

# CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

**Report to:** Cabinet

**Date of meeting:** 3 June 2024

**Title:** The proposal to amend the Language Medium of the Foundation Learning at New Quay Primary School

**Purpose of the report:** To seek determination of the proposal to amend the Language Medium of the Foundation Learning at New Quay Primary School

**For:** Decision

**Cabinet Portfolio and Cabinet Member:**

**Councillor Wyn Thomas, Cabinet Member for Schools, Lifelong Learning and Skills**

## **Introduction**

Cabinet agreed at their meeting on the 2 May 2023 that a statutory consultation should take place on the proposal to amend the language medium of the foundation learning and admit 3 year old pupils on a part time basis at New Quay Primary School.

At the beginning of the consultation period a consultation document and impact assessment document were published and consultees were given 42 days in which to respond, with 20 days being school days. The statutory consultation period commenced on the 15 September 2023 until the 30 October 2023. **Appendix A and Appendix B**

Consultation comments received were summarised and published in a consultation report which was presented to Cabinet on the 19 March 2024. **Appendix C**

A decision was made by Cabinet on the 19 March 2024 to proceed to publish the statutory notice to amend the Language Medium of the Foundation Learning from September 2025 providing a 28 day notice period to submit objections. **Appendix D**

The statutory notice was published on the 8 April 2024 and no objections to the proposal were received.

The reasons for formulating the proposal are considered valid due to the following factors.

## **Quality and standard in education**

Estyn recognises the positive moves the local authority is proposing to develop the Welsh language in schools in the area.

## **Need for places and the impact on accessibility**

The proposal will not impact on the need for places and accessibility.

## **Resourcing of education**

This proposal will ensure language equity across all schools in the authority.

The proposal to amend the language medium of the foundation learning at New Quay Primary School if approved, will be implemented in accordance with the date given in the statutory notice which is the 1 September 2025.

## **Wellbeing of Future Generations:**

**Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If not, please state why.**

Community, Welsh Language and Equality impact Assessments completed as part of the statutory consultation.

## **Summary of Integrated Impact Assessment:**

**Long term:** Ensuring the long-term sustainability of education in the community and ensuring a community of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language. Giving pupils the opportunity to contribute towards the target set by Welsh Government to increase the number of Welsh speakers to a million by 2050.

**Collaboration:** Discussions with the Governing Body have taken place whilst developing the proposal. The consultation involved extensive engagement with stakeholders.

**Involvement:** The proposal was subject to a formal statutory consultation which included targeted stakeholder engagement.

**Prevention:** Concerns raised are responded to through continuous and clear engagement with stakeholders and partners throughout the planning and consultation period.

**Integration:** The Welsh Language is central to the operation of Ceredigion County Council and its strategic objectives. Community integration is central to all schools, creating an environment that support culture, heritage and the Welsh Language.

## **Recommendation(s):**

**Members are requested to:**

- 1. Approve the proposal to amend the language medium of the foundation learning at New Quay Primary School in accordance with the Statutory Notice.**

## **Reasons for decision:**

**Proposal must receive final determination within 16 weeks of the objection period in line to comply with the requirements of the School Organisation Code - 011/2018.**

## **Overview and Scrutiny:**

Presented to Learning Communities - Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 30 March 2023

**Policy Framework:**

The School Organisation Code -Welsh Government Statutory Code - 011/2018  
Welsh in Education Strategic Plan - 2022 -2032  
Principles for Ensuring Sustainable Educational Infrastructure May 2023

**Corporate Well-being Objectives:**

Providing the Best Start in Life and Enabling Learning at All Ages

**Finance and Procurement implications:**

n/a

**Legal Implications:**

n/a

**Staffing implications:**

n/a

**Property / asset implications:**

n/a

**Risk(s):**

Failure to deliver the outcomes of the WESP 2022-32 if the proposal is not approved

**Statutory Powers:**

School Organisation Code - Welsh Government Statutory Code -- 011 /2018

**Background Papers:**

n/a

**Appendices:**

Appendix A- Statutory Consultation Report  
Appendix B- Impact Assessment Document  
Appendix C- Consultation Response Document  
Appendix D- Statutory Notice  
Appendix E- Estyn Report

**Corporate Lead Officer:**

Clive Williams, Corporate Lead Officer: Schools

**Reporting Officer:**

Clive Williams, Corporate Lead Officer: Schools

**Date:**

10 May 2024

# APPENDIX A

**CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL – SCHOOLS SERVICE**

**SCHOOL REORGANISATION**

**STATUTORY CONSULTATION DOCUMENT**



Cyngor Sir  
**CEREDIGION**  
County Council

**PROPOSAL TO  
AMEND LANGUAGE MEDIUM OF THE  
FOUNDATION LEARNING AND ADMIT  
3-YEAR-OLD PUPILS ON A PART TIME  
BASIS AT NEW QUAY PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**DATE: SEPTEMBER 2023**

# 1. INTRODUCTION

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In accordance with section 84 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 all Local Authorities in Wales are expected to submit a Welsh Language Education Strategic Plan to Welsh Government.

The Welsh Language in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) was adopted by Ceredigion Cabinet on 20 February 2022 and was approved by Welsh Government on 20 July 2022. The WESP complies with the Welsh Government's Welsh Education Strategic Plans 2019 regulations. Strategic plans were created for the following areas in order to develop and strengthen the Welsh language.

**Outcome 1:** More nursery/three-year-old children being educated through the medium of Welsh

**Outcome 2:** More reception class/five-year-old children being educated through the medium of Welsh

**Outcome 3:** More children continuing to improve their Welsh language skills when transferring from one stage of their statutory education to another

**Outcome 4:** More learners studying for qualifications in Welsh (as a subject) and subjects through the medium of Welsh

**Outcome 5:** More opportunities for learners to use the Welsh language in different contexts in the School

**Outcome 6:** Extend the Welsh language education provision for pupils with Additional Learning Needs ("ALN") (in accordance with the duties set out by the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018)

**Outcome 7:** An increase in the number of teaching staff that can teach Welsh (as a subject) and through the medium of Welsh

Following its approval, under section 85 (7) of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 local authorities must take all reasonable steps to implement their WESP and this proposal aligns with the vision for Ceredigion.

## 2. BACKGROUND

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On 2 May 2023 the Cabinet agreed to:

- i) adopt the Action Plan of the Welsh Language in Education Strategic Plan for 2022-23, and to implement it annually
- ii) that the Action Plan is monitored via meetings of the WESP Language Forum and the Bilingual Futures committee.
- iii) that the annual report on progress against the Welsh Language Education Strategic Plan's Action Plan is presented to the Language Forum, Bilingual Futures committee, Learning Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Cabinet
- iv) in line with the School Organisation Code (2018) that the Local Authority begins the process of changing the language medium in the Foundation Learning at New Quay Primary School.
- v) also, a consultation on changing the admission age at New Quay Primary school will run concurrently.

As a result of the above decision, the consultation process will commence on 15 September 2023.

## 3. REASONS FOR FORMULATING THE PROPOSAL

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With the introduction of the Curriculum for Wales as a statutory document since September 2022, the four mandatory purposes set out the need to develop *“ambitious, capable learners that can communicate effectively in different forms and settings, using both Welsh and English and are ready to learn throughout their lives”*. Within that curriculum the Welsh language is mandatory from age 3 to 16 . In order to reflect School Categorisation according to Welsh language provision (September 2022) all schools in Ceredigion have agreed on a specific Language category. New Quay Primary School and its Governing Body have agreed a Transitional 2 (T2) category and have created an Action Plan showing the language pathway across the school. The Languages, Literacy and Communication Area of learning and experience within the Curriculum for Wales requires schools and practitioners to develop the Welsh language, thus providing consistent guidelines to all organisations.

Changing the school's Foundation Learning Language would be a sound basis for developing the pupils' linguistic skills in accordance with the requirements of the

Curriculum for Wales. It would allow for a more consistent provision and offer linguistic equity to all pupils in Ceredigion.

