

Appendix 1

Summary of responses to the consultation relating to the closure of the SRB at Hendre Junior School

Response received & Reference	Method of response	Response to Proposal to Close SRB	Responder	Summary of responses & issues raised	LA Response
1. AF2075589	Online form	No	Parent of Ex pupil	The respondent considered that his children benefitted from interaction with hearing impaired children. He considered that the closure of the SRB would be a loss to the school and community.	
2. AF2077809	Online form	No	Governor anonymous	The respondent acknowledged that children with a hearing impairment should be in mainstream but felt that the SRB class should be utilised as a SRB for children with speech and language difficulties.	
3. AF2078727	Online form	Not sure	NDCS	The respondent from the NDCS indicated that they could not reach a firm decision on the closure of the base without a clearer indication on	The LA has asked to meet with a representative of the NDCS and regional HI service to discuss issues raised

				the impact it will have on deaf children. The NCDS also commented on the lack of proactive consultation with key stakeholders.	
4. 9 th February 2016	Email	Yes	Governing Body Hendre Junior School	The email supports the closure of the SRB for children with a hearing impairment. The email expresses the view that the Governing Body's request that the SRB was re-designated as a speech and language SRB is not reflected in the Consultation Document.	Mrs Keri Cole, Chief Education Officer, responded to this email – the transcript of this response is included below
5. 10 th February 2016	Email	No opinion given but further information requested	Penyrheol Trecenydd Energlyn Community Council	The email requested further information on numbers projected to attend the SRB, queried issues around speech and language provision and expressed concern regarding money invested in the SRB class	Ms J Elias, Service Manager, responded to this email – the transcript of this response is included below
6. 14 th February 2016	Email	yes	Regional Hearing Impaired	The email acknowledged increasing	The LA has asked to meet with a

			Service	parental choice for mainstream over specialist HI education. Consideration needs to be given to pupils who may want to be educated with deaf peers and also on the possible impact on the regional service in of more support in mainstream for HI pupils.	representative of the NCDS and regional HI service to discuss issues raised
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Copy of email sent in reply to consultation response no. 4

From: Butler, Gwenda **On Behalf Of** Cole, Keri
Sent: 15 February 2016 10:37
To: Cllr. Sargent, M.E
Subject: RE: Consultation document on the proposal to close the SRB for children with a Hearing Impairment at Hendre Junior School

Dear Margaret,

Thank you for your email. Your response to the consultation document will be included in the consultation report, which will be issued in March.

I acknowledge that the Governing Body did make the suggestion that the SRB could be re-designated as a speech and language class. However, as was discussed at the meeting, the Local Authority considers there is adequate specialist speech and language provision in Caerphilly. There are four SRB classes shared between Coed y Brain Primary School and Tir y Berth Primary School which can accommodate 32 pupils in total. In addition these settings offer an outreach support service and part-time assessment places for children. In the Welsh Medium sector the SRB in Cwm Derwen provides for children with significant speech and language impairments.

The SRB at St Cenydd does accommodate children with speech and language impairments but this not a discrete class. The majority of children attending the SRBs in Tir y Berth and Coed y Brain go on to attend their catchment secondary school and this is an increasing trend for those pupils who do not have additional special educational needs. As the numbers of children attending the SRB in St Cenydd has reduced considerably over the past five years the Local Authority and St Cenydd Community School are currently undertaking a joint review of the SRB to consider options for the future.

I believe it was discussed at the Governors' meeting that the ALN review has identified that there is a shortage of specialist provision for children and young people with behavioural, emotional, and social difficulties. At the time of the meeting, governors did not consider that this was an option they wished to consider. If this an option the Governing Body would like to reconsider I would be very happy to discuss this with them.

Regards
Keri

From: Cllr. Sargent, M.E
Sent: 09 February 2016 15:54
To: Cole, Keri

Cc: Farmer, John M

Subject: Consultation document on the proposal to close the SRB for children with a Hearing Impairment at Hendre Junior School

Good afternoon Keri,

In my capacity as chairman of the Hendre Juniors School Governing Body I have been asked to write to you regarding the above consultation document.

