

21st Century Schools – Consultation Children and Young People’s Summary

Document 3 of 5

Trinity Fields School and Resource Centre 14th September– 26th October 2020



Ysgolion yr 21ain Ganrif
21st Century Schools



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Hi, I'm **Vision** and this is
my dog **K9-2.1**
We're here to talk to you
about an exciting project
and we want to know what
you think!



Ysgolion yr 21ain Ganrif
21st Century Schools

What we'll talk about:

- What this presentation is about?
- What is the 21st Century Schools Programme?
- What is the project being proposed?
- Who else are we talking with?
- How can you tell us what you think?
- Why is it important for us to know your views?
- Why do we want to carry out the project?
- Will other schools be affected?
- How will the project impact on things like...
 - ✓ Education and Quality
 - ✓ Governance and Staffing
 - ✓ Finance
 - ✓ Welsh Language
 - ✓ Travel and the Environment
 - ✓ Equalities
 - ✓ Specialist Facilities and Additional Learning Needs
 - ✓ The Community
- What will the benefits and disadvantages be?
- Are there any risks?
- Why this project and not something else?
- How long are we gathering views?
- What will happen next?



Introduction

- What this presentation is about?
- What is the 21st Century Schools Programme?

- ✓ Caerphilly Council wants to improve school conditions to raise standards and give every child the best possible start in life.
- ✓ Sometimes schools can be modernised, repaired, refurbished, extended or a new school built entirely.
- ✓ The 21st Century Schools and Colleges Programme is a partnership between the Council and Welsh Government.



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21st Century Schools





Introduction

- What this presentation is about?
- What is the 21st Century Schools Programme?

- ✓ Caerphilly has its own team who bid for money to invest in schools like they've already done for:

Islwyn High
Idris Davies 3-18
Ysgol Gymraeg Cwm Rhymni – Y Gwyndy
Newbridge School
Blackwood Comprehensive
Trinity Fields

- ✓ £56.5 million already spent in Band A of the programme between 2014 and 2019. This proposal would be part of a new Band B programme

- ✓ Band B is focusing on:

- reducing the number of poor condition schools
- ensuring we have the right size schools in the right location
- providing enough places to deliver Welsh and English medium education
- ensuring the effective and efficient use of schools



Here's a photo of the new **Islwyn High**, one of the Band A projects the Council delivered





Introduction

- What this presentation is about?
- What is the 21st Century Schools Programme?



'Woof!' These photos are some examples of what has been achieved





Introduction

- What is the project being proposed?

The Council are proposing to:

- ✓ **To expand the existing Trinity Fields School and Resource Centre, via a new building extension and outdoor play space.**
- ✓ The proposed new building will provide additional facilities to accommodate growing demand for places and provide additional classrooms, specialist intervention areas and outdoor play space
- ✓ It will also house a new flexible hall, hydrotherapy pool and soft play facilities to increase provision on site which will also be considered for community use at suitable times in keeping with the curriculum timetable.
- ✓ To future proof the current site by ensuring that it can cater for the changing and more complex requirements of those with Additional Learning Needs





Consultation

- Who else are we talking with?

- ✓ The Council has to follow a piece of legislation produced by the Welsh Government called the **School Organisation Code 2018** when they want to make any changes to a school.
- ✓ This proposal falls under the heading called making a *'Regulated Alteration to a special school'*
- ✓ The Code says that the Council has to write to a number of groups (by letter or email) and tell them about what they would like to do, this includes:
 - Parents
 - Pupils
 - Headteachers, Staff and Governors of the schools affected
 - Other neighbouring Local Authorities
 - The Welsh Minister
 - Local Town and Community Councils
 - ESTYN
- ✓ There is a formal consultation process that must be followed and a Consultation Document must be published in both hardcopy and electronic version
- ✓ The full process is explained in the full Consultation Document

More information can be found here: www.caerphilly.gov.uk/Services/Schools-and-learning/21st-Century-Schools





Consultation

- How can you tell us what you think?
- Why is it important for us to know your views?