Offering access to education at 3 years of age on a part-time basis expands the pupils' language attainment opportunities and provides a more equal and consistent provision within schools that have been placed in the T2 category. This proposal supports the Welsh Government Cymraeg 2050 Strategy – A Million Welsh Speakers (2017) as well as the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act (2015)

The table below illustrates the implementation timetable should the proposal be approved:-

Start date	School Year
September 2024	Admitting part time Nursery pupils for the first time
September 2025	Reception
September 2026	Year 1
September 2027	Year 2

By September 2028 the school's Year 3 pupils will have a sound foundation, especially orally, and will be able to build on those skills whilst also developing their skills and education through the medium of English.

### Background Details of the School

New Quay Primary School	
Proposed Number of Admissions	14
Admission arrangements	Details in section 12
PLASC January 2023	83
Percentage speaking Welsh at home - January 2023	9%
Age range	4-11
Capacity	98
Number of Nursery Places	-
Location	New Quay, Ceredigion
Category	Community
Language Category	Transitional 2



## 4. THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

The consultation on this recommendation will follow the guidelines set out by the Welsh Government.

This document has been sent to the following stakeholders:

Staff (Teaching and Ancillary) of New Quay Primary School and Ceredigion primary and secondary headteachers	Governors and Parents/Guardians of New Quay Primary School
Ceredigion Children and Young People Partnership	Welsh Government
Local County Councillors	Welsh Language Commissioner
Constituency and Regional Assembly Member/Member of Parliament	Adjoining local authority Director of Education
Mid Wales Education Partnership (MWEP)	The Church in Wales – Diocese of St Davids Roman Catholic Diocesan Authority
Regional Transport Consortium	Estyn
Police and Crime Commissioner	Local Community Councils
Teachers' Trade Unions and Staff representing teachers and other staff at schools affected by the proposal	Education Providers for 3-year-olds and private childcare providers

### The Consultation Period

The consultation period, when views may be expressed on the proposal, will take place between 15 September and 30 October 2023. Responses to the consultation will not be counted as objections to the proposal.

Date	Activity
15 September – 30 October 2023	Publish Consultation Document
9 January 2024	Cabinet
22 January – 19 February 2024	Publish statutory notice
4 June 2024	Cabinet

Opinions may be expressed, or further questions asked, either by writing a letter or completing the response form at the end of this document, which should be sent by no later than **30 October 2023**, to:

WESP Consultation  
Ceredigion County Council  
Canolfan Rheidol  
Rhodfa Padarn  
Aberystwyth  
Ceredigion  
SY23 3UE

Or e-mail: [cysgaceinewydd@ceredigion.llyw.cymru](mailto:cysgaceinewydd@ceredigion.llyw.cymru) or  
[wespnewquay@ceredigion.gov.uk](mailto:wespnewquay@ceredigion.gov.uk)

### **Pupil Consultation**

There will be an opportunity for the pupils of New Quay Primary School to participate in the consultation process. A supplementary pupil-friendly version of this formal consultation document will be provided, and the Welsh Government has produced an information document for pupils entitled 'School Organisation Proposals'.

The information provided will be presented in a way that is relevant to their age and level of understanding, ensuring they can express an informed opinion.

## 5. DESCRIPTION AND BENEFITS

### The Current Situation

Strengths	Weaknesses
Maintaining the schools' identity and presence in the local community	A lack of linguistic equity leading to a lack of consistency across the County
No disruption to pupils or staff	A number of current staff are able to teach through the medium of Welsh but have no opportunity to refine their skills
	The current situation does not meet the needs and aspirations of the Curriculum for Wales to produce pupils that are confident in both Welsh and English thereby creating bilingual citizens
	There is no nursery provision at the school
	It does not contribute positively to the Welsh Government's vision of A Million Welsh Speakers

### Advantages and disadvantages of amending the Welsh language in the Foundation Phase and changing admission age compared to the current situation.

Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The pupils will benefit from attending a school that can deliver the curriculum in a wider social and linguistic context</li> <li>• Pupil outcomes and standards will be higher and will meet the needs and vision of the Curriculum for Wales to develop "ambitious, capable learners that can communicate effectively in different forms and settings, using both Welsh and English"</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The implications of training certain members of staff</li> <li>• Possibility that the Sabbatical scheme does not meet the demand</li> <li>• Capacity to provide appropriate methodology and pedagogy training</li> <li>• The cost to the education authority of providing a 0.5 teacher for the nursery provision</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Three-year-old pupils will have access to formal education at school on a part-time basis</li> <li>• The pupils will learn the Welsh Language during their early education, ensuring bilingualism from the outset</li> <li>• Linguistic equity across the county in terms of schools and pupils up to 7-years-old</li> <li>• Offers a sound basis to expand skills across the Foundation Learning period</li> <li>• Increases staffing capacity equivalent to 0.5</li> <li>• Proper engagement in the bilingual communities the pupils are part of</li> <li>• The development of staff's personal linguistic skills in line with professional standards for active teachers</li> <li>• Assists schools to become a category T2 school</li> </ul>	
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**The risks associated with changing the medium of Foundation Learning and the measures needed to manage them:**

- The need for close engagement with pupils, parents and the community will be essential to reduce and manage the risk.
- Support will be needed for vulnerable pupils or pupils with additional learning needs.
- Staff and pupils will need to be supported by providing suitable training and dedicated resources.

**Impact on the Community**

It is anticipated that there would be no impact on the community as the proposal will strengthen the use of the Welsh language.

A Community Impact Assessment is available as a separate document.

**The likely impact of different travel arrangements**

There will be no change to the current travel arrangements.

## 6. DETAILS OF AFFECTED SCHOOL

The following schools may be affected:

- Bro Siôn Cwilt Primary School
- Llanarth Primary School

<b>Bro Siôn Cwilt Primary School</b>	
Proposed Number of Admissions	21
Admission arrangements	<b>Details in section 12</b>
PLASC January 2023 (without Nursery)	93
Percentage speaking Welsh at home (January 2023)	31%
Age range	3-11
Capacity	147
Number of Nursery Places	21
Location	Synod Inn, Ceredigion
Category	Community
Language Category	Category 3
Transport Arrangements between Home and School	<b>Details in Section 13</b>

<b>Llanarth Primary School</b>	
Proposed Number of Admissions	12
Admission arrangements	<b>Details in section 12</b>
PLASC January 2023 (without Nursery)	61
Percentage speaking Welsh at home (January 2023)	35%
Age range	4-11
Capacity	86
Number of Nursery Places	n/a
Location	Llanarth, Ceredigion
Category	Community
Language Category	Category 3
Transport Arrangements between Home and School	<b>Details in Section 13</b>

## 7. QUALITY AND STANDARDS OF EDUCATION

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Estyn's findings in its thematic report on Language Acquisition identified the immersion and drilling method as the most effective way of producing Welsh language speakers.

See Estyn thematic report on language acquisition [here](#)

### **Estyn – Welsh language standards – New Quay – 2023**

The 2023 Estyn inspection noted that, 'a majority of pupils make appropriate progress in developing their oral Welsh skills. The youngest pupils develop their speaking skills by repeating vocabulary and sentence patterns effectively. The oldest pupils use more extensive vocabulary, for example when presenting the legend of Cantre'r Gwaelod. A minority of the oldest pupils converse confidently in Welsh in less formal situations. They show an appropriate understanding of high frequency language and use Welsh vocabulary and patterns regularly as they gain confidence and deepen their understanding of the correct use of the Welsh language.

Staff use local legends and history effectively to support provision to develop pupils' oracy skills. They support this by providing regular opportunities for pupils to practice familiar vocabulary and sentence patterns. Pupils are given appropriate opportunities to develop their reading skills in both languages. This is planned effectively to ensure progression in the reading development of pupils across the age range. Teachers also provide carefully to develop pupils' written skills. Teachers and assistants succeed in providing purposeful frameworks to support many pupils to make appropriate progress in their Welsh writing'.

### **The likely impact of the proposal on the school's ability to deliver the full curriculum at Foundation Learning.**

It is not anticipated that the proposal will have a negative impact on the ability to deliver the full curriculum, as the school will be able to deliver the curriculum in an appropriate, differentiated, broad and varied way. The Foundation Learning will implement the Welsh language immersion system, and English language reading will be introduced towards the end of the Foundation Phase if appropriate.

