that implement them and the facilities available. Plus some of these families can't drive. Walking to school with our ALN children is impossible. I feel as councillors for our area at least a visit to the school would have been expected.
44	I am writing to strongly object to the proposed closure of the school on Roseheyworth Road and to urge the decision-makers to reconsider this proposal. The school has played an important role in educating and supporting local children and families for many years. It provides not only high-quality education but also a safe, familiar, and supportive environment where students can learn and thrive. Closing the school would have a significant impact on pupils, parents, staff, and the wider community. Many families rely on the school's convenient location. If the school closes, children may be required to travel greater distances to attend alternative schools, causing disruption to their education and placing additional financial and practical burdens on parents and carers. The school is also a valuable community asset. It brings people together, supports local activities, and contributes to the identity and wellbeing of the area. Its closure would result in the loss of an important community resource and could negatively affect the neighbourhood for years to come. I respectfully ask that all possible alternatives to closure be fully explored, including additional funding opportunities, partnerships with other schools, or measures to increase pupil numbers. The interests of current and future students should remain the highest priority.

	I therefore urge you to reconsider the proposed closure and to work with parents, staff, and local residents to find a solution that keeps the school open. Thank you for taking the time to consider my concerns. I hope that a positive outcome can be achieved for the benefit of the children and the community.
45	1. The number of pupils currently enrolled at Roseheyworth (119), as quoted on Blaenau Gwent website, may not be correct 2. A grant application submitted to Abertillery Community Council seen by myself in May's Council meeting gave their pupil number as 150. 3. Grant applications from Tillery Street and Six Bells Schools seen at the same May meeting gave pupil enrolment figures of 360 and 270, respectively. 4. Looking at the above figures it would make more sense to transfer approximately 100 pupils from Tillery Street to Roseheyworth as a means of balancing out the pupil load at the 3 schools. 5. The Blaenau Gwent website says the proposal is to reduce overall capacity at the 3 schools to 770. By my calculations based on the figures above the number of pupils is already at 780. 6. Closing the Roseheyworth school will cause significant inconvenience to the communities the school already serves. It risks leading to an increase in child absenteeism and a worse school experience for those pupils who have to transfer to schools that are already at capacity.
46	I would like to object to the proposed closure of Roseheyworth Primary School in Abertillery. Closing this school is going to have a huge impact on an already struggling community. Roseheyworth is one of the poorest areas in Blaenau Gwent, and for many families this decision will create extra pressure that they simply cannot cope with, including difficulties getting their children to school. These are some of the main concerns I would like to raise: Children's wellbeing This should be the most important factor in any decision made. Every child will be affected by this closure. They will lose familiar surroundings, trusted teachers, friendship groups, and the routine they are comfortable with. The transition will be extremely difficult for many children, and the uncertainty has already started affecting their mental health and wellbeing. 1. The leaked document and Facebook post Families should never have found out about such major changes through leaks and social media. It was handled very poorly and felt extremely unprofessional. Not everybody uses Facebook, yet families were left waiting a full week before the official consultation started and proper information was shared. During that time, rumours and uncertainty spread, and parents were unable to reassure or protect their children because we ourselves had no clear answers. Communication throughout this process has been appalling. 2. Overspending

	It is not the fault of families or children that there has been overspending and not enough money for these four schools. We have been told that the heads and deputy heads across the four schools are costing around £1.2 million. Families deserve to know how this can be justified while schools are facing closure. 3. Safe routes to school Nothing meaningful has been done to address safe routes to the alternative schools, and families still have not been properly informed about what plans are in place. These are hilly areas and can be dangerous during winter months, especially for younger children walking to school. 4. Catchment areas and transport Only a very small number of families live outside the catchment area — I believe only two families. Everyone else lives within 1.5 miles of Tillery Street or Six Bells. However, 1.5 miles is far too much to expect a four-year-old child to walk every day. Once again, the welfare of children and families does not seem to have been properly considered. 5. Parking and congestion at Six Bells and Tillery Street For the families who are able to drive, the extra pressure on these schools will be overwhelming. Parking and traffic are already chaotic and dangerous during drop-off and pick-up times. Adding more children and more cars will only make the situation worse and increase the risk of a serious accident. 6. ALN provision Children with ALN will struggle enormously with such a major change. Families have repeatedly been told that “slotting into mainstream classes will have no effect,” but this is unrealistic and deeply concerning. Many children with ALN will not be able to cope in larger mainstream classes of 30 pupils. At Roseheyworth they currently have access to two Nests — one for younger pupils up to Year 2 and another for Years 3–6. These provide quieter spaces, smaller groups, and support from teachers and TAs who know the children and understand their needs. These areas are relied upon heavily by the children who use them and are not available in the same way at the other schools. Although IDPs and EHCPs may legally transfer with the child, support is about far more than paperwork. It depends on experienced staff, suitable facilities, and consistency for the child. Some families also do not drive, and walking long distances to school with ALN children is simply not realistic. Finally, I feel that as councillors representing our area, the very least that should have happened is a visit to the school before making decisions that will affect so many families and children.
47	I object the proposal of Roseheyworth school closer on behalf of my daughter. We do NOT want the school to be closed.

48	I formally object to the closure of the Roseheyworth primary school. I have recently moved into the area to be able to walk my kids to and from school as transport was becoming to expensive. Now this closure will mean me having to spend more time and money using public transport again! I've seen older schools stay open longer it just seems to be a waste of a beautiful school and beautiful grounds! So for me I do not accept the proposal to close the school!
49	I am writing to object to the proposed closure of Roseheyworth Primary School. The school is a valued part of our community and provides a supportive environment where children can learn and thrive. Closing the school would cause unnecessary disruption to pupils' education and wellbeing, place additional pressures on families, and have a negative impact on the local community. I respectfully ask that the proposal is reconsidered and that every effort is made to keep Roseheyworth Primary School open.
50	I strongly object to the proposed closure of Roseheyworth Primary School. The school provides a welcoming and supportive environment for its pupils and plays a vital role in the local community. Closing the school would disrupt children's education, friendships, and daily routines, while also creating difficulties for families who may have to travel further to access alternative schools. I believe the benefits that Roseheyworth Primary School brings to its pupils and community far outweigh the reasons for closure, and I urge you to reconsider this proposal.
51	My formal written objection to the closing of Roseheyworth Road Campus, Abertillery Learning Community. As a mother to a child currently in the nursery class my son will be directly affected by your ridiculous decision to close his school. Here are just a few reasons for the objection: 1. Class sizes - It is already highly documented and well known class sizes directly correlate to the standard of student learning. Smaller classroom sizes mean better classroom behaviour, stronger student/teacher (as well as pupil) relationships, reduced stress levels and more one-on-one time throughout the school day. All these benefits give students a head start over learners within larger classroom sizes. Tillery Campus has already been called out for pupils working in the school corridors. Where exactly do you expect an extra 30+ pupils (from my son's nursery class alone) to go? Evenly split to 15 would mean 15 more voices to listen too, behaviour to manage, a love of learning to nurture all for one poor teacher who is already underpaid and overworked within an industry that is overwhelmed. 2. Estyn Report - Abertillery Learning Community's last inspection highlighted the quality of teaching and pupil behaviour as two major areas for improvement throughout the school. By cutting the number of teachers, teaching staff and forcing more pupils together in smaller spaces how is this going to improve behaviour or teaching ability. With more students to support within the same 7 hour school day they are currently already failing at doing. Surely this means teaching levels will fall and behaviour will simply get worse with not enough eyes keeping track of the sheer number of children. "R1. Improve the quality of teaching so that pupils of all abilities make suitable progress" - Quoted directly from Estyn. 3. Extra-Curricular Activities and Wrap Around - Currently Roseheyworth Road Campus has an onsite preschool/wrap around provision in 'Mini Me's'. When last asked about what is planned to happen with mini me's the council had no answer and apparently had no plans. This is not only worrying but extremely short sighted. Can you guarantee children who currently use the schools breakfast club or wrap around provisions the same places within their new school. These places are already very competitive being so limited and are high priority for the parents who work. Roseheyworth Road Campus also provides a wonderful number of after school activities. One of my favourites being BSL, this doesn't seem to

