



monmouthshire
sir fynwy

Cyngor Sir Fynwy, Neuadd y Sir, Y
Rhadyr, Brynbuga, Sir Fynwy
NP15 1GA
Monmouthshire County Council
County Hall, Y Rhadyr, Usk,
Monmouthshire
NP15 1GA

Ffôn/Tel: 01633 644 644
Web/Gwefan: www.monmouthshire.gov.uk
Ein Cyf/Our ref:
Eich Cyf/Your ref:

Dear consultee,

**Proposal to Establish a Welsh-medium Primary School
via a seedling / growth model in Monmouth**

I write following the statutory consultation process to notify you of the Council's decision to establish a Welsh-medium primary school in Monmouth.

You will be aware from my previous correspondence that the Council's Cabinet met on the 7th June 2023 and agreed to proceed to the next stages of the statutory process, namely, to publish statutory notices concerning the proposed establishment of a seedling Welsh-medium primary school with effect from 1st September 2024.

The statutory notices were formally published on 19th June 2023 and allowed a 28 day period for any statutory objections. The objection period closed on 17th July 2023. An objection report has been produced detailing any statutory objections received during the objection period, alongside the Council's response. A copy of the Objection Report is available to view at [Proposal to Establish a Welsh Medium Primary School - Monmouthshire](#).

The Council's Cabinet met again on the 6th September 2023 to consider the content of the Objection Report and the statutory objections received. They made the final decision to proceed with the establishment of a seedling Welsh-medium primary school with effect from 1st September 2024.

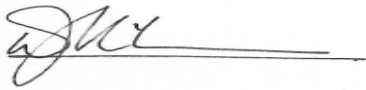
In determining the proposal, Cabinet gave careful consideration to the reasons for the proposal and agreed that the establishment of a Welsh-medium primary school in Monmouth will ensure that more pupils can be taught through the medium of Welsh within their local area and in doing so, give parents the confidence to choose a Welsh-medium education for their children.

The reasons for the decision in relation to the factors noted in the School Organisation Code 2018 are as follows:

- The proposal demonstrates our commitment to increasing the number of children accessing Welsh-medium provision and meets our targets outlined in our Welsh Education Strategic Plan (WESP). It also supports the Welsh Government's national strategy *Cymraeg 2050*.
- The development of Welsh-medium education has been a central priority for Monmouthshire as outlined in all our WESPs and it is a main priority in the current plan. We acknowledge that there is a lack of provision in the Monmouth area and consequently, pupils living in Monmouth travel a long distance each day to attend one of our Welsh-medium primary schools and this is one of the main reasons parents' give for not choosing a Welsh-medium education for their children.

- A third Welsh-medium primary school within Monmouthshire will place the Authority in a strong position to meet our target of 120 reception learners by the end of the current WESP in 2031.
- The location of the new school in the town of Monmouth will increase parental choice, which will encourage more parents to choose a Welsh-medium education because it will reduce the need for learners to travel long distances to access Welsh-medium education in Abergavenny.
- The Council believes it is important that all children have access to Welsh-medium education and are taught wherever possible within their local community.
- As a result of shorter travel times, we expect the proposal to significantly improve the wellbeing of children in the seedling school. As a result, we expect attitudes to learning to be positive and be reflected in high levels of attendance.
- We would expect that standards, and progress, of pupils in the new seedling school to be in line with our current schools.
- Teaching and learning experiences in the new seedling Welsh-medium school will follow Curriculum for Wales with Welsh as the language of teaching and learning, something that is not currently available in Monmouth.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Will McLean', followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Will McLean

Chief Officer for Children and Young People