### **The school's ability to deliver the full curriculum through the medium of Welsh at Foundation Learning**

<b>School Name</b>	<b>Ability to deliver the full curriculum</b>
New Quay Primary School	The full curriculum will be delivered in an appropriate, differentiated, broad and varied way at New Quay Primary School. It is not anticipated that the proposal will have a negative impact on the ability to deliver the full curriculum.

## **8. WELSH LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION STRATEGIC PLAN (WESP)**

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### **The extent to which the proposal supports the targets outlined in the approved Welsh Language in Education Strategic Plan**

The school and Board of Governors have placed the school in the Transitional 2 category in accordance with the definition in "Guidelines on categories according to Welsh-medium provision" 2021 document. The proposal supports the targets outlined in the local Welsh Language in Education Strategic Plan

### **How the proposal would expand the Welsh language provision**

Pupils would learn the Welsh language from an early age, ensuring continuity and progress in their language skills.

A wider social context would offer formal and informal linguistic opportunities to the pupils.

## **9. ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS**

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Although the change will affect all pupils, the Authority nevertheless acknowledges that it may be more challenging for some pupils with additional learning needs (ALN). Every practical step will be taken to ensure as little disruption as possible, and to assist any pupils with any changes.



Pupils with current additional learning needs will continue to receive the level of support they need to meet their individual educational needs. Additional arrangements currently in place for pupils, such as access to one-to-one support, will be reviewed and provided as needed.

Ceredigion County Council will provide appropriate help and support to pupils with additional learning needs. If the parents of any pupils who are on the ALN register have any questions about the support offered, individual meetings can be arranged with ALN Education Officers.

## **10. FUNDING INFORMATION**

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The Authority will provide 0.5 FTE nursery teacher funding for the school.

## **11. STAFFING CONSIDERATIONS**

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If the proposal is approved, the staffing implications could lead to staff being released for Sabbatical schemes and specific training. As part of the consultation, discussions will be held specifically with staff and Trade Union representatives.

## **12. THE ADMISSIONS PROCESS**

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All applications should be made to the LA and not the School as the LA is the only body that can offer school places. The contact details for the Admission Authority are as follows:

Admissions Team  
Schools Service  
Canolfan Rheidol  
Rhodfa Padarn  
Llanbadarn Fawr  
Aberystwyth  
Ceredigion  
SY23 3UE



Applications should be made using the on-line admission form, accessed via the Ceredigion website ([www.ceredigion.gov.uk](http://www.ceredigion.gov.uk)).

## **13. TRANSPORT**

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The school's current arrangements will not be affected.

## **14. WALKING ROUTES**

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The school's current situation will not be affected.

## **15. IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

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Community, Welsh Language and Equality Impact Assessment

As set out in the Welsh Government School Organisation Code, impact assessments are required to be published in relation to the above. This has been produced as a separate document to include information provided by the school and is available on our website.

## **16. DETAILS OF THE STATUTORY CONSULTATION**

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In order to implement the proposal, the following provides a summary of the procedures as confirmed in the statutory code:

- Publication of the consultation report, confirming the details of the proposal – this will be published on the Council's website, as well as being sent to all stakeholders.
- There will be a period of 42 days to respond to the proposal, and at the end of the consultation period, a report will be published summarising the comments received. This will be published on the Council's website.
- If the proposal is accepted, a statutory notice will be published with details such as the proposed implementation date, how to obtain a copy of the consultation report, and how to object:
  - On the Council's website:

- Placed on, or near the school's main entrance; and
  - By providing the affected school with copies to distribute to parents.
- An objection period of 28 days from the date of publication allows anyone who wishes to object to the proposal to do so.
  - The Council decides on the proposal; when it is possible, subject to the above process, to make a decision to implement the proposal. The proposal should be implemented by the date set out in the statutory notice, or any other appropriate date.

Detailed below is the anticipated timeline for this process:

Date	Activity
<b>15 September 2023</b>	<b>Formal consultation period begins:</b> A period of formal consultation will take place, during this time interested parties can make their views known regarding the proposal.
<b>30 October 2023</b>	<b>Formal Consultation Ends</b>
<b>9 January 2024</b>	<b>Formal Consultation Report:</b> At the end of the formal consultation period, responses will be collated and presented to Cabinet in the form of a Formal Consultation Report including a recommendation from Officers. This will be published on the Ceredigion website.
<b>22 January 2024</b>	<b>Statutory Notice period begins:</b> If the proposal is accepted by Cabinet, a Statutory Notice is issued. During the statutory Objection period, objections must be made in writing and sent to the proposer within 28 days of the date on which the proposal was published.
<b>19 February 2024</b>	<b>Statutory Notice period ends</b>
<b>4 June 2024</b>	<b>Cabinet:</b> Report the number of objections received and decision as to whether to implement the proposal

# 17. FEEDBACK FORM – NEW QUAY PRIMARY SCHOOL

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The following feedback form allows stakeholders to comment on the proposal i.e amend language medium of the Foundation Learning and to admit 3-year-old pupils on a part-time basis.

<b>COMMENT:</b>
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<b>Signature:</b>	
<b>Print your Name:</b>	
<b>E-mail:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	
Please indicate if you would like to be notified when the consultation report is published: <input type="checkbox"/>	

Please note, unless you state otherwise, that your comments will be available to the public as part of the formal records of the consultation.

Return by 30 October 2023 at the latest to:

WESP Consultation, Ceredigion County Council, Canolfan Rheidol, Rhodfa Padarn, Llanbadarn Fawr, Aberystwyth, SY23 3UE

Or e-mail: [cysgaceinewydd@ceredigion.llyw.cymru](mailto:cysgaceinewydd@ceredigion.llyw.cymru) or [wespnewquay@ceredigion.gov.uk](mailto:wespnewquay@ceredigion.gov.uk)

# APPENDIX B

Mae'r ddogfen hon hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg / This document is also available in Welsh

**CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL – SCHOOLS SERVICE**

# **SCHOOL REORGANISATION STATUTORY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**



**PROPOSAL TO  
AMEND LANGUAGE MEDIUM OF THE FOUNDATION LEARNING AND ADMIT  
3-YEAR-OLD PUPILS ON A PART TIME BASIS AT  
NEW QUAY PRIMARY SCHOOL  
DATE: SEPTEMBER 2023**

## ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY AND THE WELSH LANGUAGE

### Description of the proposal.

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 requires public bodies across Wales named in the act to work towards seven well-being goals, including 'A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language'. The system for planning Welsh-medium education provision also has a statutory basis. The Welsh Government has a duty to promote and facilitate the use of Welsh and work towards the well-being goals.

Taking Wales Forward 2016-2021 was published in September 2016, and the programme aims to drive forward improvements to the Welsh economy and public services in order to create a Wales which is prosperous and secure, healthy and active, ambitious and learning, and united and connected. This document outlines the Government's priorities for achieving these improvements. They are ambitious measures which will have an impact on everyone at all stages of their lives.

The Welsh Government's ambition for increasing the use of Welsh and the number of people who speak the language is also noted, as is the commitment to work towards securing a million Welsh speakers by 2050 and to continue to encourage more people to use and speak Welsh in their everyday lives.

The Welsh Government's Cymraeg 2050 strategy was published in August 2017. For the first time, a clear vision for a Wales in which the language is thriving was set. One of the strategy's key aims is to create a statutory education system which increases the number of confident speakers. To realise this aim we must considerably increase the number of school pupils who are given the opportunity to develop Welsh language skills in school and the opportunity to use the language in their everyday lives. This is the driver for the Welsh Government's aspiration to strengthen the legislative framework which supports the way in which Welsh and the provision of Welsh is planned within our statutory education system in Wales.

Cymraeg 2050 is the main policy driving the changes to the statutory process around planning Welsh-medium education. The Cymraeg 2050 strategy notes that Welsh-medium immersion education is the principal method for ensuring that children can develop their Welsh language skills, and for creating new speakers. School data tells us how many children are educated through the medium of Welsh,

and is a key indicator of the growth required, and demonstrates the importance of ensuring the commitment of the education system to create a million Welsh speakers. It also highlights the importance of the early years sector as a point of early entry to immersion education, and as a way to increase demand for Welsh-medium education.