	be offered elsewhere within the learning community (due to teacher knowledge) you would be taking these opportunities away from children wanting to learn a HIGHLY impressive and functional skill that would benefit them for life and improve their communication skills exponentially. 4. Transportation - Many of the students at Roseheyworth Road Campus walk to school every day, more so during the spring and summer terms when the Welsh weather is kinder. By moving children out of their catchment area, Six Bells Campus in particular, you are forcing parents to drive their children to school. It currently take me 30 minutes to walk my son to his campus, there would be no way his 4 year old legs would take him any further each morning. This means more cars in unfit for purpose car parks can only increase the danger to school children. Road rage, dangerous parking, traffic build up and high levels of traffic related pollution will all increase with potentially 50+ extra cars at each school twice a day. Roseheyworth Road Campus has the biggest and best managed carpark out of all the primary campuses. School bus drivers already have trouble getting to and from both Six Bells and Tillery Campuses due to the sheer number of cars ALREADY outside the schools. This will only get worse. And what of parents who cannot drive, will there be help for them? Free buses to the new schools? Or will they be left to suffer? Attendance will drop for pupils living farthest away from the schools when it is easier to keep them home than send them out in the horrendous Welsh Winters. 5. Mental Health and Friendships - For some children going to school is already beyond difficult and this is within a setting they are familiar with, friends they see every day, teachers and teaching staff that know their needs. How will you closing down their safe space affect them, their mental health and their academic journey? Aside from that, my son has a wonderful small group of friends, friendships that you would pull apart with no second thought. By splitting the classes into different campuses you would be splitting children up who love each other and would miss each other every single day. 6. Outdoor space - Roseheyworth Road Campus has wonderfully sized outdoor yards, nursery class play area as well as the sporting fields attached. This makes Roseheyworth Road Campus the best one for sporting, outdoor playtime and exercise. The building of Six Bells Campus for example was first objected by the local community due to the lack of school sporting fields. This was settled when promises of a field was to be built above the school site but this plan had to be scrapped due to the soil from the mines, resulting in the campus not having adequate outdoor space set by the Welsh government standards. Six Bells Campus already cannot have all of the children in classes out for play/dinner times all at once because they do not have the space, and you want to add more children to these classes? Putting money (money that has come from Labour over spending on work needed for the Secondary Campus) above children's futures is quite frankly disgusting but unfortunately not surprising for this council and it will be remembered by the community for a long time.
52	I strongly oppose the school closing. If the building is kept in education....how is that savings money on building repairs? The FOI request showed that the latest reports for the building repairs was for 2022. When questioned why it was so far back and loss of these repairs are likely to be completed....we was told this was the latest version. So where are the latest figures? The top 13 staff getting £1.1 million per annum and rising to £1.3million even though you are losing staff? Makes no sense again. Your citizens deal is a farce. I was at all of these and believed in change. Communication with the public you mentioned. No one from the council has been able to give any proper answers, brushed away answers and just pure nonsense to any queries. There is nothing about this that sits well with the deal at all. Marmot - how come you say that Blaenau Gwent is so big on being a marmot county and yet everything about this goes against marmot principles. Building affordable houses in six bells for families = likely more children?

	Making Mini unable to practice. So, she has to make 8 members of staff redundant out of her pocket. How is that supporting the marmot principles. And the children themselves. Mentioning their wellbeing. There will be no transport put on. Be realistic. You will make sure that all the children are within the boundaries of the 1.5/2mile boundaries, so you don't have to pay out of your pocket. Maybe this is to help the teachers ever increasing pay rise? My four-year-old cannot walk 3 miles per day. It's ok saying that the milage is lower in BG...but if we lived in an area with affordable and reliable public transport then maybe people wouldn't be so upset about this. If I lived in Cardiff with busses every ten mins, with a ticket for £2 it wouldn't be such a problem. This whole this stink. You're not telling the people what the building is being used for in education. But you will sacrifice the most deprived area of Abertillery. With the closure of Tillery Valley Foods in this area as well....what more can you take from the people who have the least to give. Shame on you BG council. And I thought The Deal meant change.
53	My formal written objection to the closure of Roseheyworth road campus. Abertillery learning community. As a grandparent of a child in the nursery of this school, I believe they will be directly affected by your decision to close his school. He will lose the close bonds of friendships he has built up, as they will undoubtedly be split up part. As well as the bond they have formed with the teaching staff, who know they're wants and needs.
54	I would like to formally object to the proposed closure of Roseheyworth Primary school Abertillery. The closure of this school is going affect an already struggling community. Roseheyworth is one of the poorest areas in Blaenau Gwent and by closing this school the pressures on some families will be unbearable and also impossible for them to get their kids to school. Here are a few points I'd like to make, 1. Wellbeing of the children. This is and should be the most important area to consider. Each and every child will be affected, familiar surroundings, teachers, parents, friendship groups, transition for them is going to be difficult and their mental health is already affected. 2. Leaked document and Facebook post. We as families should never have been told or found out about massive upheaval this way. Very unprofessional, not everyone has Facebook. One week we had to wait before the formal consultation started and more details were available to us. We cannot protect our kids and families from rumours hearsay and uncertainty if you're not doing this simple task. Communication around this was appalling. 3. Overspend, it is not the fault of the families that you have overspent and there isn't enough money for these 4 schools. The heads and deputy heads in the 4 schools alone are costing £1.2 million. How is this justified? 4. Safe routes to schools. Nothing has been done about this and we have not been informed if any safe routes to the other schools. Hilly areas, dangerous in the winter. 5. Catchment area for transport. Only a small percentage of families live outside the catchment area (2 families I believe). Everyone else lives within 1.5 miles of Tillery street or six bells. 1.5 miles is too far for a 4 year old to walk to Tillery street. Again the welfare of the families not taken into consideration at all. 6. Parking, congestion at six bells and Tillery st. For the 'lucky' ones who drive the impact on the 2 other schools will be overwhelming. It is already chaos and dangerous at drop off and pick up times. More children, more cars, more congestion. This is an accident waiting to happen. 7. ALN. Children with ALN will definitely not be able to deal with this massive change.

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56	I would like to write to object to the closing of Roseheyworth primary school, both my children attend and I feel the upheaval is too much. There is nothing wrong with the school Thanks
57	This is my written formal objection to the closure of Roseheyworth Abertillery learning community. Some of my reasons for the objecting this are as follows: 1. classroom sizes would be too large. With several children from each class having to move to another learning community school, with both schools already known to have classrooms up to full capacity, this would negatively effect on students learning, with teachers attentions to student being spread even thinner between students. 2. Transportation As no alternative transport is being offered for those in the local area, there are many parents that will be affected by this. Not everyone has access to vehicles and walks their children to school, with both of the learning community school adding multiples miles to their walk as well as a lot more time. 3. Mental health and friendships There are a lot of children that can struggle with making new friends and with the classes being split between two different schools some may be separated from friends that they have spent years with and become close with. This would negatively affect their learning as well as their personal mental health and is not something we should be subjecting young children too. Putting money over young children's education and wellbeing is unacceptable from a council that are supposed to be looking to improve the lives of their community and personally I find the choice rather baffling.
58	I am writing to formally register my strong objection to the proposed closure of the Roseheyworth Road Campus, scheduled for full implementation by September 2027. As a parent I am deeply against this proposal for the following reasons: Impact on Education: I am concerned that relocating pupils to the Six Bells and Tillery Street campuses will lead to overcrowding and larger class sizes, which may negatively affect the quality of education and individual attention pupils receive. Travel and Accessibility: The closure will force families to travel much further. This is particularly difficult for those without private transport and may lead to increased costs and safety concerns for children walking longer distances. Community and Support: Roseheyworth is a vital part of our local community. Its closure risks disrupting established social networks and support systems that many families rely on. Impact on Vulnerable Pupils: I am specifically concerned about how this move will affect children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN) who require a stable and familiar environment. While I understand the council's financial pressures, I believe the long-term impact on our children's wellbeing and education far outweighs the

	projected savings. I urge the Cabinet to reconsider this decision and explore alternative solutions that keep Roseheyworth Road Campus open. I look forward to receiving acknowledgement of this objection and hearing how these concerns will be addressed in the final Objection Report.
59	I do not agree to the closing of Roseheyworth Capus for the following reasons. Why is there 13 Leadership staff costing the ALC so much money. Some of the children with additional learning needs, struggle to get the children to school at present, making them potentially walk to attend a school further away will have an effect on both the child and parents mentally and financially leading to potential fines for not sending the child to school. The classroom sizes will be bigger or there will be a need to create more classrooms in 2 Campuses that are already stretched. Nursery intake numbers have not been included in the pupil numbers if a parent wants them to attend a nursery this usually means that is the school they are looking at sending the child to. Young careers will potentially be further from home if/when needed in an emergency. Mini mes have been an essential part of the school for the last 17 years, for a lot of families offering the wrap around service, has this been taken into account with potential lost places/cost for working families. Potential job loses if no suitable place is found for relocation. If a new location is found will they have the option of offering the younger children a jot meal option. Lunchtime capacity will be more in the 2 other Campuses adding to time restraints, will children have adequate time to enjoy their meals without being rushed. There will be extra transport costs for families to get children to school in wet weather, so children aren't in wet clothes all day. With a lot if families already struggling financially. More traffic around the 2 Campuses that already have very bad congestion at drop off and pick up times, more emissions being released with higher vehicle usage. Parking is already a nightmare at both Tillery Street and Six bells Campuses.
60	I object to Roseheyworth school closer.
61	I wish to register my objection to the proposed closure of Roseheyworth School for the following reasons: 1. The additional number of pupils in Tillery street, a school that is already working at capacity 2. The route to Tillery Street from Roseheyworth crosses a number of busy roads and is not a safe route. 3. If buses are provided, this would add to the already very busy roads around the Tillery Street school. 4. Parents bringing their children to Tillery street by car would also add significant problems to the streets around the school. I hope that these points are taken into account in your decision making.