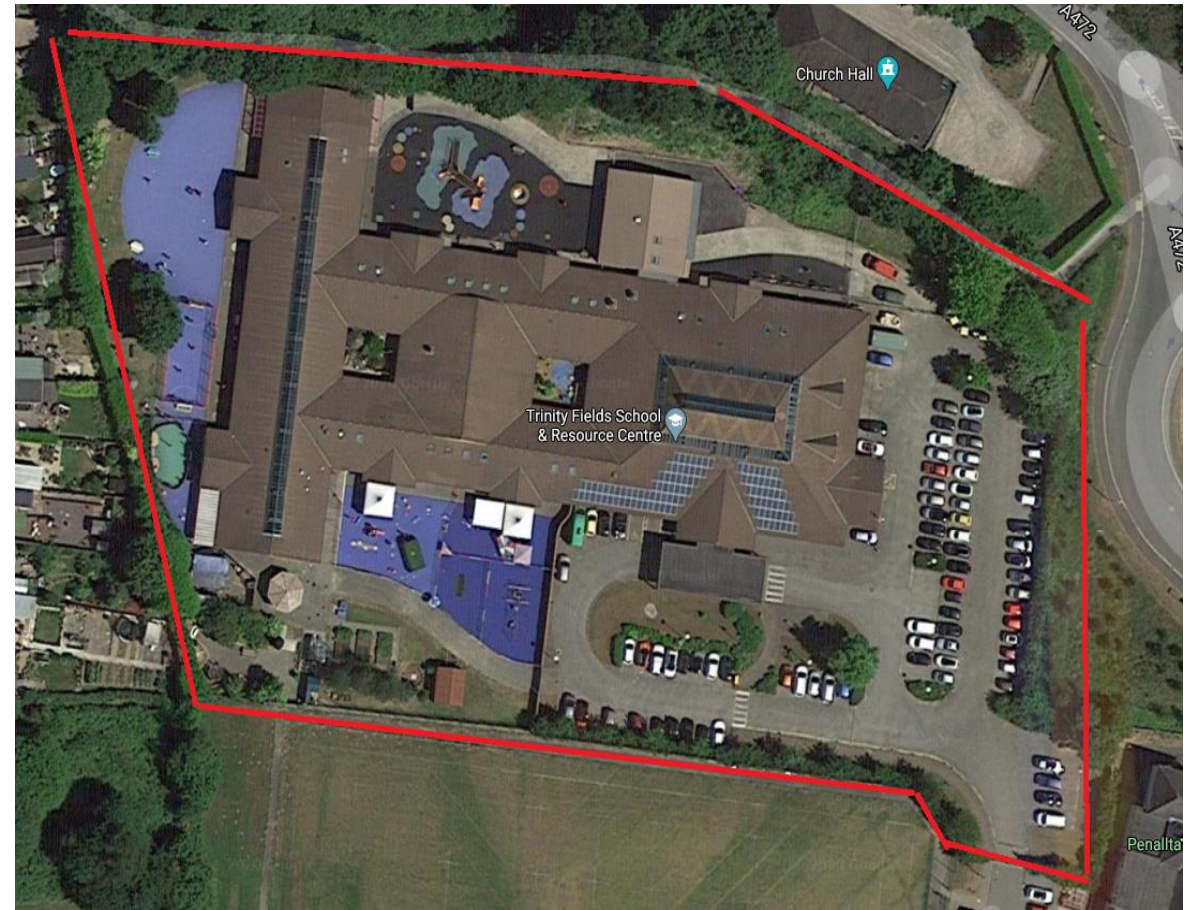
- ✓ There are several ways to tell the Council what you think –
 - Completing the online response form on the Council's website
 - Complete a response pro forma attached to the Consultation Document and return it to the 21st Century School Team at Caerphilly
 - Email your comments to the 21st Century Schools Team 21stCenturySchools@caerphilly.gov.uk
- ✓ The Closing date for responses to this consultation is midnight on **Monday 26th October 2020**
- ✓ Your views matter and we welcome any in support or opposed to the proposal.
This is your chance to ask questions and make comments that will be considered when the Council decides how to proceed.
- ✓ The 21st Century Schools Team will be meeting with the School Council. The voice of young people in the development, delivery, management and improvement of their education is at the heart of everything.



Proposal

- Background

- ✓ Trinity Field School is the only Special School in the Borough
- ✓ It provides Education and Specialist Facilities for our most vulnerable pupils
- ✓ It caters for pupils from ages 3-19
- ✓ At present the school has 170 pupils on roll with more expected
- ✓ There is no capacity of space to expand the current building configuration





Proposal

- Why do we want to carry out the project?