It will be necessary to increase the number of learners in English-medium schools who learn Welsh successfully by developing Welsh medium provision in the statutory period up to 7-years-old. The Welsh language will also form an integral part of the new curriculum which will include one continuum for learning it. By introducing the new curriculum from September 2022, the aim is to ensure an increase in the number of confident Welsh speakers within the statutory education system, and ensure that in future, all learners can use Welsh after they have left school.

This proposal will ensure that Ceredigion can carry out its statutory duties in relation to Welsh medium education through its Welsh in Education Strategic Plan. This plan is the long-term language planning tool for local authorities which sets the strategic direction for the planning and delivery of growth in Welsh-medium education. This will allow Ceredigion Local Authority to plan Welsh-medium education in its areas in a way that achieves the aims set out in Cymraeg 2050.

Local targets within the Welsh in Education Strategic Plans will be based on the overall long-term target of ensuring a million speakers. Cymraeg 2050 outlines the commitment to increase the proportion of pupils within each school year who receive Welsh medium-education, from 22% to 30% by 2032, and this national increase of 8% will be the basis for all local authority targets within their Welsh in Education Strategic Plan.

The proposal will also contribute to realising the three strategic aims of the 'Ceredigion Language Strategy', namely:

- To increase the language skills of the people of Ceredigion
- To increase opportunities to use the Welsh language in Ceredigion
- To ensure social conditions that allow the Welsh language to thrive, that also contribute positively towards the well-being aims.

### **Who will this proposal effect directly?**

The proposal will have an impact on pupils up to age 7 in the schools of Ceredigion.

This proposal will have a positive impact on children and young people in Ceredigion by offering additional choices in terms of Welsh-medium and bilingual education and more opportunities and support for all to access it. This in turn will offer children and young people Welsh language skills that they can use in all walks of life and in particular when they leave school and start work. It will also offer an increased opportunity for those categorised as Transition 2 schools to improve their Welsh language skills.

This proposal will also allow Ceredigion Local Authority to increase and improve the provision offered, which will have a positive impact on children and young people across the county, regardless of the community they live in, their background, or language of their family, ensuring that more and more children and young people develop Welsh language skills that can be used in everyday life.

We expect any impact to be positive, due to the following:

- Children and young people can take advantage of Welsh-medium or bilingual education regardless of the community they live in.
- The aims of this proposal will help Ceredigion County Council fulfil its commitments to the Welsh language, Welsh speakers and Welsh speaking communities.
- Most Ceredigion primary school teachers and classroom assistants can speak and communicate in Welsh. Full support will be given to school staff members in line with the increase in the Welsh language provision.



## **Ceredigion Council's School Language Policy**

Ceredigion County Council is committed to supporting the Welsh Government's vision and ambition to see a million people able to enjoy speaking and using Welsh by 2050, in line with 'Cymraeg 2050 : Welsh Language Strategy'. The 'Curriculum for Wales - Curriculum for Life' emphasizes the fact that Welsh will remain compulsory up until the age of 16.

The Area of Learning and Experience for Languages, Literacy and Communication in this curriculum states the following:

- "This Area of Learning and Experience offers ways to take advantage of the links between teaching Welsh, English and modern foreign languages, by encouraging children and young people to apply their knowledge of the way language works in Welsh, for example, to English or modern foreign languages. In doing so, they can understand the structure of languages. This, together with an appreciation of words and their origin, can help children and young people develop enthusiasm and interest in language."

The aim of the Local Authority is to teach pupils to be fully bilingual as they leave the primary school and to develop that ability during their secondary phase in order to become full members of the bilingual society of which they are a part. This aspiration is in line with Ceredigion Council's Corporate Strategy and is one of the Curriculum for Wales statutory four purposes.

## **Welsh in Education Strategic Plan**

Ceredigion County Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022-32 is clear in its aim and principle of developing our pupils' ability to use both Welsh and English fluently and confidently in a variety of situations. This will enable them to become full members of the bilingual society of which they are a part, fostering pride in the languages, heritage and culture of Ceredigion and Wales.

Ceredigion Education Authority seeks to ensure appropriate emphasis on the Welsh language and culture and strongly believes in the educational value of being able to communicate fluently in both Welsh and English as a benefit to all pupils. The Education

Authority declares itself firmly in favour of developing pupils who are confidently bilingual in all of Ceredigion's primary and secondary schools.

The Ceredigion Schools' Language Strategy (2008) is key to the success of the bilingual provision and the Ceredigion Schools' Language Policy is a firm and unambiguous basis for the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022-32, and the provision and implementation of practical targets will lead to progress in bilingualism at all levels.

Ceredigion Education Authority seeks to ensure that children and young people are offered rich, relevant and creative contexts (including ICT developments and Digital Competency), enabling them to extend and apply their language skills. Offering opportunities to enhance oral skills (specifically) at all stages of the educational journey is a core element in order to ensure fluent and confident speakers.

The Authority will also ensure that families are aware of, and have access to the support available, as their children and young people develop along the language pathway/continuum. The Authority will continue to focus on strengthening the Welsh language in its primary schools through investment and improvements to the provision, to create firm foundations for learning through the medium of Welsh and other languages in secondary school.

The Authority will work on a regional and cross regional level to share resources and expertise and encourage links between schools to improve the quality of language teaching and learning.

The Authority, through this strategy is contributing to its duty under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 to promote and safeguard the culture and heritage of Wales and the Welsh language. It contributes to the goal of 'a Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language'.

This scheme is intertwined with the Welsh Government Language Strategy of creating one million Welsh speakers by 2050. Ceredigion Education Authority agrees with the view that the education system is the main method of ensuring that children develop their Welsh language skills, and of creating new Welsh speakers.

## Relevant information about the school

Impact on the community	
Proportion of pupils from the catchment area attending the school	As there is no specific catchment area for schools in Ceredigion, parents can choose a school for their children in line with the local authority's admissions policy. Approximately 60% of the pupils are from the town of New Quay and the vicinity. This proposal will not have an impact on the proportion of pupils attending the school. However, Nursery provision within the school will ensure that 3-year-old pupils can attend the school part-time thereby increasing the number of pupils attending the school.
Proportion of pupils from outside the catchment area attending the school	As there is no specific catchment area for schools in Ceredigion, parents can choose a school for their children in line with the local authority's admissions policy. Approximately 40% of the pupils are from outside the town of New Quay and the vicinity. This proposal will not have an impact on the proportion of pupils attending the school. However, Nursery provision within the school will ensure that 3-year-old pupils can attend the school part-time thereby increasing the number of pupils attending the school.
Information about any other facilities provided at the school e.g. youth club/playgroup	There is Welsh Medium nursery provision in New Quay provided by Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin.
Information about any other facilities or services that the school provides e.g. after-school clubs, community library	No impact. 'Clwb Gofal' and an after-school club is provided by the school. They also offer Welsh lessons for parents.

<b>Impact on the Welsh language</b>	
The school's Language Category	According to Welsh Government guidelines on the categorisation of schools with regard to Welsh-medium provision, from September 2022 New Quay Primary School will be in <b>Transitional Category 2</b> .
Information about Welsh language standards at the school	<p>Following the Estyn inspection, in 2023, it was noted that 'a majority of pupils make appropriate progress in developing their oral Welsh skills. The youngest pupils develop their speaking skills by repeating vocabulary and sentence patterns effectively. The oldest pupils use more extensive vocabulary, for example when presenting the legend of Cantre'r Gwaelod. A minority of the oldest pupils converse confidently in Welsh in less formal situations. They show an appropriate understanding of high frequency language and use Welsh vocabulary and patterns regularly as they gain confidence and deepen their understanding of the correct use of the Welsh language.</p> <p>Staff use local legends and history effectively to support provision to develop pupils' oracy skills. They support this by providing regular opportunities for pupils to practice familiar vocabulary and sentence patterns. Pupils are given appropriate opportunities to develop their reading skills in both languages. This is planned effectively to ensure progression in the reading development of pupils across the age range. Teachers also provide carefully to develop pupils' written skills. Teachers and assistants succeed in providing purposeful frameworks.</p> <p>At present, many of the pupils reach the expected level at the end of their period in primary school. A significant number of pupils transfer to the school in Key Stage 2 with no prior Welsh Language Education. This academic year, 10 out of 16 pupils in Year 6, (62.5%) and 6 out of 12 (50%) in Year 5 were latecomers to the school.</p>