62	I write to formally lodge my objection to the Proposal to reduce the capacity at Abertillery Learning Community Primary Phase by the closure of The Roseheyworth Road Campus. As we discussed with you at The Met this Primary Campus is much valued and needed in the locality of Roseheyworth. Nestled in the valley, Roseheyworth Road School has calm green vistas for the pupils and staff from the school. Such landscapes being beneficial for mental and physical wellbeing. This is surely a jewel in the crown of ALC Campuses. Arael View / Roseheyworth area is already a remote and isolated community. Roseheyworth Rd School is the centre of the whole community. The fact that the numbers on the school roll are low are possible due to children from the surrounding area being allowed to attend Ystruth Blaina, Tillery Street Campus and Six Bells Campus rather than to their local school. If parents supported the school more local to their home it is entirely possible that the low numbers at Roseheyworth Road would be higher. As a concerned member of the wider community my other reasons for objecting to the proposal to close this campus are: ➤ New families could move to the area with more children. ➤ The road to Tillery Street Campus is not conducive to vehicular access. The street already has residents parking outside their homes which makes it difficult for 2 cars to pass. Morning school opening times and end of school day are very exasperating for all motorists who venture up Tillery Street. The streets leading to Tillery Street Campus are very congested and have numerous potholes. ➤ Car parking facilities are inadequate at Tillery Street and Six Bells for carers dropping off learners. Insufficient parking at Tillery Street Campus and Six Bells Campus without further additions. ➤ Dog fouling everywhere. Everyone's shoes and prams pick up the excrement. Huge danger to eyesight in removing the dog excrement from shoes and prams etc. ➤ Parents with children of various ages along with babies in prams would have difficulty walking pupils to the Six Bells or Tillery Street Campus from Arael View Estate or Roseheyworth Estate. Should school transport be laid on for the pupils from these locations for pupils only, there would end up being a huge disconnect for parents and the class teacher and very possibly their child's school. ➤ Abertillery Learning Community needs to retain at least one primary school within its portfolio which is one storey to facilitate those with mobility issues. The lift at Tillery Street Campus enabling the Key Stage 2 Learning to happen on the 1st floor regularly breaks down which would inevitably make wheelchair access impossible as the stairs and external steps are then the only route to the upper floor classrooms. ➤ Powell Street, Gray Street, Evelyn Street and Newall Street are already double parked with resident cars. School drop-off and pick-up times for Tillery Street Campus exacerbate the parking problems faced by residents and other motorists who need access to these streets for reasons that are not school related.
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	➤ Maintenance at Roseheyworth Road School is categorised according to urgency. The maintenance schedule can be worked through at a slower pace as the building is a modern building (26 years old) and appears to provide a more than satisfactory venue for Roseheyworth Road Campus Learners. Many primary schools in the Caerphilly area are still used date from Victorian era or just post Victorian area. These older buildings still cater for the children in their community and provide enriching learning experiences for their community's children. These older Caerphilly Schools must surely have a maintenance list in order of urgency that needs dealing with; there is no published proposals to reduce capacity at these schools that I have read about in the press even though one would assume that there are huge maintenance schedules with these buildings. It may even be the case that the classrooms possibly don't meet modern expectations, but Caerphilly B. C. are still supporting and utilising these buildings, many of which have lasted for over 100 years. The focus should be on the learning experiences provided for learners and not the list of maintenance issues that need addressing. These can obviously be sorted within a different time frame. ➤ Online Forums against the proposal to reduce capacity at Roseheyworth Road Campus have highlighted the huge management structure that ALC supports. Whilst career advancement for teaching staff and correct remuneration for experienced teachers is correct, ALC still requires Significant Improvement according to the latest Estyn Report (May 2025). Working with other agencies such as health and social care would appear to be a direction that needs strengthening rather than closing Roseheyworth Road Campus. ➤ Posts on social media appear to be alluding to the possibility of 32 houses being built on the site. I trust this is incorrect and false news. I remember during our conversation at The Met that you clearly stated that it was your intention to retain this land for the purposes of Education. I really believe that it is imperative to retain Roseheyworth Road Campus for the purposes of education and allow it to continue serving the local community for which it exists. The geography and socio-economic make-up of this community demonstrates the necessity of this facility. Funding Roseheyworth Road Campus to continue as a primary school should be a priority rather than pursue an agenda of closure. Please end this uncertainty for the community, parents and staff by announcing that this school will continue at the heart of the Roseheyworth area. I do not wish my home address to appear in any publishing of the objections detailed online and officially request that my home address be redacted in this circumstance.
63	Im a parent of a child at Roseheyworth school who has been referred for ASD. It has taken so long to get my daughter somewhat settled where she is. She is even on a reduced timetable. To uproot her now and change schools is going to completely destroy everything I have worked so hard to get in place for her. And mentally and emotionally destroy her as she will be moved from her safe people, safe space and friends. I think it's absolutely disgusting the council are even considering the closure of Roseheyworth school. I also live in front of Tillery street campus and the traffic and chaos is an absolute NIGHTMARE here already. Let alone adding over a hundred more pupils to that situation. It is dangerous. And I know that majority of the street are fuming about the decision to move all the pupils to the Tillery street campus, as we can't get out of our own houses at drop off and pick up times as it is. If my daughter has to go to six bells ill even have to pack my job in as I won't have anyone close enough to pick her up for me. So we will then be financially worse off when we barely make ends meet as it is, with the economy the way it is. I really don't think you've taken any of the above into consideration and the full effects it will have on the children and families of the children.

64	I formally object to the above proposal for the following reasons: I question the principle of moving a high number of pupils from Roseheyworth to the other two campuses. Tyleri Street may not appear to be at full capacity, however there is little room for extra pupils. I understand the stated class sizes are 30 and under, but they are already close to this with a very diverse range of abilities, making classes of that size more difficult to teach - even at primary level. Pupils at Tyleri Street have a limited time to eat their lunch due to separate sittings. Already some pupils often do not finish eating lunch before they need to vacate the hall for the second group of pupils. I don't see how this can be addressed without additional space. Rushing their lunches adversely affects their digestion/they don't have enough to eat. Extra pupils in Tyleri Street would put an extra strain on parking, both within the school grounds, nearby streets and the leisure centre. If a bus is provided to transport pupils from Roseheyworth to either of the other campuses, there is no room for a bus to manoeuvre and pupils would need to be dropped off outside school premises, on the roadside, which is not particularly safe. A lot of work needs to be done regarding safe routes to school, although this should be implemented anyway! Pupils coming from Roseheyworth down Wallace's Lane, across to Gwern Berthi Road and on to Victor Road would need to be extremely careful crossing the junction, as traffic does not observe the 20mph speed limit, because there are no repeater signs after the 20mph sign at the main traffic lights. This needs to be addressed despite the Proposal. More crossing patrollers would also be required. More parents, grandparents and childminders would also cause congestion whilst waiting for children. Already, in Tyleri Street, there is one very narrow path where people go in and out to reception, and classes 1 and 2. I understand that pupil numbers are falling throughout Blaenau Gwent, but it is strange to note that in Abertillery only Roseheyworth pupil roll is decreasing considerably. Also I cannot see any reference to future changes in population and the fact that these could increase again in the near future, thereby needing Roseheyworth School. I hope that you will take this objection into consideration.
65	Please take this email as my strong objection to closing down Roseheyworth Road Campus. I have worked at this school for 17 yrs and both my children studied here. They are now 25 and 22 and have such fond memories of their primary school life, their Secondary school life not so much. They are both successful in their fields and recognize that Roseheyworth helped them so much in their journey to adulthood. The reason I chose this school for my children was because of the lower-class numbers and the site, plenty of indoor and outdoor space to spread their wings and create lasting memories. The consultation paperwork mentioned that children thrive in larger class sizes which is absolute rubbish! In fact, let's face it, most of the Consultation document was based on misinformation, omission of pupils numbers and exaggeration of maintenance work costs.

Not only was the consultation document hidden in the council website, one can only assume, to reduce the number of people being able to access it. It was then leaked into the community in December 2025, how very embarrassing! We as staff, were only officially informed by Facebook as a knee jerk reaction the document being shared amongst parents before staff had chance to be told.

The whole process is a shambles and should be thrown out!

To say that the building is old at 26 years is ludicrous and compared to the failing site of the secondary, it has little to correct. Literally, new carpet in the key stage 2 corridor, a few tiles in toilets and a couple of broken windows... Which, incidentally, were never fitted correctly at the time of building in 2000, as the company BG used went bust during the installation! Yet another Council bloop!

The building of Roseheyworth will hold long after that of the Secondary building on Alma Street. Councillors said they couldn't possibly give an accurate reading of the individual costs and yet somehow further on the council is saying individually it will cost 2.2 million.... They should make their mind up!!

At no point have the Councillors who put this proposition forward visited the school, if they had they would have realized how special Roseheyworth is... Pupils, staff and parents are nurturing, caring, happy and content. Agency staff who come, want to come back, which is rare in this day and age. It is a school that is held in such high regard, it is a shame that those people never had the chance to feel the warmth and belonging of this school and it's site.... And if you close it, even more of a shame that pupils of the future will never know what it is like to be part of its community.

As this is still a community school, one of very few nowadays and for the sake of saving the comprehensive school you are considering sacrificing it and the learners it services.

The ALC is meant to be a 3-16 school and yet, under yr old figures were omitted... Surely then, it should be labelled a 5-16 school... Where on earth do you think approx. 100 nursery aged pupils are going?? Six Bells and Tillery Street certainly don't have room! Both have very little outdoor space and split lunchtimes to attempt to accommodate the learners they already have!

The council made a mistake when they sacrificed the primary schools for the Secondary back in 2015 and they will make a further mistake if they sacrifice Roseheyworth to save it again! If they had listened to the community then, we wouldn't be in this position now!! Admit mistakes were made!! And please do not make a further one now!

So many of our learners get up and bring themselves to school in the morning, it is the most deprived area of Abertillery... Making these children move over a mile or 2 miles away will reduce their ability to attend school and it will affect the rest of their lives. Do you want that on your conscience?

