

24 January 2024

Dear Stakeholder

Determination of proposals: Primary school places to serve Cathays and parts of Gabalfa, Heath, Llandaff North and Plasnewydd

I am writing to update you on proposals regarding changes to primary school places to serve Cathays, Gabalfa, Heath, Llandaff North and Plasnewydd as set out below:

- Transfer Ysgol Mynydd Bychan to the current Allensbank Primary School site
- Increase the capacity of Ysgol Mynydd Bychan from 192 places (0.9 Forms of Entry) to 420 places (2 Forms of Entry) and increase the number of nursery places at Ysgol Mynydd Bychan from 64 to 96
- Amalgamate Allensbank and Gladstone Primary Schools, by:
 - Formally closing Allensbank Primary School.
 - Formally closing Gladstone Primary School.
 - Establishing a new 420 place (2 Forms of Entry) English-medium Primary School with nursery on the current shared Gladstone Primary School / St Monica's Church in Wales Primary School site

The proposed changes would take effect from September 2025.

At its meeting on 18 January 2024 the Council considered the proposals, the statutory objections submitted and the Council's response to the objections.

It was noted that there were five objections. The concerns raised are summarised in the objection report together with the response from the Council. It was considered that the responses made by the Council answered the issues raised.

The objection report is available to view on the Council website:

www.cardiff.gov.uk/CathaysGabalfaprimarieschools

The Cabinet approved the proposals as set out above without modification.

The Cabinet was satisfied that:

- The consultation on the proposed changes was carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Welsh Government School Organisation Code (November 2018)



- The proposals were published in accordance with the requirements of the Code and contained all the required information.
- The proposals would maintain the current standards of education and provision in the area.
- The proposals would support each school to continue to improve education for all of their learners
- The proposals would ensure that each school provision offered meets the diverse needs of the local community
- The proposals would support schools to be financially sustainable, with stable school budgets
- The proposals would support schools to allocate a greater proportion of budget to teaching and learning, thereby retaining and increasing opportunities for learners
- The proposals would increase Welsh-medium primary school places by one Form of Entry (210 primary age pupils)
- The proposals would consolidate English-medium primary school places with an appropriate level of surplus.

The proposed changes were brought forward in partnership with the Governing Body of St Monica's Church in Wales Primary School who are proposing to transfer St Monica's Church in Wales Primary School to the current Ysgol Mynydd Bychan site and establish nursery provision at the school from September 2025.

At their meeting on 18 January 2024, the Governing Body of St Monica's Church in Wales Primary School considered their proposal. It was noted that there had been no objections received to the statutory notice published by the Governing Body on 09 November 2023. The Governing Body approved the proposals as set out without modification.

Referral of Local Authority Decision to the Welsh Ministers

Under section 54 of the 2013 Act where proposals have been approved by a local authority the following bodies may before the end of 28 days beginning with the day of the decision, refer the proposal to the Welsh Ministers for consideration:

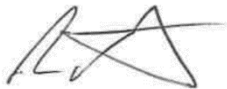
- i. Another local authority affected by the proposals*
- ii. The appropriate religious body for any school affected*
- iii. The Governing Body of a voluntary or foundation school subject to the proposals*
- iv. A trust holding property on behalf of a voluntary or foundation school subject to the proposals; and*

v. A further education institution affected by the proposals

The decision is subject to the call-in procedures as set out in the Council's constitution which allows decisions taken by Cabinet to be reviewed. Should a call in of the decision take place, all stakeholders would be informed.

If you have any queries or require additional information, please contact the School Organisation Planning Team on 029 2087 2720 or via email to schoolresponses@cardiff.gov.uk.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Portas', written in a cursive style.

Richard Portas
Programme Director
School Organisation