<p>Information about after-school activities which provide additional opportunities to use the Welsh language at school e.g Urdd clubs</p>	<p>The school facilitates an extracurricular ‘Urdd Club ‘ and the pupil Welsh committee ‘Cewri Cei’ actively promotes the use of Welsh and support the work of the Welsh Charter, Cymraeg Campus’. The school is currently working towards Silver accreditation of the scheme.</p> <p>This proposal will further develop the pupils' confidence to use the language outside the school and in the local community.</p>												
<p>Information about whether the school provides facilities for members of the community to learn Welsh, or facilities for them to engage in activities through the medium of Welsh</p>	<p>Most of the school staff, including all teaching staff are Welsh speakers. The school actively support staff that are not fluent to attend develop their linguistic skills. As part of the support provided by the school to promote the Welsh language, they are collaborating with Aberystwyth University and Ceredigion’s Education Department on an exciting, innovative, scheme that provides an asset for parents supporting their children on their journey towards bilingualism. A tutor visits the school every week to provide Welsh language lessons for parents at different levels. Parents benefit from the provision and can support their children with their work and develop confidence to learn and use the work. During the year, many parents and governors have attended the lessons, see table below. This proposal will continue during the next year and will support parents with regard to developing the language medium and ensuring school admission for pupils at 3 years of age.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="797 1102 1872 1332"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="797 1102 1155 1206"><b>New Quay Primary School</b></th> <th data-bbox="1155 1102 1413 1206">Autumn Term</th> <th data-bbox="1413 1102 1648 1206">Spring Term</th> <th data-bbox="1648 1102 1872 1206">Summer Term</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="797 1206 1155 1270">Taster sessions</td> <td data-bbox="1155 1206 1413 1270">3</td> <td data-bbox="1413 1206 1648 1270">-</td> <td data-bbox="1648 1206 1872 1270">-</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="797 1270 1155 1332">Entry</td> <td data-bbox="1155 1270 1413 1332">-</td> <td data-bbox="1413 1270 1648 1332">7</td> <td data-bbox="1648 1270 1872 1332">3</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>New Quay Primary School</b>	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term	Taster sessions	3	-	-	Entry	-	7	3
<b>New Quay Primary School</b>	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term										
Taster sessions	3	-	-										
Entry	-	7	3										

	Zoom	3	4	6	
	Total	6	11	9	
Comments provided by the authority's Welsh language forum	The WESP Forum will support the WESP's outcomes and actions and will meet regularly to monitor the Action Plan.				
Information on how the proposal aligns with the Authority's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan and any steps that may need to be taken in the future as a result of the change to continue to comply with the plan or achieve the plan's targets.	<p>Welsh Government has approved Ceredigion County Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022-32. It sets out the authority's vision, aim and objectives for developing Welsh-medium education over the next ten years.</p> <p>The proposal is fully aligned with the authority's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan. By changing the school's language medium up to age 7 and providing education for 3-year-old pupils at the school, the plans in place to support the proposal give children the opportunity to learn and develop Welsh language skills from the age of 3, and ensure that they are supported to do so throughout their educational journey. An action plan is in place to support the school to develop its Welsh language provision in line with WESP requirements for the first 5 years, up to 2026-27. This will be regularly monitored and adapted in line with the school's requirements and in order to achieve the plan's targets.</p>				

## **Equality Impact Assessment**

### **The Equality Act 2010**

The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) brings together and replaces the previous anti-discrimination laws with a single Act. It simplifies and strengthens the law, removes inconsistencies and makes it easier for people to understand and comply with it. The majority of the Act came into force on the 1 October 2010.

The Act includes a new public sector equality duty (the 'general duty') replacing the separate duties on race, disability and gender equality. This came into force on the 5 April 2011.

### **What is the general duty?**

The aim of the general duty is to ensure that the public authorities and those carrying out a public function consider how they can positively contribute to a fairer society through advancing equality and good relations in their day-to day activities. The duty ensures that equality considerations are built into the design of policies and the delivery of the services and that they are kept under review. This will achieve better outcomes for all.

Under the legislation, public authorities have legal duties to pay 'due regard' to the need to eliminate discrimination and promote equality with regard to race, disability and gender, including gender reassignment, as well as to promote good race relations. The Equality Act 2010 introduces a new public sector duty which extends the coverage to age, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, and religion or belief. The law requires that the duty to pay 'due regard' be demonstrated in the decision-making process. It is also important to note that the public authorities subject to the equality duties are also likely to be subject to the obligations under the Human Rights Act and is therefore wise also to consider the potential impact that decisions could have on human rights as part of the same process.

### **Ceredigion's approach to Equality Impact**

In order to ensure that the council is considering the potential equality impact of its proposed policies and practices, and in order to evidence that we have done so, this proposal is supported by the Local Authority's Integrated Impact Assessment.



Protected Characteristics	Impact			Details of the nature of the impact
	Positive	Negative	Neither	
<b>Age</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>			<p>As a result of the proposal, the school will admit 3-year-old pupils on a part-time basis.</p> <p>The Children's Commissioner for Wales has stated that the Welsh language and the provision of Welsh-medium services is a matter of rights, and relevant to a number of articles in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Commissioner also stated that there is a clear link between language and identity, and that no article of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child can be separated from linguistic considerations.</p> <p>All staff employed at the school will be treated equitably regardless of their status within this protected characteristic.</p>
<b>Disability</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>			<p>This proposal will give children and young people the opportunity to learn and develop Welsh language skills and ensure they receive support to do so throughout their educational journey.</p> <p>One of the outcomes in the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan is to improve the provision and support for additional learning needs, allowing more of those who need that specific support to take advantage of it through the medium of Welsh.</p>
<b>Gender reassignment / transgender</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Any pupils, parents/carers and staff will be treated equitably and in line with the relevant policies.</p>






<b>Marriage or civil partnership</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>	All staff employed at the school will be treated equitably regardless of their status within this protected characteristic.
<b>Pregnancy or maternity</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>	All staff employed at the school will be treated equitably regardless of their status within this protected characteristic.
<b>Race</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>	This proposal will give children and young people the opportunity to learn and develop Welsh language skills and ensure they receive support to do so throughout their educational journey. Integration support will be provided where necessary in an appropriate manner
<b>Religion or Belief or non-belief</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>	The school will follow all aspects of the national curriculum as at present.
<b>Sex/Gender identity</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>	This will not have any detrimental impact on the provision provided. All stakeholders falling into this protected characteristic will be treated equitably in line with relevant policies and procedures.
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>			<input type="checkbox"/>	Any stakeholders falling into this protected characteristic will be treated equitably in line with relevant policies and procedures

## The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 gives a legally-binding common purpose of seven Well-being Goals and five Ways of Working designed to support and deliver a public service that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs,

<p>Long Term</p> 	<p>Ceredigion's WESP 2022-32 will be a document that sets out actions to achieve the aim of increasing the number of Welsh language speakers within the county by 2032. Short and long-term targets and clear short- and long-term actions will be set out over the 10-year period.</p>	<p>By building on the 2014-17 WESP and the 2017-20 WESP this 10-year WESP sets a definite timetable which will be active, practical and sustainable to achieve the goal. We do not anticipate that the actions taken will have any negative impact. Positive engagement with all our partners and stakeholders, throughout the period, will be extremely important as the developments are implemented.</p>
<p>Prevention</p> 	<p>The actions that will prevent any problems that may arise or worsen throughout the plan's lifetime will be noted within it.</p>	<p>The resources needed to prevent problems from arising are clearly noted in the actions throughout the plan. Any concerns that arise are responded to through continuous and clear engagement with stakeholders and partners throughout the planning and consultation period.</p>
<p>Integration</p>	<p>It is essentially a proposal that supports Ceredigion County Council's aspiration to strengthen the position of the Welsh language through its Language Strategy. The proposal also supports the Council's Strategic</p>	<p>The Welsh language is central to the operation of Ceredigion County Council and its strategic objectives. Community integration is central to all schools, creating an environment that supports culture, heritage and the</p>