We have worked so hard to get attendance up over the last couple of years and very often our attendance percentages are the highest out of the campuses. Closing Roseheyworth will have a huge detrimental effect on attendance and punctuality as a lot of our parents don't work or drive. They simply will not be able to afford buses and taxis to transport their children... Many of them are already saying that they will remove their children for the education system to home school.

Furthermore, a high number of our children simply will not cope with the change of setting or class size.

	We make adjustments at Roseheyworth to accommodate learners who find entering the building/ classes difficult, but with the sizes that the other primary will become, that simple regulation of their nervous system simply won't be able to be provided. Those learners who access our 'Nest'... Non-verbal and regularly dysregulated, where do you think they are going to be placed? They can hardly cope in a classroom of 9, how do expect them to function in larger classes? Honestly, I could go on and on.... I implore you, please don't close Roseheyworth, there has to be another way of managing costs. Look at the leadership team and the costs they incur over the 3-16 community... Surely they could be streamlined... What school needs 13 staff on their senior leadership team, at a cost of approx. 1.2 million? What happens next year or the year after when the debt continues to rise? Will the council look to close Tillery Street as it's the next 'oldest' primary school building.... Where does it stop? Let it stop now, put the children of Arrael View and the Avenues first. Make them matter, give them the education they deserve at their local school. Roseheyworth makes them proud of their community and empowers their learning. The council should do the same....
66	I write to formally lodge my objection to the Proposal to reduce the capacity at Abertillery Learning Community Primary Phase by the closure of The Roseheyworth Road Campus. As we discussed with you at The Met this Primary Campus is much valued and needed in the locality of Roseheyworth. Roseheyworth Road School has calm green views for the pupils and staff from the school. Such landscapes being beneficial for mental and physical wellbeing. Local parents should be allocated the local school to their home. If this were the case, pupil numbers at Roseheyworth Road School would be higher. As a concerned member of the wider community my other reasons for objecting to the proposal to close this campus are: ➤ New families could move to the area with more children. ➤ The road to Tillery Street Campus is not conducive to vehicular access. ➤ Car parking facilities are inadequate at Tillery Street and Six Bells for carers dropping off learners. Insufficient parking at Tillery Street Campus and Six Bells Campus without further additions. ➤ It would seem sensible for the Abertillery Learning Community to retain a one storey campus within this federation to accommodate pupils with mobility issues and wheelchair users. ➤ It will be a huge inconvenience for families to take their children to other primary schools when they now have a suitable facility on their doorstep. Please retain this campus as a primary school for the families within the locality of Roseheyworth.

	I do not wish my home address to appear in any publishing of the objections detailed online and officially request that my home address be redacted in this circumstance.
67	I wish to formally lodge my objection to the Proposal to reduce the capacity at Abertillery Learning Community Primary Phase by the closure of The Roseheyworth Road Campus. As a concerned member of the wider community my other reasons for objecting to the proposal to close this campus are: ➤ New families could move to the area with more children. ➤ Parents needing to transport their children to the other campuses will be hugely inconvenienced when there is a perfectly good school currently on their doorstep. ➤ Car parking facilities are inadequate at Tillery Street and Six Bells for carers dropping off learners. Insufficient parking at Tillery Street Campus and Six Bells Campus without further additions. ➤ Any maintenance issues relating to the 26-year-old building at Roseheyworth Road can obviously be tended to in order of priority and as a fairly new building cannot be extreme or unsolvable issues necessitating closure. Please keep this school as a viable educational facility for the children and families of the Roseheyworth area. I do not wish my home address to appear in any publishing of the objections detailed online and officially request that my home address be redacted in this circumstance.
68	I am writing on behalf of Bethany Baptist Church in Six Bells to oppose the closure of Roseheyworth Campus. Our primary objection is concerning the increase in traffic and parking problems at Six Bells that would be caused by an influx of additional pupils. Parking at school drop off and collection times is already chaotic and often dangerous, resulting in gridlock. Members of our congregation are reluctant to visit the church during these times because of the gridlock. The traffic situation is bad when most of the pupils live relatively close to the school. Parents living the other side of Abertillery are unlikely to walk their children to school, which will result in even more congestion. We hope that you will take these objections into consideration
69	I write with some dismay at the thought of the proposed closure of the Roseheyworth campus. Especially given the current state of education within our area and all the indices show that Blaenau Gwent is near the bottom nationally in educational achievement. As chairman at the time the proposal was announced I was disappointed that our community council was not brought into the debate around our schools and early stage. We have heard a great deal recently about your need to work in partnership but it seems yet again we have not been part of the process. You either treat us as partners and adults or you don't. This sort of action does nothing the cut off the overall scepticism that is built up around the use of "the charter"

and “the deal”. If we were to be really considered as part of “The Deal” I would have hoped that you would have sent out a full set of financial details and a full set of personal educational implications for the children when our council requested them. As well as a full report on the student and community impact that this closure will have on our area.

I am well aware of the financial difficulties that many local authorities are faced with and that some tough decisions have to be made but many feel that this proposal flies in direct opposition to the Marmot principles which the council have adopted, especially “give every child the best start in life”.

Instead of cuts to education should be better investment in this proposal smacks of short termism to plug a financial gap with no regard for the social or financial costs that this will lead to 5 or 10 years down the line and irrespective of the direct damage and impacts to the children and their families.

There seems to be no concern or consideration of the quality of the children’s educational and social needs, and that this closure is a purely budgetary decision that takes none of this into consideration.

Studies have already shown that smaller classes have beneficial effect on attainment albeit small but closing the school will lead to bigger classes elsewhere in the ALC area. Has the council explored a more strategic approach to catchment areas that could easily deliver the smaller classes but ensure that functional level and would allow a better foundation for their future learning.

Surely this approach would make more sense and allow robust development for our children so they are not disadvantaged later in life. Wales already has the lowest level of attainment of all UK nations in the PISA tables. If anything this proposal looks to exacerbate the issue. Blaenau Gwent educational outcomes are amongst the worst in Wales with only 56.6% of pupils in Blaenau Gwent attaining a grade at A* to C.

Transport is another major issue in this proposal. School sites are regularly clogged up in the mornings and at the end of school and at times the level of congestion is dangerous. Sending more traffic that way as well as buses will only increase this.

But what if you have no buses, well you’re then expecting children as young as four dog over a mile to get to either of the remaining sites. This cannot be the best way for them to start the day of their accessing their education already tired from exertion. Do you have figures on the number and age groups of children who will now have to walk to school. Are these routes safe? Will these routes be safely maintained in the winter months when it was dark and icy?

This leads onto my next item. Blaenau Gwent being as deprived as it is host breakfast clubs across many of their educational settings. In these primary schools these children are going to be exhausted before they’ve even had anything to eat. And with these extra children they might not be even capacity for them to attend a breakfast club. Plus the access to pre-and post school clubs activities are constrained by the availability (or lack of) parents to provide transport at the different times. Then there’s the cost aspect of it if parents can’t rely on private transport or public transport they going to be stuck.

With this being one of the most financially deprived areas the thought of having to pay the taxis or bus fares at the cost of between £6 to £10 each way each day is going to burn a hole in parents pockets.

	Personal consideration of the students at Roseheyworth clearly has not been factored in as far as the authority is concerned. The children would have many of their friendship groups split, they'd be a significant loss of green space for their leisure and free time there will be problems accessing extracurricular clubs provisions and probably an increasing corridor working which is already used at least one of the sites and has already been substantially overused. Roseheyworth also has a large number of children with ALN and/or with an IDP. The upheaval for these learners will be immense and could even leave children feeling unable to attend school due to the level of disruptions to the routines that they rely on to cope with their educational situation. Some of them are also young carers and are needed at any moment should their parents require their assistance. It still disappoints me how the human element of this just seems to have not even been considered. But it is not just myself who object to the closure of Roseheyworth Campus. is angry, disappointed, and frustrated at this proposal. Since it was announced there's been children, teachers and staff members, parents, members of the public, my fellow councillors, my fellow governors, as well as our newly elected Senedd members who have rallied and campaigned to save the school from closure, and I hope you listen.
70	We wish to formally object to the proposal to close Roseheyworth Campus (RH) for the following reasons: Whilst we appreciate the class sizes in RH are small, the class sizes in Tyleri Street (TS) are already seemingly large enough and any more pupils will increase the class size to a size too large for the pupils to be taught correctly. The maximum class size is 30 students but the TS classes are already at this figure, or almost at this figure. Our daughter attends TS and already tells us her and her fellow pupils have limited time to eat their lunch due, with our daughter often saying she and others are unable to finish eating lunch before they need to return to class in time for the second lunch sitting to begin. If there are extra pupils at TS but no additional space, this problem will only worsen. The roads around TS campus are already too busy and congested at school times, which will only worsen with increased pupil numbers. It is possible to park in the leisure centre but this car park is already shared with the comprehensive campus and also a lot of parents are not even happy to walk the short distance from the leisure centre across the road to TS. Therefore it is inevitable that Tillery Road, Newall Street and other surrounding streets will be beyond congested. We have read that free transport will be provided to RH students however, there is not adequate room for a bus to park. When the children at TS go on school trips the coaches have to stay on Tillery Road and block the entrance / road. This cannot be an option for daily school drop offs. Furthermore the walking route to TS is supposed to be a safe route to school but this is currently not the case, speaking from experience of walking it daily. With the increased levels of traffic on the route, how can you guarantee our children's safety walking to TS. It is likely that RH pupils will either walk down Wallace's Lane to Gwern Berthi Road/Penybont Road and onto Victor Road, or down Gaen Street onto Alma Street and across to the leisure centre. Children will need to be very careful crossing both the junction of Gwern Berthi Road/Penybont Road and from Alma Street to the leisure centre, as there are no traffic crossing patrols or zebra crossings. Furthermore, traffic routinely does not observe the 20mph speed limit. Mainly because there are no 20mph repeater signs after the 20mph sign at the main traffic lights and people 'forget' and secondly as people are rushing to drive to school to do school drop offs from 8:30am/2:30pm onwards. There is also still fairly heavy traffic to Cwmtillery Industrial Estate (Royal Mail/KM for example). This a problem which needs addressing regardless of the RH closure.

