

RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Education and Inclusion Services, 21st Century Schools, Valleys Innovation Centre, Navigation Park, Abercynon CF45 4SN

Notice is given in accordance with section 44 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the School Organisation Code that Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council (RCTCBC), having consulted such persons as required, proposes to:

1. Build a new, English medium, mixed sex, 3 to 19 special school in Rhondda Cynon Taf (RCT) on a new site in Clydach Vale, Tonypany, CF40 2XX.
2. Introduce catchment areas for all 3 to 19 special schools across RCT (listed in 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3) to better meet and manage the demand for special school places:
 - 2.1 Park Lane Special School
 - 2.2 Ysgol Hen Felin
 - 2.3 Ysgol Ty Coch.

RCTCBC 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 the view of Estyn is available on the Council's website at:

[Proposal to develop a new 3 to 19 special school in Rhondda Cynon Taf | Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council \(rctcbc.gov.uk\)](https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/proposals/develop-a-new-3-to-19-special-school-in-rhondda-cynon-taf)

It is proposed to implement the proposals by no later than 1st September 2026.

It is proposed that children and young people who wish to remain in their existing special school special school placements following the catchment changes can continue to do so. However, all new placements will be informed by the revised catchment areas once the changes are implemented so that learners attend their local special school.

The proposed new school will be an English medium, mixed sex, 3 to 19 Community Special School for pupils with a range of ALN.


RCTCBC will be the admissions authority.

In accordance with Welsh Government Circular No. 21/2022 no admission number or capacity is available for this new special school. The method for assessing school capacity, in line with the guidance contained within Welsh Government Circular No. 21/2022, does not apply to special schools.

Pupils will be provided with transport in accordance with RCTCBC's Transport Policy. RCTCBC provides free transport for pupils who attend their nearest suitable school, or if there is no safe walking route, in accordance with Welsh Government guidance. The term 'nearest suitable' school applies to the catchment area or nearest Welsh, English, dual language or voluntary aided (faith) mainstream school or special school/class as appropriate.

Within a period of 28 days of the date on which these proposals were published, that is to say by 8th December 2023, any person may object to the proposals. Objections should be sent to the Director of Education and Inclusion Services, 21st Century Schools, Valleys Innovation Centre, Navigation Park, Abercynon CF45 4SN, or e-mail schoolplanning@rctcbc.gov.uk.

Where objections have been received, RCTCBC will publish a summary of any such objections made (and not withdrawn in writing) within the objection period, together with their observations thereon, within 7 days of the determination of the proposal.

Signed:	
Director of Education and Inclusion Services For Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council	
Date:	10 th November 2023