At our recent Governors meeting the consensus of opinion arrived at was that the document does not reflect the many meetings the Governing Body had with Caerphilly County Borough Council Inclusion Service with the aim of securing a Speech and Language unit at the school.

While the Governors agree that children with a hearing impairment want to, and should, be in a mainstream class setting and understand that by using that principal there seems no needs for the facility at Hendre Junior School, the school will remain to have a very well equipped and recently refurbished class compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA). As such it would seem sensible and pragmatic to make use of this facility.

Hendre Junior School and St Cenydd Comprehensive School are, as you know, on the same site and St Cenydd has a Speech and Language class. One of the fundamental reasons for petitioning the Inclusion Service to site a Speech and Language class at Hendre Junior School is for the very fact that this would aid the transition pupils will make from Junior School to the Comprehensive.

The Governors acknowledge that relevant reports have been discussed by committees at the County Borough and we understand and support the closure of the Special Resource Base for children with a Hearing Impairment.

However, The Governors believe that this Consultation should have mentioned that Hendre Junior School would have welcomed a Speech and Language class at the School, especially as there is a Speech and Language class at St Cenydd Comprehensive School.

Look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Kind regards, Margaret

Cllr. Margaret Sargent
Chairman of Governors at Hendre Junior School

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Copy of email sent in reply to consultation response no 5.

From: WWW: School Consultation
Sent: 15 February 2016 11:40
To: 'Helen Treherne'
Cc: Cole, Keri
Subject: RE: Caerphilly CBC - Consultations

Dear Helen,

Thank you for your response to the consultation on behalf of Penyrheol Trecenydd Energlyn Community Council. This will be included in the final consultation report.

One of the reasons that prompted the consultation to close the specialist resource base (SRB) at Hendre Junior School was the fact that there were no pupils with a significant hearing impairment projected to attend the base in this academic year or for the foreseeable future. As discussed in the consultation paper, increasingly parental choice for children with hearing impairment is for them to attend their local catchment school with appropriate support. The Local Authority works very closely with the regional Hearing Impairment Service to ensure that the needs of pupils with hearing impairment are met.

The SRB at Hendre Junior School was not designated to support children with speech and language difficulties as their primary need. It was suggested by the Governing Body at Hendre Junior School that the SRB could be re-designated to accommodate children with speech and language difficulties. However the Local Authority already has sufficient specialist speech and language provision with SRBs in Coed y Brain Primary School and Tir y Berth Primary School. In addition the SRB in Ysgol Cwm Derwen also offers specialist provision for children with speech and language difficulties through the medium of Welsh.

There are children who have complex learning difficulties and/ or physical medical difficulties in addition to a hearing impairment, who require specialist provision. The needs of these children will be accommodated in Complex Needs SRBs of which there are six classes across the Local Authority.

With regard to the SRB classroom this is a resource that the school could use to support pupils with special educational needs on roll at Hendre with specialist interventions and small group work. The Local Authority has indicated to the Governing Body of Hendre Junior School that currently there is a shortage of specialist provision for children with behavioural, emotional and social difficulties. If the Governing Body wanted to consider hosting another SRB this is an option available to them.

I hope this answers the questions from the Community Council. If there are any further queries I can assist you with please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes

Jacquelyn Elias

Service Manager - Additional Learning Needs | Rheolwraig Gwasanaeth –
Anghenion Dysgu Ychwanegol
Caerphilly County Borough Council | Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Caerffili

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From: Helen Treherne [<mailto:ptecouncil@btinternet.com>]

Sent: 10 February 2016 12:19

To: WWW: School Consultation

Subject: Re: Caerphilly CBC - Consultations

Hi

This was discussed at our last Community Council meeting.

Councillors have asked me to obtain from yourselves the projected numbers of pupils for the next five years that would have been attending the Specialist Resource Base at Hendre.

They also enquired whether this included speech and language, as well as hearing impairment?

They were concerned that a lot of money had gone into the Resource Base, which was DDI-compliant etc.

I look forward to hearing from you. Our next meeting is Thursday, 18th February.

Thanks.

Helen

Helen Treherne
Clerk to the Council
Penyrheol Trecenydd Energlyn Community Council

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