	Whilst we understand that birth rates fluctuate, the closure of the RH campus seems drastic as when the number of children rises again, will the council be looking to build another school to account for the increase in children. Why is RH the only affected school. Why have plans not been made to adjust the catchment areas for each of the three campuses to allow for reduced numbers. The wellbeing of the children needs to be at the forefront of this decision and it seems that this is not the case. RH actually has one of the better campus locations and sizes, lending itself to being the campus to keep open. There is more space for school drop offs and it is in a beautiful location with views of our stunning landscape. The open space could be utilised by all campuses or even other council/Aneurin Bevan departments, such as leisure with the outside space being used for a sports field or track to complement the existing leisure facilities. This could be a potential additional use, alongside the existing use as a school campus, thereby sharing out the cost of the site. There are minibuses at each campus, so children could use this campus in addition to TS and Six Bells, and even the comprehensive, rather than having overcrowding at the other campuses. As mentioned above, our daughter attends TS and is currently in Year 2. We chose TS as we live on Gwern Berthi Road and wanted to allow her the opportunity to walk to school (something I didn't have the opportunity to do as I attended a school further afield and had to catch a bus daily). However we are looking at other options for schools, as even a school change could be better than her being in a school where the wellbeing of the children comes second to finance. If RH closes it will be very disappointing and will reflect poorly on the council in a town/county where trust in our leaders is already diminished. The council needs to take responsibility and make the right decision based on the opinions of real people and not what the 'right decision' seems to be on paper.
71	I am emailing to formally object the closure of Roseheyworth Road Campus. I appreciate that with the current deficit, opportunities need to be explored however I feel that closing Roseheyworth Road campus isn't the answer. Closing the school would have long term consequences for students, families, staff and the wider community. During the consultation process, it has been noted that pupils from Roseheyworth Road would relocate to Tillery Street or Six Bells campuses. This may seem like a simple solution for the council, but for pupils, moving schools isn't a small change. They'd have to adjust to a new environment, new teachers, and new classmates, which can be stressful and affect their learning and confidence. Being in a familiar place where they feel comfortable really matters. Closing their school and moving to a new campus will affect their well-being. Secondly, a big point to consider is how many children currently walk to school. This is a huge benefit for children and their families as it promotes a healthy and positive choice of travelling to school. If the school closes, many of those children would have to travel further, which likely means relying on cars or public transport. That's not just inconvenient—it adds cost and increases traffic, which are already busy during the start and end of the day. For some families, walking simply wouldn't be an option anymore. On the other hand, for families who don't own a car or cannot afford the cost of transport, it would mean travelling for more than a mile each way in all kinds of weather. Imagine having to walk for over half an hour to school each morning before starting a full day of learning, particularly in the pouring down rain. In addition, closing the school and transferring pupils to other campuses would lead to increased class sizes. At present, the other campuses do not have sufficient space to accommodate larger classes. This would not be in the best interests of the children, as being placed in a larger class with a single teacher could negatively impact the quality of their education.

	While some pupils may welcome the opportunity to be part of a larger class and have more peers to interact with, this is unlikely to be the case for the majority of learners. For many, such a significant change could be unsettling and cause unnecessary distress. I feel like alternatives need to be considered before looking at closing the school. Understandably the deficit needs to be lowered but has there been any thought of looking to see if savings could be made elsewhere or generating income? Could the school halls be used for clubs/groups outside of school hours? A local school within the borough holds local slimming groups, thus generating an income. Understandably, this wouldn't address the entire of the deficit but could be considered to generating income for the business. I hope that my concerns are given careful consideration during the objection phase and that alternative options are explored rather than proceeding with the closure of the school. Closing the school would have a significant impact on the local community and, more importantly, could adversely affect the education and wellbeing of the children.
72	I am writing to formally object to the proposed closure of Roseheyworth Primary School in Abertillery. This proposal raises serious concerns regarding the wellbeing, education, and safety of local children and families. Roseheyworth serves a community that already faces significant social and economic challenges. The area contains many families who experience financial hardship, limited access to private transport, and other barriers that can affect children's educational opportunities. Closing a local school in such a community risks increasing these disadvantages rather than reducing them. One of the most concerning aspects of the proposal is the impact on children who would be required to attend alternative schools further away. Many pupils would face substantially longer journeys to and from school each day. For younger children especially, the increased walking distance presents concerns around safety, fatigue, punctuality, and attendance. During periods of poor weather, which are common in South Wales, these journeys become even more challenging for children and parents alike. The closure would also remove an important community asset. Roseheyworth Primary School is more than simply a place of education; it is a focal point for families and local residents. The loss of a community school can have a lasting negative impact on local identity, community cohesion, and parental engagement in education. Before considering closure, I believe greater efforts should be made to explore ways of improving the school's financial sustainability and increasing its income generation. There are several opportunities that could be investigated, including: • Renting school facilities such as the hall, sports areas, meeting rooms, and outdoor spaces to community groups, sports clubs, and local organisations during evenings, weekends, and school holidays. • Offering holiday clubs, childcare provision, and educational activities that could generate additional revenue while supporting local families.

	• Developing partnerships with local businesses and community organisations for events, training sessions, and facility hire. • Using the school premises as a venue for adult learning courses, community events, health programmes, and other local services. • Applying for external grants and funding opportunities aimed at supporting schools in deprived communities and improving community facilities. These options should be fully explored before any irreversible decision is taken to close a valued local school. In addition to exploring new income streams, I believe there should be a thorough review of the current management and leadership structure across the ALC before the closure of a primary school is considered. Many parents and residents will question whether sufficient scrutiny has been given to senior management costs and whether efficiencies could be achieved through restructuring leadership roles across the organisation. Given the financial pressures facing education, it is reasonable to ask whether an ALC operating across three campuses requires a senior leadership team of approximately 15 staff members, or whether management responsibilities could be streamlined while maintaining educational standards. Any potential savings from reducing management overheads should be fully assessed and transparently presented as part of the consultation process. The closure of this campus should only be considered once all alternative options for reducing expenditure have been explored, including leadership restructuring, shared services, and other operational efficiencies. Residents need confidence that every possible avenue for financial savings has been investigated before a decision is made that will directly affect children, families, and the wider community for generations to come. I urge the council to carefully reconsider this proposal and to recognise the disproportionate impact it will have on children and families in an already disadvantaged area. The educational, social, and community costs of closure could far outweigh any perceived financial benefits. Thank you for considering my views. I hope that every effort will be made to preserve Roseheyworth Primary School and continue providing accessible, high-quality education within the local community.
73	I am writing to object to the proposed closure of Roseheyworth School. This decision would significantly disrupt students' education and wellbeing, particularly for those who rely on the school's support and stability. It would also place additional strain on nearby schools and create challenges for families in terms of travel and access. Roseheyworth School is a valued part of the community, and its loss would have lasting negative effects on both students and local families. I strongly urge you to reconsider this proposal and explore alternative solutions to keep the school open.
74	I am writing as a parent to strongly object to the proposed closure of Roseheyworth School.

	As a family, this decision would have a direct and distressing impact on our child's education, wellbeing, and sense of stability. Our child feels safe and supported at the school, and the relationships they have built with staff and classmates are incredibly important. Moving them would be disruptive and unsettling, with potential long-term effects on their confidence and progress. The school is an important part of our community, and its closure would affect many families like ours who depend on it. I urge you to reconsider this decision and explore all possible alternatives to keep the school open.
75	I am writing to formally object to the proposed closure of Roseheyworth Primary School. Although my own children do not attend the school, I know a number of families whose children do, and I am deeply concerned about the impact this closure would have on them and on the wider community. Roseheyworth Primary School is an important part of the local area. It provides children with a stable, familiar, and supportive environment in which they can learn and develop. Closing the school would force many children to leave behind their friends, teachers, and routines, which could have a negative impact on both their wellbeing and education. I am also concerned about the effect on parents and carers. Many families have built their lives around the school, and moving children elsewhere could create additional travel difficulties, childcare challenges, and disruption to daily family life. In addition, the school is home to Mini Mes childcare provision, which provides valuable support for working parents and local families. The loss of both the school and childcare provision would have a much wider impact than simply relocating pupils. Families who rely on these services could find themselves struggling to secure suitable alternatives. Schools are often at the heart of their communities. They bring families together, provide support networks, and contribute to the identity of an area. The closure of Roseheyworth Primary School would represent the loss of an important community asset that cannot easily be replaced. I urge Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council to carefully consider the wider consequences of this proposal and to explore all possible alternatives before making a final decision. The views of parents, staff, pupils, childcare providers, and local residents should be given significant weight in the decision-making process. For these reasons, I strongly object to the proposed closure of Roseheyworth Primary School.
76	I am writing to formally lodge my strong objection to the proposed closure of Roseheyworth Primary School. As a local resident and member of the community, I am deeply concerned about the severe negative impacts this decision will have on our children's education, well-being, and daily lives. In particular, I urge the council to reconsider based on the following critical issues: 1. Travel Difficulties and Pupil Safety Closing our local school forces families to find placements further away. For many of us, this turns a safe, manageable morning walk into a complicated, stressful journey.