Planning of School Places	Condition and Suitability	Master Plan
<p><i>The Council must provide enough school spaces for pupils:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ There must be enough places for pupils with additional learning needs➤ Demand is increasing➤ Children are surviving longer with more complex learning and medical needs➤ A placement Panel meets to calculate the number of places needed	<p><i>The Council must ensure that schools are fit for purpose:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ The current Trinity Fields School was purpose built in 1998➤ We know that the site has been reconfigured to make the most of the space including a hydrotherapy pool, sensory garden and independent living areas➤ The Condition Survey rates the school as a 'B'	<p><i>The Council has a Regeneration Strategy for the Caerphilly area:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Supporting People – reducing inequality and creating healthier, prosperous, cohesive communities➤ Supporting Business – creating employment opportunities➤ Supporting Quality of Life – providing the right physical environments➤ Connecting People and Places – improving connectivity






Other Schools?

- Will other schools be affected?

- ✓ Trinity Fields is the only Special School in the Borough
- ✓ Each school has its own catchment area. If you live in that area you are eligible to attend that school subject to availability
- ✓ The catchment area for Trinity covers the whole Authority
- ✓ Admission numbers are decided by a Specialist Placement Panel
- ✓ There is satellite provision in some schools (Special Resource Bases) and how these are set up will remain unchanged

Special school catchment areas	
	1 Trinity Fields
	Trinity Fields School is the only Special School within the Authority so the catchment for the school covers the entire borough.



Trinity Fields has a large Catchment Area.

I'll bring my ball 



What is the Impact?

- How will the project impact on things like...
 - ✓ Education and Quality

- ✓ Quality and standards are monitored by Estyn and the Local Authority
- ✓ Trinity had its last Estyn inspection in 2019



Summary of Judgements: Trinity Fields Special School – inspected June 2019

IA1 – Standards	IA2 – Wellbeing and attitudes to learning	IA3 – Teaching and learning experiences	IA4 – Care, support and guidance	IA5 – Leadership and management
Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent



- ✓ During (and after) the proposal, the School will continue to receive ongoing advice and support from the local authority, school improvement service and any relevant stakeholders to help ensure that the school maintains effective leadership and provides high quality teaching and learning experiences.



What is the Impact?

- How will the project impact on things like...
 - ✓ Staff



- ✓ School staff play an important role in ensuring pupils are learning in a safe and supportive learning environment
- ✓ Good staff foster positive, trusting relationships with pupils and improve the school climate by encouraging parent and family involvement in education.
- ✓ The Council wants to retain the experience and support of the existing staff at the school
 - No reductions in staffing levels are proposed
 - There is potential to increase the number of staff
- ✓ The Council wants to encourage workforce development through the sharing of best practice.
- ✓ The Governing Body of the School will also stay the same



What is the Impact?

- How will the project impact on things like...
 - ✓ Finance

- ✓ The Council has already set aside funding for it's share of the project (*Capital costs*)
- ✓ Any ongoing cost will be part of budget planning moving forward (*Revenue costs*)
- ✓ There is a reserve of £5.766 million to support the first 2 Band B projects
- ✓ Initial increased costs have been identified to expand the school on the adjacent site but this will be offset by improved site management of entire combined facility
- ✓ The pay-to-use pitch identified to build on is owned by the Council and needs to be transferred from 'recreational' to 'educational' use. The Council is looking to reduce the impact of that loss of this pitch by developing others nearby

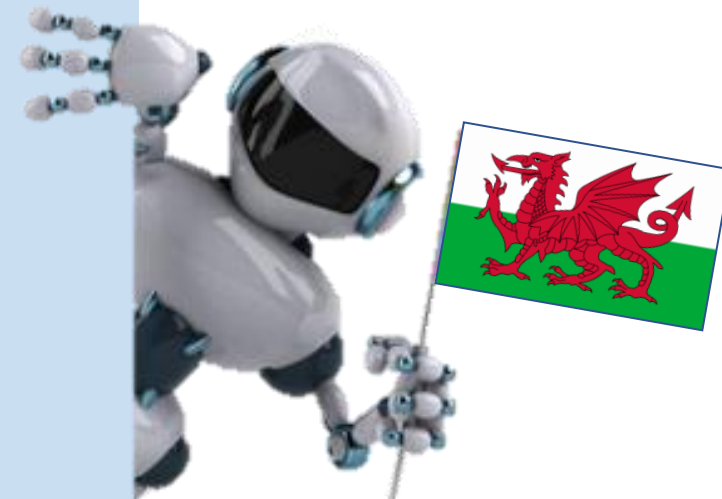




What is the Impact?

