

Decision Notice: The Proposals to Realign Additional Learning Needs (ALN) Mainstream Learning Support Class (LSC) Provision within Rhondda Cynon Taf

The Council's Cabinet, at their meeting held on 18th December 2023 resolved to implement the following proposals:

- Proposal 1 - Relocation of the Observation and Assessment LSC at Penrhiwceiber Primary School to Abercynon Community Primary School taking effect from 1st September 2024.
- Proposal 2 - Transfer the LSC for pupils in Years 3-6 with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) at Abercynon Community Primary School to create a through provision in the Primary Phase at Perthcelyn Primary School taking effect from 1st September 2024.
- Proposal 3 - Establish one Early Years Assessment and Intervention LSC for pupils under statutory school age with significant presenting needs at Abercynon Community Primary School taking effect from 8th April 2024.
- Proposal 4 - Establish two Welsh medium Primary Phase LSCs at the new Welsh medium primary school in Rhydyfelin (YGG Awel Taf) for pupils with significant ALN taking effect from 1st September 2024.
- Proposal 5 - Establish one LSC for pupils in Years 7-11 with ASD at the new 3-16 school on the Hawthorn Primary/High School site (Ysgol Afon Wen) taking effect from 1st September 2024.

Seven objections were received in relation to Proposal 2 during the Statutory Notice period and as such, in accordance with the School Organisation Code, an Objection Report was written, a copy of which can be viewed on the Council website at the link below. Hard copies are available on request.

<https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/EN/GetInvolved/Consultations/SchoolConsultations/SchoolsConsultations.aspx>

The rationale behind the proposal and the reasons underpinning the decision to implement it were fully outlined and explained within the consultation document that was widely circulated earlier this year. As well as the robust rationale, it should be noted that the dates of implementation for Proposals 1 and 2 were revised in accordance with feedback received during the consultation phase.

The conclusion therefore reached by Cabinet when making their final decision was the benefits that can be achieved through delivering these proposals were overwhelmingly positive. The proposals will deliver:

- Provision to match the current profile of needs of children with ALN.
- Additional Welsh medium LSCs to enable pupils with significant ALN to access full time specialist Welsh medium provision.
- A reduction in the number of transitions between placements for some of our most vulnerable pupils
- Additional Early Years provision to meet the rising demands for early intervention.

Based on these outcomes, Cabinet resigned to approve the implementation of the proposals.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gwynor Davies". The signature is written in a cursive style and is centered on the page.

Director of Education and Inclusion Services