	Increased Travel Times: Children will be forced to endure significantly longer commutes every morning and afternoon, leaving them tired and less ready to learn. Logistical and Financial Strain: Not every family has access to a car or the financial means to pay for daily public transport. For working parents, managing longer journeys to a more distant school will cause severe logistical conflicts with employment hours. Safety Concerns: Longer routes mean navigating unfamiliar, busier roads and heavier traffic, increasing safety risks for young children during peak travel times. 2. Pressure on Already "Rammed" Class Sizes The surrounding local primary schools are already operating at or near maximum capacity. Absorbing the displaced students from [School Name] into these schools will inevitably lead to dangerously over-inflated class sizes. Reduced Individual Attention: Teachers in already stretched classrooms cannot realistically provide the tailored support that young children—especially those with additional learning needs—require to thrive. Strain on School Infrastructure: Shifting hundreds of children into existing schools will overwhelm communal spaces, from playgrounds and dining halls to toilet facilities, severely degrading the overall learning environment. Teacher Burnout: Forcing educators to manage even larger classes will worsen the ongoing teacher retention crisis, ultimately impacting the quality of education across the entire borough. A primary school is not just a building; it is the heart of our community. Closing Roseheyworth prioritizes short-term financial savings at the direct expense of our children's future and well-being. I urge the council to explore alternative solutions, secure the necessary funding, and keep Roseheyworth open. I look forward to your response and to hearing how the council plans to address these severe community concerns.
77	I am writing to formally register my strong objection to the proposed closure of the Roseheyworth Road Campus, scheduled for full implementation by September 2027. As a parent I am deeply against this proposal for the following reasons: Impact on Education: I am concerned that relocating pupils to the Six Bells and Tillery Street campuses will lead to overcrowding and larger class sizes, which may negatively affect the quality of education and individual attention pupils receive. Travel and Accessibility: The closure will force families to travel much further. This is particularly difficult for those without private transport and may lead to increased costs and safety concerns for children walking longer distances. Community and Support: Roseheyworth is a vital part of our local community. Its closure risks disrupting established social networks and support systems that many families rely on. Impact on Vulnerable Pupils: I am specifically concerned about how this move will affect children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN) who require a stable and familiar environment.

	While I understand the council's financial pressures, I believe the long-term impact on our children's wellbeing and education far outweighs the projected savings. I urge the Cabinet to reconsider this decision and explore alternative solutions that keep Roseheyworth Road Campus open. I look forward to receiving acknowledgement of this objection and hearing how these concerns will be addressed in the final Objection Report.
78	I write to inform you of my objection to the closing of Roseheyworth School. This area is much safer for access for dropping off and collecting children without causing traffic problems. Both Tillery Street and Six Bells Campus already causes traffic congestion because of the built up area with residential homes. No doubt the proposal would cause difficulty for dropping and collecting children. Surely this would put pressure on teachers with such extra numbers to educate and nurture. The school is not that old either and to abandon such a convenient site seems ridiculous, leaving yet another building to run down, as is a lot of buildings in the town. I am a local resident. I sincerely hope you will reconsider this proposal
79	The purpose closure of Roseheyworth school is what the community needs or wants, in my opinion it's not one of your better ideas, relocating could and will create problems and chaos with traffic and parking and this could lead to accidents this needs plan needs rethinking.
80	I would like to raise my objection to the closure of Roseheyworth Primary School. From the council meeting I attended prior to this period, it was made stated that if the closure did not take place, other services would suffer - however, when pressed on what services would be affected, the Council stated that "that's hadn't been looked at yet". This gives the impression that the saving hasn't been looked for elsewhere before deciding that Education has to take the brunt of it, this leaves the feeling that our children are the ones that need to front the fault, that needs to be lose out before it's even looked at in other areas of the budget. The report that was filed and shared, which originally had incorrect data, data that did not add up, and data that did not then reflect further in the document. Even when updated, mistakes were still present - How can it be said, with confidence, that the proposal has been properly assessed and reviewed when these errors are present? The proposal document also highlighted that the closure of the school would not likely cause much disruption to the parents who walk their children to school as the Roseheyworth campus lies only 1.5miles away from the Tillery Street campus. It has not taken into account the capacity of Tillery street and the fact that not all of the children from Roseheyworth will be able to move to Tillery Street, but will need to move to the Six Bells campus. Again, how can this be a true reflection of the potential impacts to parents and children when this hasn't been properly assessed and reviewed? The proposal lists that the effect of ALN students will be minimal. This is an extremely disappointing view and gives the impression that the council either do not understand or do not respect the level of needs of some of the students.

	ALN students cannot be grouped together as one simple, basic assessment as each student has a different level of needs, a different level of required attention and care, a different type of safe space and person that they can associate with - how the closure of the school that removes that safe space, potentially removes that safe person, likely reduces that level of attention will not affect the students is extremely disappointing. For the reasons highlighted above, I raise my objection to the school closure.
81	I am writing to formally object in the strongest possible terms to the proposed closure of Roseheyworth School in Abertillery. This proposal represents far more than the loss of a school building. It threatens the stability, wellbeing, educational opportunities, and future prospects of children and families living in one of the most deprived communities in Wales. In a local authority area recognised as having the highest concentration of highly deprived neighbourhoods in Wales, the decision to close a long established and successful community school is both deeply alarming and socially irresponsible. For twenty six years, Roseheyworth School has been a cornerstone of support, safety, and opportunity for local families. It provides consistency and security to children who already face significant social and economic hardship. Removing this school from the heart of the community will only deepen inequality and further marginalise families who are already struggling. The proposal completely underestimates the impact this closure would have on vulnerable households. Parents would face increased transport costs, longer travel times, disruption to work and childcare arrangements, and additional stress in daily life. For many families, these are not minor inconveniences. They are serious barriers that will directly affect children's attendance, wellbeing, and educational experience. There is also serious concern regarding the impact on neighbouring schools such as Tillery Street and Six Bells. These schools are already under pressure and close to capacity. Absorbing the entire population of Roseheyworth School will inevitably lead to larger class sizes, stretched resources, increased workload for staff, and reduced individual support for pupils. This is not a sustainable approach to education. Overcrowded classrooms reduce the quality of learning and limit the ability of teachers to support children effectively, particularly those who require additional support to thrive academically and emotionally. The human cost to staff must also be recognised. The closure threatens the livelihoods of dedicated teachers, teaching assistants, lunchtime supervisors, cleaners, and support staff who have devoted years of service to the children of this community. Many of these employees live locally and form part of the social fabric of Abertillery. Women will be disproportionately affected by this decision, as they make up the majority of the workforce at Roseheyworth School. Many work part time roles that allow them to balance childcare, caring responsibilities, and household finances. If the school closes, many of these women are unlikely to find equivalent employment nearby and may face unemployment and financial hardship. In an area already affected by deprivation, this would have severe social and economic consequences. Of particular concern is the future of children accessing the NEST provision and other Additional Learning Needs support. These pupils rely on stable environments, trusted relationships, specialist staff, and tailored support. Disrupting this provision risks emotional distress, regression, and significant harm to their educational progress.

	There has been no convincing evidence presented that alternative schools can provide equivalent support, facilities, or specialist care. Failing to protect these children would represent a serious failure of responsibility toward some of the most vulnerable learners in the borough. It is also deeply concerning that a modern school building only twenty six years old and in good condition is being considered for closure. At a time when many schools across Wales require substantial investment and renovation, closing a well maintained educational facility makes little financial, educational, or strategic sense. Once this resource is lost, it is unlikely to ever be replaced. Many residents in Abertillery already feel that their community is being overlooked and neglected. Closing a valued school in one of the town's most deprived areas reinforces the damaging perception that local children are being treated as second class citizens whose futures are not worth investing in. Children in Abertillery deserve the same opportunities, support, and investment as children anywhere else in Wales. Closing Roseheyworth School sends the opposite message. It tells families that their community can continue to lose vital services without regard for the long term consequences. This proposal also raises serious concerns regarding compliance with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, which is legally binding in Wales through the Rights of Children and Young Persons (Wales) Measure 2011. The proposed closure risks undermining several key rights, including: Article 3, which states that the best interests of the child must be a primary consideration in all decisions affecting them. Article 28, which guarantees every child's right to education. Article 29, which requires education to support the full development of every child's abilities and potential. Article 2, which protects children from discrimination, including discrimination linked to socioeconomic disadvantage. Article 12, which guarantees children the right to be heard and taken seriously in matters affecting their lives. Article 23, which protects the rights of children with disabilities and Additional Learning Needs to receive appropriate support and services. Article 6, which protects children's rights to healthy development and wellbeing. Unless the Council can clearly demonstrate that children's educational outcomes, emotional wellbeing, access to support services, and opportunities will not be negatively affected, this proposal risks breaching Wales' legal commitment to children's rights. Roseheyworth School is not simply a building. It is a vital community institution that supports children, families, staff, and the wider town of Abertillery. Closing it would cause lasting harm to a community that has already faced significant hardship and disadvantage. I therefore urge Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council to reject this proposal and commit to protecting Roseheyworth School, its pupils, its staff, and the community it serves.
82	I am writing to formally register my strong objection to the proposed closure of the Roseheyworth Road Campus, scheduled for full implementation by September 2027. As a [parent / local resident / concerned citizen], I am deeply against this proposal for the following reasons: Impact on Education: I am concerned that relocating pupils to the Six Bells and Tillery Street campuses will lead to overcrowding and larger class sizes, which may negatively affect the quality of education and individual attention pupils receive.

