

CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA

DINAS A SIR ABERTAWE

To Parents/Carers, Staff and Governors at Brynhyfryd Infant and Junior schools

Please ask for: Gofynnwch am: Ms. Kelly Small

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Our Ref: Ein Cyf:

SF&I/KAS

Your Ref: Eich Cyf:

Date: Dyddiad: 26th June 2014

Dear Sir/Madam,

Proposed School Reorganisation

I would like to remind you that the consultation period for the proposal to amalgamate the Infant and Junior schools at Brynhyfryd closes on Monday 30th June 2014. Details on how to make your views known have been provided in the consultation paper and are also available at www.swansea.gov.uk/brynhyfrydresponse

I have attached some additional information regarding the proposal that covers questions that have been raised to date during the consultation period. I hope you find this helpful.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

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Kelly Small (Ms)

School Funding & Information Manager

EDUCATION DIRECTORATE / CYFARWYDDIAETH ADDYSG

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Staffing

- 1. Do the Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher posts for the new Primary School have to be advertised?
 - Legislation allows a new temporary Governing Body to decide if they go to national advert for these posts or ask for expressions of interest from the existing Head and Deputy Head teachers. However as neither of the Brynhyfryd schools has a Deputy Headteacher in a substantive post then they would have to advertise the Deputy Headteacher post nationally.
- 2. Will teachers with TLRs (Teaching and Learning Responsibilities/Payments) keep them in the new Primary School?
 - The new Headteacher and temporary Governing Body will decide on a staffing structure for the new school including the number of TLR posts and levels and responsibilities attached to such posts. It will be a recommendation to the Governors that all teaching posts are ring fenced for teachers in the Infant and Junior schools. Filling the posts could involve a matching and slotting exercise, interviews and/or other selection methods. If staff that currently hold a TLR post are unsuccessful in obtaining a TLR post in the new school, then their TLR payment will be safeguarded for up to 3 years in accordance with the School Teachers Pay and Conditions Document (and they could be asked to undertake responsibilities to this level during the period of safeguarding).

Alternative Options to Closure/Amalgamation of Both Schools

- 3. Were there any other options other than close both schools and open a new primary school?
 - There were alternative options that could have been considered. For example one of the schools could have been closed and the age range of the other school could have been extended (using the same statutory process as a school amalgamation) to cover an age range of 3-11, the name of that school would need to be changed to a primary school, the governing body would need to be reviewed as it would be a larger school and additional staff would need to be appointed. We have always closed both Infant and Junior Schools in the past to ensure equity for all staff. Another option could have been federation of schools but this would not support the all-through primary view and the Council did not have the legal powers to propose federation at the time that this proposal emerged.
- 4. Could the schools have remained as separate infant and juniors?

 Brynhyfryd Infant and Junior Schools are the last infant and juniors in Swansea. All of the other previous infants and juniors are now all-through primary schools in line with the Council's philosophy on primary education. The advantages of all-through primary provision have been given in the consultation paper. Creating a new primary school will give new opportunities for the schools.

Process

5. If comments are made during the consultation period do they have to be resubmitted when the Statutory Notice is published?

Yes, if you wish to raise a formal objection under the Statutory Notice period you would have to write in again between 6th October and 3rd November. Details of how you do this will be given in the Notice that will be issued to parents, staff and other interested parties on 6th October 2014.

Buildings

6. Will there be any change to the current school buildings?

No, all buildings will remain the same and no part of the site will be sold off to generate capital receipts. There is no change to any walking route to school.