	<p>Objectives and the Welsh Government's Cymraeg 2050: a million Welsh speakers Strategy.</p>	<p>Welsh language. It is anticipated that the proposal will have no negative impact.</p>
<p>Collaboration</p> 	<p>Collaboration between partners and stakeholders will be a core part of the plan. The main collaboration will be between authority officials and the schools and their governing bodies, as well as parents.</p>	<p>This is the core purpose of the proposal – examples of collaboration will be identified throughout the plan to ensure positive, consistent and sustained collaboration through the actions specified.</p>
<p>Involvement</p> 	<p>The importance of involving people who have an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area they serve. Stakeholders and partners will be included throughout the consultation period. The consultation period itself (Autumn 2023) will engage with people with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 through the statutory public consultation. There will be an opportunity for all members of the public to express an opinion on the proposal at that time.</p>	<p>The proposal's timetable and the need to respond to the democratic process throughout will ensure that the views of partners and stakeholders are included. The proposal is subject to formal statutory consultation, and follows the 'National Principles for Public Engagement in Wales'.</p>

# APPENDIX C

## Ceredigion County Council Response to Consultation Ysgol Cei Newydd.

### Comments supporting the proposal

Comment Received	County Council Response
The proposal will increase pupil's bilingual skills thus ensuring greater opportunity in the future.	Comment of support noted
This will increase choice rather than diminish it which will allow pupils to contribute to a multi-lingual Wales.	It is agreed that being fully bilingual increases choice rather than lessens choice.
Immersion is the only way to achieve fluency and it will provide opportunities and skills.	Comment of support noted
This supports local culture and encourages learners to stay in the area.	Keeping young people in the locality is a county priority and aligns with Ceredigion Corporate Strategy 2022-27 and with the Ceredigion Local Well-being Plan 2023-2028.
This supports Welsh Language Goals.	Comment of support noted
Needs appropriate funding to be successful.	Funding in the form of the Welsh Language grant and assistance provided by Welsh language Support Teachers will be allocated to support the proposal.
Help for parents.	The Welsh language lessons for parents will continue as part of collaboration with Y Ganolfan Dysgu Cymraeg Genedlaethol. Resources will continue to be shared with parents via social media platforms and within the school website.
Use of contemporary and broad teaching methods, e.g Creative and expressive arts.	Comment noted
Council should consider Welsh language learning pathway from pre-school to 6 <sup>th</sup> form with vocational learning.	Comment noted
Re-word to all nursery / three-year-olds.	Comment noted
I propose a Welsh language stream in Penglais with a late-comers immersion centre.	Suggestion noted
Support for these transitioning schools.	Support will be continuous and constant in line with development plans.
Full support for the plan.	Comment of support noted.
Employability figures from Aberystwyth University show that bilingual students and those students who have studied through the medium of Welsh are more likely to be in graduate positions or studying post	Comments and statistics noted.

graduate subjects within 6 months of graduating. This is in comparison with students who are able to speak Welsh but who have not studied through the medium of Welsh as well as those who are unable to speak Welsh.	
The proposal ensures linguistic equity.	Comment noted
This should be the first step towards moving the rest of the school along the continuum.	Linguistic progression will be a priority as pupils advance through the school.
The case for linguistic and educational support for future pupils is a sound one.	Comment of support noted.
<p>We can only commend the proposal to introduce nursery provision in the three schools. <i>We know from experience across Wales, that starting children early in the school gives them a the best linguistic foundation and the start of the journey towards bilingualism and for many, multilingualism. This is much easier at a young age.</i></p> <p>The addition of a nursery class also ensures the viability of the school as the nursery will naturally feed the reception class. Linguistically, starting in nursery is a strength. This gives pupils a natural progression and is advantageous to parents/guardians so that they can feel at home earlier within the school community. Perhaps the addition of a teaching assistant within the budget would support and benefit the proposal.</p>	Comments noted. Funding has been allocated on a 0.5 teacher basis. The school will be able to use the funding in the most effective manner to meet the ever-changing circumstances of the school.

### Comments against the proposal

Comment Received	County Council Response
<p>This proposal would significantly impact on the pupil numbers in the nursery setting and the school was already at capacity.</p> <p>Concerns at the location of the nursery class in the school as the school has insufficient space for additional classroom and there would be less staff.</p>	PLASC 2023 states that number of pupils on roll was 83 with the school potential capacity being 98 pupils. Therefore, the school is not operating at full capacity.

<p>As a setting we provide the local community with full-time childcare and part of the educational hours, 30 hours offer, flying start and holiday club, all of which is a valuable asset to working parents. Losing the educational funding would have an adverse impact on the setting and would be looking at closing.</p> <p>Teaching Welsh in the foundation phase is good, but 3 year olds are still babies and just another excuse to cut nursery and parent funding and put extra pressure on schools with all the funding cuts.</p>	<p>Funding for wrap around care would remain to be funded by the Welsh Government Childcare Offer, and the setting benefits from the extension of the Flying Start childcare offer for 2 year olds as of April 2023.</p> <p>See above.</p>
<p>We as CMCN are already providing a high-quality Welsh Speaking provision. We cannot understand why the need to remove educational hours from the Cylch has been made or understood?!!!!</p> <p>Most of the proposal in what would be offered to the children, we as a Cylch already do. We already provide a Welsh specialist nursery provision, resources and opportunities.</p> <p>The statutory impact assessment document notes that 'Nursery provision at the school will ensure that 3-year-old pupils can start school on a part time basis and as a result increase the number of pupils within the school.' We would like to ask how increasing the numbers of pupils at the school is a factor that Needs consideration when deciding to move early education from the Cylch Meithrin to the School. If the education element od 3 year old's is moved to the school, there is no certainty that the Cylch will be able to continue to provide wrap around care to those pupils</p>	<p>We acknowledge the high standard of education within the Cylch. However, the Principles for ensuring sustainable educational infrastructure document, (Cabinet May 2023) Core Principles 1.2.4 aim is to 'continue to develop education provision for 3-year-olds in schools as is appropriate'. This will, in line with the above document, help secure the future of primary school provision in the area. We acknowledge that there are some challenges with the site at ysgol Cei Newydd in relation to expanding to provide nursery provision. We will undertake further feasibility work to identify the most effective options.</p> <p>See above.</p>



<p>who will be at the school on a part time basis. The Cylch Meithrin will need to consider their viability, the additional cost of recruiting extra staff and the effect of losing the education element of funding for 3-year-olds.</p>	
<p>We have not been part of the consultation.</p> <p>Our views on the provision have not been considered, or the impact on the proposal on our setting.</p>	<p>The consultation process was widely circulated in accordance with the School Reorganisation Code (2018). Member of the WESP Forum include representative from the Early Years sector.</p> <p>The Addendum to the consultation notes the impact of the proposal on the setting.</p>
<p>LA funding has enabled the setting to develop resources indoors and out to meet the needs of the learners. It would be a great loss of money and resources if the proposal is to go ahead.</p>	<p>Resources would be retained by the setting for use with childcare provision offered.</p>
<p>The proposal states wrap around care would be provided by the setting, safety concerns regarding how staff/parents would transport children safely back to the setting due to a busy road and lack of pavements (photographic evidence provided).</p> <p>Due to the distance between the school and the Cylch and the route between both settings not being a safe route, it is not suitable to escort groups of children safely between the two settings. Consideration should be given to this before the proposal is finalised.</p>	<p>It is the responsibility of parents to transport children to and from any setting of their choice. However, we do acknowledge the challenging route between both settings.</p>
<p>If the setting were to close as a result of the proposal concerns regarding loss of jobs of current staff without this major source of income.</p> <p>Also new school staff would need training whereas all staff at the setting are already fully and highly trained (list provided).</p>	<p>All teaching staff must hold Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) and registered with the Educational Workforce Council. Additional funding of 0.5 teacher would be provided by the authority.</p> <p>Should the school advertise for support staff, the existing setting staff would be able to apply for any support staff roles, should they so wish. The school will follow CCC safe recruitment processes for any appointments. Professional Development opportunities and support is available for</p>