- How will the project impact on things like...
 - ✓ Welsh Language

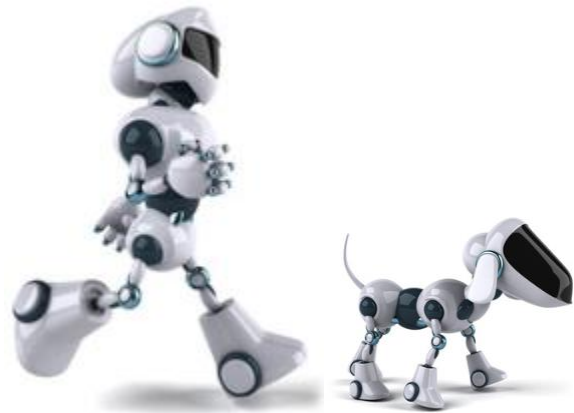
- ✓ The Council has to follow a piece of legislation called the **School Standards and Organisations (Wales) Act 2013** which places a duty on the Council to assess the demand for Welsh medium education in the area
- ✓ The Council has produced a 5 year strategy called the **Welsh in Education Strategic Plan** with the aim of increasing the number of Welsh Speakers by 2050
- ✓ The school has responsibility to understand and record the home language of all the pupils and actively offer Welsh provision if the home language is Welsh
- ✓ The school already employs a number of teachers and teaching assistants who are Welsh speakers
- ✓ Effective Additional Learning Need provision through the medium of Welsh could be provided if Welsh speaking families are identified





What is the Impact?

- How will the project impact on things like...
 - ✓ Travel and the Environment



- ✓ The Council has to follow a piece of legislation called the **Learner Travel Measure (Wales) 2008** and provide transport for pupils of statutory school age
- ✓ The Council's Transport Policy helps pupils to get to their school (i.e nearest school) if they live more than 1.5 miles away from a Primary or 2 miles for a Secondary
- ✓ The proposed new site for the extension is directly next to the existing Trinity Fields School. Therefore there will be no impact on the distance travelled for those pupils already attending the school
- ✓ None the less, the Council has to carry out an assessment to help understand how this proposal will impact on the time it takes you to get to school
- ✓ To help the environment the Council will look at supporting safe walking routes and cycle paths into the school as well as new drop-off zones
- ✓ The new part of the building will also be low carbon and eco-friendly with the designs considering things like solar panels, automated lighting, special glazing, venting and enhanced outdoor spaces



What is the Impact?

- How will the project impact on things like...
 - ✓ Equalities

- ✓ People have different needs, requirements and goals
- ✓ The Council is working to tackle discrimination and promote good relations and mutual respect within our communities
- ✓ Impact Assessments are a tool to show how projects and policies are ensuring equal access to all our services
- ✓ A full Equalities and Welsh Language Impact Assessment has been carried out
- ✓ In addition, a Community Impact Assessment has been undertaken looking:
 - Proportion of catchment pupils
 - Facilities and Services provided at the current school and what happens if they move
 - Where are the next nearest alternative schools and how far away are they
 - How to proposal would impact on health and wellbeing
 - Any wider implications on transport and community safety
- ✓ The full version of the Community Impact Assessment can be found in the Full Consultation Document



To read all the Impact Assessments, visit:

www.caerphilly.gov.uk/Services/Schools-and-learning/21st-Century-Schools



What is the Impact?

- How will the project impact on things like...
 - ✓ Specialist Facilities / Additional Learning Needs

- ✓ All learners have a right to equality of opportunity and high quality education
- ✓ The Council has a Strategy for providing specialist support for pupils with Special Education Needs or disabilities.
- ✓ A key principle is keeping children close to home where possible and not travel out of the Borough
- ✓ The number of children with needs requiring specialist provision is increasing
- ✓ This proposal will expand the Special school to provide additional support and meet local need for our most vulnerable pupils
- ✓ The New building will be built to **Building Bulletin 104** standard to ensure facilities are fit for all
- ✓ Training and development opportunities will be available for staff to work collaboratively





What is the Impact?