	Travel and Accessibility: The closure will force families to travel much further. This is particularly difficult for those without private transport and may lead to increased costs and safety concerns for children walking longer distances. Community and Support: Roseheyworth is a vital part of our local community. Its closure risks disrupting established social networks and support systems that many families rely on. Impact on Vulnerable Pupils: I am specifically concerned about how this move will affect children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN) who require a stable and familiar environment. While I understand the council's financial pressures, I believe the long-term impact on our children's wellbeing and education far outweighs the projected savings. I urge the Cabinet to reconsider this decision and explore alternative solutions that keep Roseheyworth Road Campus open. I look forward to receiving acknowledgement of this objection and hearing how these concerns will be addressed in the final Objection Report.
83	I would like to formally raise my objection to the proposed closure of Roseheyworth Primary School. At the council meeting I attended prior to this consultation period, it was stated that if the school did not close, other services would suffer. However, when asked which services would be affected, the Council responded that <i>"that hasn't been looked at yet."</i> This gives the strong impression that alternative savings have not been fully explored before deciding that Education should bear the impact. It leaves parents feeling that our children are being placed at the forefront of the cuts before other areas of the budget have even been considered. The report shared as part of the proposal contained incorrect data, inconsistencies, and figures that did not align throughout the document. Even after amendments were made, errors remained. This raises serious concerns about how thoroughly the proposal has been assessed and reviewed. It is difficult to have confidence in the conclusions when the foundational information is flawed. The proposal also states that the closure would cause minimal disruption to families who currently walk to school, as the Roseheyworth campus is "only 1.5 miles" from the Tillery Street campus. This assessment does not take into account the actual capacity of Tillery Street, nor the fact that many Roseheyworth pupils would instead be redirected to the Six Bells campus. Without acknowledging this, the proposal cannot accurately reflect the true impact on families' daily routines, travel, and childcare arrangements. Additionally, the proposal suggests that the impact on ALN students will be minimal. This is extremely concerning. ALN pupils cannot be grouped into a single category for a blanket assessment. Each child has individual needs, specific support requirements, and trusted adults and environments that help them feel safe. The closure of the school risks removing those safe spaces and relationships and may reduce the level of support they receive. To suggest that this will have minimal impact demonstrates a worrying lack of understanding or appreciation for the needs of these students. For the reasons outlined above, I strongly object to the closure of Roseheyworth Primary School.
84	I object to Roseheyworth school closing because all of us are going to Six Bells primary and the school will be overwhelmed with children. And I don't want to be separated from my friends if they choose to go to a different school. Also it will be my last year of the school when I get to Six Bells if Roseheyworth school closes.

85	I go to Roseheyworth school, I do not want Roseheyworth school to close. I don't want to lose my teachers, my school is my safe space, I will be anxious in a new school. I don't want to be separated from my friends.
86	I am currently attending Roseheyworth primary school in year 5. My mam is writing this on my behalf as I am only 10. I do not want the school to close as I love my school and my teachers. This is my objection. I have a great routine and all the staff at the school understanding my needs. I have lots of friends who help me too. If the school closes, I will still have my final primary year there, but I don't know how it will look for me. New teachers/ stand in supply teachers if any of my teachers leave. They don't know what I like or need. The routine will be totally gone, and I won't get the help I need, as I need to sign to communicate and my teachers there now have learned how to sign for me.
87	I do not agree to closure of school as it will affect education of children in area.
88	I have seen it on the news lately, and I do not agree with shutting Roseheyworth School. I have seen 33% rise with children with depression and anxiety within age 10 years and 15 years. This would be a massive disruption to these children's lives they could also suffer from these issues
89	Class sizes in other schools will increase and children education will suffer
90	I do not agree with the closure of Roseheyworth school because its going to be a massive disruption to the children and what about children with special needs.
91	I do not agree to the closure of Roseheyworth school because of the children's education it is not fair they are trying to shut the school because of money problems. It will affect 3 schools immensely and what about the children with special needs.
92	I strongly object to the closure of Roseheyworth school, I feel it is unfair on the other three schools to have extra children to teach this will have an impact on not only children, families and staff.
93	I disagree with the closure of Roseheyworth school, I feel it will have a massive impact on the children's education
94	This is absolutely stupid for lots of reasons, for a start have you seen the traffic down at Six Bells school stie at school times. What about people from Roseheyworth no thought at all. Also what about the children themselves talking them from their own environment.
95	I do not agree with the closure of Roseheyworth school. It is a valuable resource for the local children.
96	It is disgraceful to close such a lovely school, children are going to suffer immensely if they close the school.
97	We object to the closure of Roseheyworth School due to the children's education will suffer and has impacted schools.
98	I strongly disagree to the closure of Roseheyworth school as it would have detrimental effect to all in Abertillery.
99	I strongly oppose to the closure of Roseheyworth school. It would have an immense impact on the children and also Abertillery.
100	Have the education board thought of the impact to the children. Will they have transport to a new school.
101	I disagree with school closing it will cause over-crowding in classes and disruption for the children.
102	I think it's the children who will suffer from the school closing they don't like change
103	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth primary. Please think about the impact on the kids and families. Wellbeing, transport, ALN kids, Parking all this will be affected
104	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school. The school is the heart of the most deprived area in Blaenau Gwent. This may be the kids from that area only safe place, or meal they have that day. There is no way a child can walk to Tillery Street or Six Bells if they are in the catchment area of 1.5 miles most families will struggle. The parking and safety issues Tillery Street and Six Bells is horrendous and a major safety concern. Look after our kids
105	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school. My granddaughter attends this school and there is no way she would be able to walk to Tillery St from where she lives in the avenues, she lives within the catchment area but she is only 4 and it is too far and my daughter doesn't drive.

	The children that attend the school with Additional needs need to be looked after and by putting them in mainstream classes of 30 kids is not what they need or what they will be able to cope with. Alongside the traffic, parking safety, wellbeing of the kids and families this is not the best way to save money. Please think about the families.
106	I object against the closure of Roseheyworth primary school. My nephew attends the school and he has additional learning needs, I know this will have a massive impact on him. Please think about all the kids in this school and the affected families no just the money. There is such a concern around the safe routes to school and the larger class sizes our children will have to attend. Parking and congestion around Six Bells and Tillery Street is a huge issue. Please think about the families.
107	I do not agree with the closure of Roseheyworth because I have reviewed this closely and think it's disgusting. How you need all the deputy heads when the money should be spent on keeping the school open. It is going to be a massive disruption for children and parents.
108	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth primary school. My grandson attends this school and he has Down Syndrome he is capable of being in mainstream as they class sizes are smaller there is no way he will cope with a class of 30+. Kids wellbeing must be the most important issue and not money.
109	I do not agree with the closure of Roseheyworth school. It will affect the children's education immensely especially the children with Additional Learning Needs.
110	I do not agree with the closure of Roseheyworth school this will impact on children's education especially children with Special needs.
111	I don't agree with the closure of Roseheyworth because of children's education.
112	I do not agree with closing Roseheyworth school because it will affect the children's needs.
113	I do not agree with the closure of Roseheyworth school, this will effect children's education and special needs children.
114	I do not agree with the closure of Roseheyworth school. I strongly agree it would affect the children's education placing them in larger classes.
115	I don't agree with the closure due to lack of provision.
116	We don't agree with the closure due to lack of educational provision
117	We don't agree with the closure due to lack of educational provision
118	I don't agree with the closure due to lack of educational provision.
119	I do not agree with the closure of Roseheyworth school because it's bad for the children education.
120	I do not agree with closing of Roseheyworth school because it will affective children's education.
121	I do not agree with the closure of Roseheyworth school. I think it would affect the children who live closer to the school that would have to travel further for education
122	I don't agree, the closure of Roseheyworth school because of our children's education.
123	I do not agree with the closure of Roseheyworth, due to affecting children's education also families with lack of transport not to mention Special needs support also.
124	I do not agree with the closure of Roseheyworth school because effect on the children.
125	I do not agree to the closure of Roseheyworth school, because it affects children's education who can't have another school to close what about special needs classes.
126	I do not agree with closure of Roseheyworth primary because there arnt enough schools and special needs.
127	I do not agree with the closure of the school, children need stability and their familiar teachers.
128	I don't agree with Roseheyworth school closing because there would be too much disruption to the children's education.