	all school staff.
Removing educational funding for 3-year-olds from the setting will affect the services available for families. This will also affect the viability and sustainability and the future of the setting. This proposal could result in the community losing an important provision in the area.	Comment noted. The care provision offered within the Cylch is of great benefit to the local community.
Children with Additional Learning Needs(ALN) who attend the Cylch receive extra support through the Ceredigion Referral Plan very early on, and benefit greatly by receiving support from the plan and County Professional. The Cylch staff understand the Needs of individual children and have the necessary skills through constant Professional Development. This Service is not available to schools.	<p>The county has committed to ensure that this will not be a problem through its ALN development plan.</p> <p>Person Centred Planning is in place and we will continue to plan to meet the needs of individual pupils. Implementing ALN from 0 to 25 years old ensures early recognition, pre school age. This gives an opportunity to plan provision and appropriate intervention before children start school.</p> <p>Suitable professional development and upskilling of staff will take place before pupils start school.</p> <p>All ALN support materials are available bilingually (Teachers Centre, training, intervention programmes, handbook, templates and communication resources). Therefore, all support materials are available bilingually.</p> <p>ALTE Level 3 or above is a requirement for all new appointments. When this is not possible a commitment to learn Welsh within the First two years of appointment is required.</p> <p>The County will provide Welsh language support and training for each member of staff following their appointment according to individual Needs.</p>
Yn y ddogfen gwybodaeth atodol o dan y pennawd "I ba raddau y bydd y cynnig yn integreiddio addysg blynyddoedd cynnar â gwasanaethau gofal plant..... Dywedir – "Os caiff y cynnig ei gymeradwyo, mi fydd gan rieni ddewis, sef bod eu plentyn yn aros yn y lleoliad nas cynhelir, neu'n mynychu'r ddarpariaeth feithrin yn yr ysgol yn rhan-	Statutory education does not start until children are 5 years old. However, if the proposal is approved due to the unique context of New Quay as regards to the location of the Cylch and the School, we will undertake an additional feasibility study in order to reach a sensible solution.

<p>amser.”</p> <p>Ydy hyn yn golygu byddai' gan y rhieni dewis ble i anfon eu plant ar gyfer derbyn gwasanaeth addysg gynnar? Byddai'r ysgol a'r Cylch Meithrin yn cynnig y gwasanaeth hwn? Nid yw'n glir ac ychydig yn gamarweiniol oherwydd gall y darllenwr ei ddehongli mewn ffyrdd gwahanol ac felly ymateb i'r ymgynghoriad yn anymwybodol o'r ystyr cywir.</p>	<p>We apologise for any misunderstanding.</p>
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**Estyn Response.**

<b>Comment Received</b>	<b>County Response</b>
<p>Further clarification on the impact of the plan in areas such as teaching, pupil standards, leadership and management</p>	<p>The impact on the areas identified will be monitored as part of the school's self-evaluation and quality assurance processes. Further development of the school's Welsh language provision and standards has been identified as a priority within the school's development plan.</p>
<p>The council does not identify whether there are non-maintained settings in the local area and whether these settings could be affected by this proposal.</p>	<p>An addendum was added to the consultation which addressed this point and the consultation period extended by two weeks.</p>
<p>Staff training</p>	<p>Positive collaboration and a shared understanding of WESP priorities with the Welsh Sabbatical Scheme has led to the availability of more places on suitable / required courses. The use of WG funding grant trochi has also been utilised effectively to develop support staff's Welsh language skills.</p>
<p>How will potential extra support for pupils with ALN be provided when Welsh becomes an equal language of provision.</p>	<p>The county has committed to ensure that this will not be a problem through its ALN development plan.</p> <p>Person Centred Planning is in place and we will continue to plan to meet the needs of individual pupils. Implementing ALN from 0 to 25 years old ensures early recognition, pre-school age. This gives an opportunity to plan provision and appropriate intervention before children start school.</p> <p>Suitable professional development and upskilling of staff will take place before pupils start school.</p>

	<p>All ALN support materials are available bilingually (Teachers Centre, training, intervention programmes, handbook, templates and communication resources). Therefore, all support materials are available bilingually.</p> <p>ALTE Level 3 or above is a requirement for all new appointments. When this is not possible a commitment to learn Welsh within the First two years of appointment is required.</p> <p>The County will provide Welsh language support and training for each member of staff following their appointment according to individual Needs.</p>
<p>The proposal does not indicate how many nursery places will be accommodated at New Quay Primary School, whether there is space for these pupils and how this could impact the school in general.</p>	<p>PLASC January 2023 confirms that the school's capacity is 98, and the number on roll was 83. Current number of pupils on roll at the school is 79 and by September 2024 the number will be reduced to 68. Pre- admission numbers suggest a potential of 8 Reception age pupils with a further 5 pupils of nursery age depending on the outcome of the proposal.</p>
<p>There is no commitment to provide financial support for the school to release staff for sabbatical schemes and specific training.</p>	<p>Welsh in Education grant has been allocated to all T2 schools alongside the use of the 'Grant Trochi' to release staff and give appropriate training. Supply cover costs are covered by the WG Sabbatical scheme and follow up support provided by the Welsh Language Support Team.</p>
<p>The proposal does not specify whether the school has sufficient outdoor space and provision to cater for the needs of 3-year-old pupils.</p>	<p>Comment noted. The school already time table the available outdoor space for play times and make the most of the area available to them to support younger pupil's outdoor learning.</p>

## School Council Ysgol Cei Newydd (6)

1. All understood the proposal- one member had discussed the proposal at home with parent as she works in the local Nursery.
2. All pupils (6/6) agree that being bilingual is important and that learning Welsh would help them communicate within their communities as well as support them with their future careers. They also thought that the more languages you learn the better it is for you.
3. Welsh lessons, special days to celebrate Welshness such as Shwmae Sumae, St David's Day Eisteddfod, Urdd Eisteddfod, Cewri Cei Committee, Assemblies, Awarded for speaking Welsh.
4. All agree that speaking Welsh is important for those living in Wales and half of them thought that they would probably stay in Wales to work in the future.
5. 5/6 agreed with the proposal that pupils in the Foundation Phase should receive Welsh medium education whilst one pupil thought it would be best to learn English until they are 4 then introduce Welsh. Half of the pupils thought that admitting Nursery age pupils at the age of three on a part time basis was a good idea. The other three had the following concerns:-
  - that there would be a loss of jobs in the current Nursery not run by the school
  - that there would be no room in the current school for the extra Nursery pupils
  - that it would be more work for current staff. It was explained that if part time pupils were accepted in the Nursery then an extra member of staff would be appointed.



# APPENDIX D

**Hysbysiad Statudol i wneud newid a reoleiddir i ysgol gymunedol a gynhelir, ysgol sefydledig, ysgol wirfoddol neu ysgol feithrin**

**Gan**

**Gyngor Sir Ceredigion,  
Gwasanaeth Ysgolion, Canolfan  
Rheidol, Rhodfa Padarn,  
Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23  
3UE**

Hysbysir drwy hyn yn unol ag adran 42 o Ddeddf Safonau a Threfniadaeth Ysgolion 2013 a'r Cod Trefniadaeth Ysgolion fod Cyngor Sir Ceredigion, ar ôl ymgynghori â'r cyfryw bersonau ag sy'n ofynnol, yn cynnig newid **Ysgol Gynradd Cei newydd, Cei Newydd, SA45 9TE** fel y bydd cyfrwng y cyfarwyddid yn y *Dysgu Sylfaen yn Gymraeg*. Cynhelir yr ysgol gan Gyngor Sir Ceredigion.

Cynhaliodd Cyngor Sir Ceredigion gyfnod ymgynghori cyn penderfynu cyhoeddi'r cynnig hwn. Mae adroddiad ar yr ymgynghoriad sy'n cynnwys crynodeb o'r materion a godwyd gan ymgynghoreion, ymatebion y cynigydd ac ymateb llawn Estyn ar gael ar wefan Cyngor Sir Ceredigion ([www.ceredigion.gov.uk](http://www.ceredigion.gov.uk)).

Cynigir gweithredu'r cynnig ar **1 Medi 2025**.

Bydd y cynnig yn ehangu cyfleoedd caffael iaith disgyblion ac yn cyflwyno ecwiti darpariaeth mwy cyson o fewn yr

**Statutory Notice to make a regulated alteration to a maintained community, foundation, voluntary or nursery school**

**By**

**Ceredigion County Council,  
Schools Service, Canolfan  
Rheidol, Rhodfa Padarn,  
Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23  
3UE**

Notice is given in accordance with section 42 of the School Standards and Organisation Act 2013 and the School Organisation Code that Ceredigion County Council, having consulted such persons as required, proposes to alter **New Quay Primary School, New Quay, SA45 9TE** so that the language medium in the foundation learning is *Welsh*. The school is currently maintained by Ceredigion County Council.