- How will the project impact on things like...
 - ✓ The Community

✓ Community Impact

- The design of the new extension will enable safe 'zoning' of sections
- Community use will be encouraged to access the resources available i.e. Pool / Softplay
- Activities in the current school will continue

✓ Community Benefit

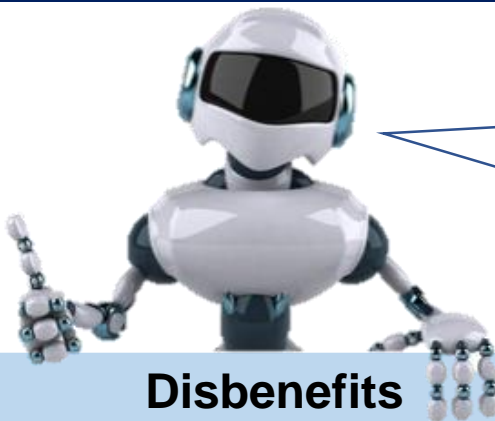
- All 21st Century Schools Project have targets to support the community
- As part of the 'quality' score in the tender process the following are considered:
 - Local recruitment and training
 - Local suppliers
 - Community and Education initiatives i.e. demonstrations in schools
 - Minimising waste, protecting habitats and biodiversity





What are the Benefits?

- What will the benefits and disadvantages be?
- Are there any risks?



These are only a selection. The full list is in the **Consultation Document**

Benefits	Disbenefits	Risks
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Increased capacity with room for more pupils and other services like Health and Social Services facilities on the current site➤ Improved accessibility and energy efficiency➤ Expanded flagship school for Special School education➤ ‘Zoning’ for more Community Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Building works would be taking place next to the school although we’ll try and keep disruption to a minimum➤ The current land for development is owned by the Council but will need to be changed from ‘recreational’ to ‘educational’ use➤ New extension will mean a ‘transition period’ for pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Separate Planning Process to be undertaken➤ Funding to cover extras and any rising costs➤ Availability of contractors➤ Adverse Weather➤ Benefits Realisation (meeting the end user requirements)



What are the Benefits?

- Why this project and not something else?

- ✓ The Council has to consider a number of options for every proposal
- ✓ Each option is scored against a 'shopping' list of criteria to find the one with the best Strategic, Educational, Accessibility, Financial and Environmental Fit

Option	Description
Option 1	Do Nothing
Option 2	Further reconfiguration of the existing school
Option 3	Build a new primary school provision on another site
Option 4	Build a new extension onto the existing school to accommodate an additional 80 places
Option 5	Build a new school on another site to accommodate all identified provision and full cohort of 260 pupils (existing plus additional)



- ✓ For this proposal, the options listed above were considered
- ✓ Option 4 scored the highest with 101 points
(Option 5 = 87 which was the next highest)



Next Steps?

- How long are we gathering views?
- What will happen next?

✓ **Consultation period begins on Monday 14th September 2020**

- ✓ This document is the Children and Young People's Everyday Summary Version
- ✓ Full documentation is available on the Council's website
- ✓ Printed versions and other formats are available on request : **01443 864817**

✓ **Closing date for responses is midnight on Monday 26th October 2020**

- ✓ The Council is following the process in line with the **School Organisation Code 2018**
 - ✓ 42 day consultation period
 - ✓ Consultation Report produced and submitted to cabinet along with comments from this consultation
 - ✓ Cabinet decide how to proceed.
 - ✓ If they do, a Statutory Notice is published with 28 days for objections
 - ✓ Objection Report produced (if there are any received) and final decision is with the Cabinet





What do you think?

- ✓ Your views matter
- ✓ We want you to tell us what you think about the changes we have proposed in this document
- ✓ All views are welcomed in support of or opposed to the proposal.
- ✓ If you would like to comment on the proposal, you can do this by:
 - Completing the online response form on the Council's website
 - Complete a response pro forma attached to this document and return it to the 21st Century School Team at Caerphilly
 - Email your comments to the 21st Century Schools Team at Caerphilly
- ✓ For this proposal, we will be undertaking a paper consultation exercise and we are only able to receive comments in writing. You must include your full name and postal address!





Find Out More

There will also be a FAQ section on the website. Check it out



Rhaglen Ysgolion yr 21ain Ganrif **Cyngor Caerffili** **Caerphilly Council's** 21st Century Schools Programme



Consultation Response 'Trinity Fields'
c/o 21st Century Schools Team
Directorate of Education and Corporate Services
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www.caerphilly.gov.uk/Services/Schools-and-learning/21st-Century-Schools



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