129	I oppose any thoughts of closing Roseheyworth school. This school runs for the children of the local community. The teaching is at 100% always the social care given by all is above and beyond. This school has had the same families and children and siblings going there for 26 years. About special needs teaching is also much loved and needed here this school must not close.
130	What an absurd suggestion on the Roseheyworth school. I oppose this school closing on the grounds that this school is very much needed for the local children and where siblings and their close community. We credit the teaching and social care these children are given along with the special need classes this school must not close.
131	Roseheyworth school is a great school that needs to be saved at all costs. It has a good reputation with local families who find all aspects of their children's teaching just great. They are approachable and knowledgeable and care. The special needs is a godsend for families and the like who need that extra professional teaching this school must never be closed.
132	This school at Roseheyworth is a much-needed part of the community and it would be a travesty to even think of closing it. I have friends whose children are the special needs classes and could not travel any distance to another school. This school has a good rating in teaching and social care and is a viable asset to the Roseheyworth and surrounding area. It must stay open.
133	The school at Roseheyworth should never be closed. Families and siblings have been through here, there is a community that requires the best care and teaching and Roseheyworth gives this in spades. Staff are well thought of and always approachable. Special needs classes are already given 2 nd class after thoughts but here the classes are a much-needed lifeline. This school should and must be saved.
134	I don't agree with the closure of Roseheyworth School due to the special needs classes, a great school with a great facilities schedule, socialising for these children is paramount teachers become well known by each and every child upheaval they don't need. This school is needed and wanted by the local children and the wider community.
135	I strongly object about the school closing children will lose out on their education. Think of the children and not yourselves.
136	Children are going to suffer and special needs won't stand a chance.
137	Roseheyworth school is an integral part of the community and being one of the poorest areas in the uk. It is important to give the children in the area the best opportunity possible.
138	I object to closing of Roseheyworth school. Its detrimental for the wellbeing of the children.
139	I strongly disagree with the closure of Millenium school Roseheyworth school. Question the pay scale of the headmaster and above for too much money in the wrong places.
140	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school. The community will be worse off if it closes and children and families will be negatively impacted if it closes.
141	I strongly object to the closure of Roseheyworth school. The other schools in the area will be overwhelmed with pupils and most importantly the children's education will suffer.
142	I strongly object to the closure of Roseheyworth school. Think of the children there are not enough room in most classes already without closing a perfectly good school.
143	Not enough room in Tillery street, kids education will be affected.
144	Please think of the kids, don't close the school, reduce the number of councillors if you need to.
145	I object to the school closing must try and stop this school too crowded.
146	My grandchildren go to Six Bells means bigger classes large enough now. No parking now not going to cope with numbers im against
147	I object to the closure of a great school that is new to Abertillery. Too much greed and privatisation.
148	I strongly object to the proposed closure of Roseheyworth primary school, the impact it has on the children, their education and the effect on communities where they are proposing to move them too.

149	I strongly object the closure of Roseheyworth school it is absolutely ridiculous it will affect the children's education immensely.
150	Budgets before people, especially young children is totally abhorrent.
151	I strongly object to the proposed closure of Roseheyworth primary school – huge impact on the community.
152	Keep Roseheyworth school open as there will be more traffic to Six Bells.
153	I do not agree with the closure of Roseheyworth school because children's education will suffer.
154	Children's education is the most important please think hard of the children's future. Education is more important for the children than money.
155	I object to the school being closed because of the children they are going to suffer immensely.
156	I object to Roseheyworth school closing maybe you would reduce the Councillors and their salary to keep the school open.
157	The reason being teachers jobs and the children will have to travel.
158	Think of the children for once in your life think of the overcrowded classes.
159	Oppose because it will disrupt my children learning in moving school.
160	Strongly disagree to the closure as this will seriously affect the future generation.
161	I strongly disagree to this being closed as it will affect the children's education forcing them into bigger classes making it more disruptive.
162	It sounds like the school is being closed or all the wrong reasons – mismanagement for one.
163	Totally against closure of Roseheyworth school worried about the future of our children.
164	I disagree on the closure of Roseheyworth primary school definitely not fair on teachers or pupils.
165	I disagree on the closure of Roseheyworth primary school it isn't fair for the teachers pupils and community.
166	I object to the school closing because the kids are losing out on education sad for the children.
167	My great granddaughter attends here, it will affect everyone it is not acceptable.
168	I object to the school closing must try and stop this school too crowded.
169	I object to the school closing must try and stop this school too crowded.
170	I object to the school closing must try and stop this school too crowded.
171	I object to the school closing must try and stop this school too crowded.
172	I disagree on the closure of Roseheyworth school because of children's education will suffer. It's about time for the Council to put their act together.
173	Disagree
174	Disagree
175	Disagree
176	Disagree
177	Disagree
178	Disagree
179	Disagree
180	Disagree
181	Disagree
182	Disagree
183	Disagree
184	Disagree
185	Disagree

186	Disagree
187	Disagree
188	Disagree
189	Disagree
190	Disagree
191	Disagree
192	Disagree
193	Disagree
194	Disagree
195	New building what a waste
196	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth primary school
197	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth primary school
198	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth primary school
199	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth primary school
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217	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth primary school
218	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth primary school
219	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth primary school
220	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school, please keep this asset to our community open
221	I object to the school closing
222	I object to the school closing

223	I object to Roseheyworth school being closed.
224	I object to Roseheyworth school closing
225	I strongly object to Roseheyworth school closing.
226	I strongly object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
227	I strongly object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
228	I object to the school closing
229	I object to the school closing
230	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
231	I strongly object to Roseheyworth school closing.
232	I object to the school closing
233	I strongly disagree
234	I disagree with the school closing
235	I strongly disagree to closure of school
236	I do not agree with the school closing
237	I object to this school closure
238	I object
239	I strongly object to the school closing
240	I object to this closure
241	I object to the school closing
242	1 object to Roseheyworth school closing
243	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
244	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
245	I do not agree with Roseheyworth Campus closing
246	I not agree with Roseheyworth school closing
247	I do not agree with Roseheyworth closing
248	I object to Roseheyworth school being closed down
249	Do not agree only single story school
250	I disagree it's a brand new building
251	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
252	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
253	I strongly object to closing of Roseheyworth primary school closing
254	What a waste of money. I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
255	I strongly object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
256	I object to closing Roseheyworth Ysgol.
257	I do not agree
258	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
259	I strongly disagree with the closure of Roseheyworth school

260	Disagree to school closure
261	I object to Roseheyworth school closing
262	Please don't close the school we need it for all our children to go too
263	Object school Roseheyworth closing
264	Listen to communities protect children's future
265	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
266	I object
267	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
268	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
269	I strongly reject to the closure of Roseheyworth school
270	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
271	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
272	I reject to the closure of Roseheyworth school
273	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
274	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
275	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
276	I am with the majority of the people of Abertillery very much and oppose the closure of the said school. Why?
277	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
278	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
279	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
280	I object to the school closing
281	I object to shutting Roseheyworth school
282	I object to Roseheyworth school closing
283	I do not agree to close Roseheyworth
284	I don't agree with the closure of Roseheyworth school
285	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
286	I absolutely object to school closure Roseheyworth
287	I object
288	I object
289	I object to Roseheyworth school closing
290	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
291	Do not close the school
292	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
293	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
294	I strongly object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
295	I object to closure
296	I object to closure

297	Strongly object
298	2 kids going to Tillery Street
299	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth primary school
300	I strongly object to Roseheyworth school closure
301	Strongly object to closure of Roseheyworth school
302	Strongly object to closure of Roseheyworth school
303	Strongly object to closure of Roseheyworth school
304	I strongly object to closure of Roseheyworth
305	I strongly object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
306	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
307	I object to Roseheyworth school closing
308	I object the closure of Roseheyworth school it's a disgrace
309	I Strongly object to closure of Roseheyworth school
310	I disagree on the closing of Roseheyworth school
311	I do not want it shut Roseheyworth school
312	I object to Roseheyworth school closing please think again
313	I object to Roseheyworth school closing
314	I object to the objection to the closure of Roseheyworth school
315	I am strongly in favour with the group to save the school
316	Object Roseheyworth school closing
317	I do not agree with Roseheyworth closing
318	I do not agree with the school closing
319	I do not agree with the school closing
320	I do not agree with the school closing
321	Please save our school
322	I strongly object to the closure of Roseheyworth school (think of the children) not yourself
323	I object to Roseheyworth school closing
324	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
325	I object to Roseheyworth school closing
326	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
327	I object to closure of Roseheyworth school
328	Object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
329	Object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
330	I do not consent
331	I disagree on the closure of Roseheyworth school
332	I object to the closing of Roseheyworth school
333	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school

334	I object
335	Object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
336	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
337	I strongly object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
338	I strongly object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
339	I strongly object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
340	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
341	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
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344	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
345	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
346	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
347	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
348	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
349	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
350	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
351	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
352	I object to the Roseheyworth school closing
353	I strongly object to the closure of Roseheyworth
354	Save our school in Roseheyworth
355	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
356	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
357	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
358	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
359	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
360	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
361	I strongly object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
362	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
363	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
364	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
365	I object to the closure of our school
366	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
367	Object to school closure
368	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
369	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
370	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school

371	I do not agree
372	I object to the school closing
373	I object to the closing as I work in this school
374	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
375	I object to this school closure
376	Object to close the school
377	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
378	I object to school closing
379	I strongly disagree with the closure of Roseheyworth school
380	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school
381	I strongly disagree with the closure of Roseheyworth school
382	I object to closing Roseheyworth school
383	I object to Roseheyworth school closing
384	Where are the kids going to go without transport. I object to the closure
385	The children are our future so why close a school that has all my grandchildren in and is excellent
386	Both my children are fully grown there was no problem in getting to school or choice of schools really stupid
387	I object to the closure of Roseheyworth school I spent all my primary years at this wonderful little school I made the best friends. Please look after the little people they deserve more
388	I do not agree with the closure of the school we need multiple local schools in our area it won't help in the long run shutting these local schools.
389	I object to closing Roseheyworth school