Ceredigion County Council undertook a period of consultation before deciding to publish this proposal. A consultation report containing a summary of the issues raised by consultees, the proposer's responses and Estyn's full response is available on Ceredigion County Council website ([www.Ceredigion.gov.uk](http://www.Ceredigion.gov.uk)).

It is proposed to implement the proposal on **1 September 2025**

The proposal will expand pupils' language attainment opportunities and provides a more equal and consistent

ysgolion hynny sydd wedi eu pennu yn y categori Trosiannol 2\*.

Prif nod y cynnig yw adeiladu ar y dilyniant ieithyddol cyfredol. Mae'r datblygiad yn golygu, erbyn Medi 2025, y byddai polisi addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg ar waith ar draws y Dysgu Sylfaen yn Ysgol Gynradd Cei Newydd.

Dyma'r amserlen weithredu:

Dyddiad Cychwyn	Blwyddyn Ysgol
Medi 2025	Derbyn
Medi 2026	Blwyddyn 1
Medi 2027	Blwyddyn 2

Erbyn Medi 2028, byddai'r disgyblion Blwyddyn 3 yr ysgol â sail gadarn yn arbennig ar lafar a byddant yn medru adeiladu ar y sgiliau hynny tra hefyd yn datblygu eu sgiliau a'u haddysg trwy gyfrwng y Saesneg.

Gall unrhyw un wrthwynebu'r cynigion cyn pen cyfnod o 28 diwrnod o ddyddiad cyhoeddi'r cynigion hyn, hynny yw erbyn **5 Mai 2024**.

Dylid anfon gwrthwynebiadau at Swyddog Arweiniol Corfforaethol ar gyfer Ysgolion, Cyngor Sir Ceredigion, Gwasanaeth Ysgolion, Canolfan Rheidol, Rhodfa Padarn, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23 3UE neu ebostio: [cysgaceinewydd@ceredigion.llyw.cymru](mailto:cysgaceinewydd@ceredigion.llyw.cymru)

Llofnodwyd:

Clive Williams

provision within schools that have been placed in the T2 category\*.

The main aim of the proposal is to build on the current linguistic progression. The development means that, by September 2025, there would be a Welsh medium education policy in place across the Foundation Learning at New Quay Primary School.

The implementation timetable will be as follows:

Start date	School Year
Sept 2025	Reception
Sept 2026	Year 1
Sept 2027	Year 2

By September 2028, the school's Year 3 pupils will have a sound foundation, especially orally, and will be able to build on those skills whilst also developing their skills and education through the medium of English.

Within a period of one 28 days of the date on which the proposal was published, that is to say by **5 May 2024** any person may object to the proposals.

Objections should be sent to: Corporate Lead Officer for Schools, Ceredigion County Council, Schools Service, Canolfan Rheidol, Rhodfa Padarn, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23 3UE or email: [wespnewquay@ceredigion.gov.uk](mailto:wespnewquay@ceredigion.gov.uk)

Signed:

Clive Williams  
Corporate Lead Officer for Schools



Swyddog Arweiniol Corfforaethol ar  
gyfer Ysgolion  
Ar ran Cyngor Sir Ceredigion  
Dyddiad: 8 Ebrill 2024

[\\*https://www.llyw.cymru/sites/default/files/publications/2021-12/canllawiau-ar-gategoreiddio-ysgolion-yn-ol-y-ddarpariaeth-cyfrwng-cymraeg.pdf](https://www.llyw.cymru/sites/default/files/publications/2021-12/canllawiau-ar-gategoreiddio-ysgolion-yn-ol-y-ddarpariaeth-cyfrwng-cymraeg.pdf)

For Ceredigion County Council  
Date: 8 April 2024

[\\*https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2021-12/guidance-on-school-categories-according-to-welsh-medium-provision.pdf](https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2021-12/guidance-on-school-categories-according-to-welsh-medium-provision.pdf)

# APPENDIX E

## **Estyn's response on the proposal to amend language medium of the Foundation Learning and admit 3-year-old pupils on a part time basis at New Quay Primary School**

This report has been prepared by His Majesty's Inspectors of Education and Training in Wales. Under the terms of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and its associated Code, proposers are required to send consultation documents to Estyn. However, Estyn is not a body which is required to act in accordance with the Code and the Act places no statutory requirements on Estyn in respect of school organisation matters. Therefore, as a body being consulted, Estyn will provide their opinion only on the overall merits of school organisation proposals. Estyn has considered the educational aspects of the proposal and has produced the following response to the information provided by the proposer.

### **Summary/Conclusion**

Estyn recognises the positive moves the local authority is proposing to develop the Welsh language in schools in the area. However, we do not have sufficient information to comment on the impact of the plan without further clarification in areas, such as the impact of the proposal on teaching, pupils' standards, leadership and management.

### **Description and benefits**

The proposer has presented a suitable rationale for the consultation, outlining the reasons for the proposal to amend the language medium of foundation learning and to admit 3-year-olds to New Quay primary school on a part-time basis. They have also presented an appropriate rationale that is in line with the Welsh language in Education Strategic Plan (WESP).

The local authority has provided a suitably detailed description of the proposal and a projected timetable for implementation. The timetable is aimed at allowing staff at New Quay Primary School to build systematically on pupils' acquisition of the Welsh language over a period of four years.

The local authority has outlined appropriately a range of advantages and disadvantages of this proposal. The main advantage of this proposal is to ensure greater linguistic equity and consistency across the County. It also meets the aspirations of the Curriculum for Wales to produce pupils that are confident in both Welsh and English thereby creating bilingual citizens. However, the council does not identify whether there are non-maintained settings in the local area and whether these settings could be affected by this proposal.

The proposer has outlined a number of risks around the implications of training members of staff to a standard that will enable them to support pupils to develop their Welsh skills. They have expressed concern that the Welsh language sabbatical scheme may not meet the demand. They have identified that the skill set of staff who are currently able to teach through the medium of Welsh will be fully utilised. However, the proposer has not presented suitable mitigation against this potential risks.

The council has acknowledged that these changes may be more challenging for pupils with additional learning needs (ALN). It identifies that it will try to ensure that every practical step will be taken to ensure as little disruption as possible. However, the proposal does not address how to meet the potential need for extra support that pupils with ALN may require when Welsh becomes an equal language of provision.

The proposer identifies fairly that there will be no change to current travel arrangements as a consequence of this consultation.

The local authority has considered how admitting 3-year-olds on a part-time basis will impact on other schools in the area. The report states that there are 21 nursery places in Bro Siôn Cwilt Primary School and that this data is not available for Llanarth school. However, the proposal does not indicate how many nursery places will be accommodated at New Quay Primary School, whether there is space for these pupils and how this could impact the school in general.

The local authority has undertaken an impact assessment on the Welsh language and considers that this proposal will have a positive impact on pupils up to the age of seven. They have completed a Community Impact Assessment (CIA) prior to the consultation.

The council has considered suitably the financial implications of this proposal. The local authority will provide 0.5 FTE nursery teacher funding for the school. However, there is no commitment to provide financial support for the school to release staff for sabbatical schemes and specific training.

### **Educational aspect of the proposal**

The local authority has considered in part the impact of the proposals on the quality and standards and provision. They have included statements on standards in the Welsh language from Estyn's recent inspection in June 2023. This section is detailed and outlines current standards of attainment in the Welsh language clearly, however it makes little reference to the potential impact of the proposal on future standards.

The proposer has considered the likely impact of the proposal on the school's ability to deliver the full curriculum at foundation learning. It has noted that this proposal is not anticipated to have a negative impact on their ability to deliver the curriculum in an appropriate, differentiated, broad and varied way. However, it does not specify whether the school has sufficient outdoor space and provision to cater for the needs of 3-year-old children.

The local authority has considered clearly the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. It has outlined collaboration activities between partners and stakeholders and underlined the importance of involving people who have an interest in achieving the well-being goals.