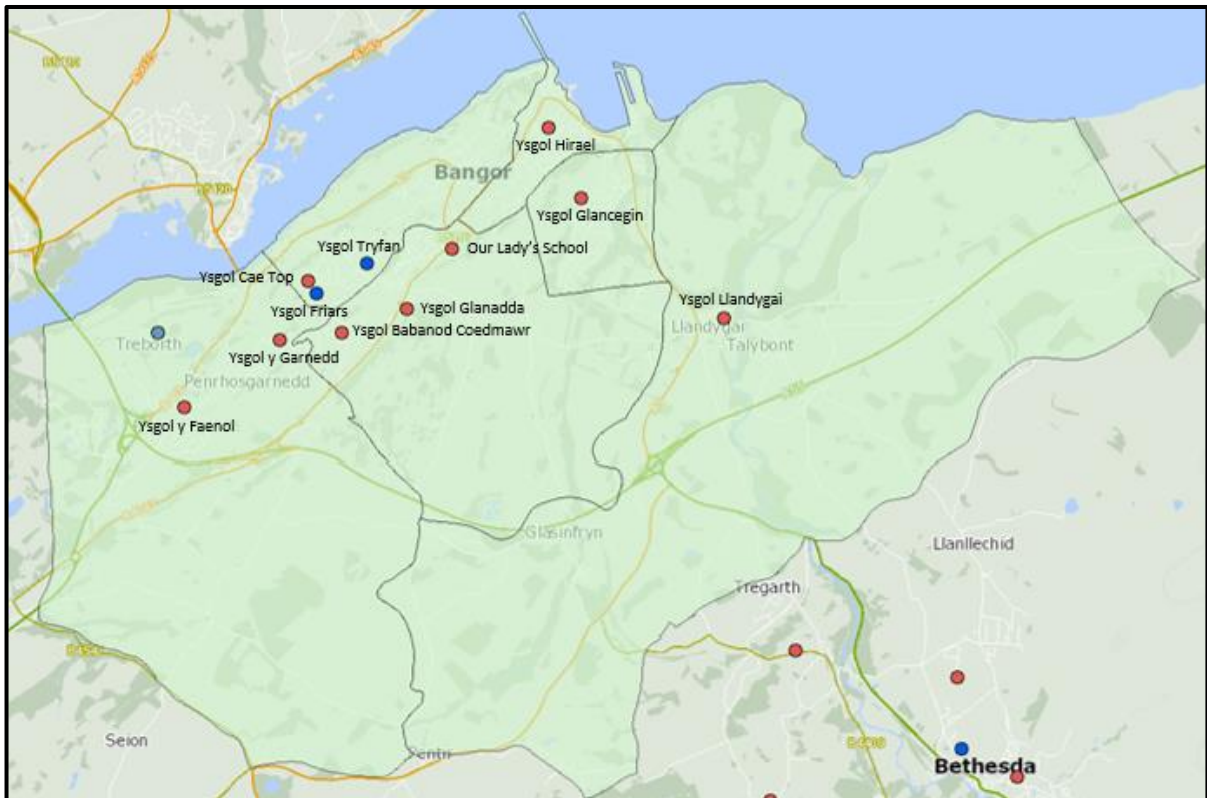




STATUTORY CONSULTATION DOCUMENT



Bangor Catchment Area Schools

10 April – 22 May 2018

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Appendix 1 – Options Appraisal

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Foreword

At a Gwynedd Council Cabinet meeting held on **13 March 2018**, the Cabinet agreed to progress a statutory consultation on a proposal to re-organise schools in the Bangor catchment area, in accordance with the requirements of Section 48 of the School Standards and Organisation Act 2013.

The statutory consultation will be held between **10 April** and **22 May 2018** and is based on a proposal to close Ysgol Glanadda and Ysgol Coed Mawr on 31 August 2020 and offer pupils a place at Ysgol y Garnedd (subject to parental choice) and increase the capacity of Ysgol y Garnedd to 420 pupils.

Gwynedd Council invites you to put forward your views for consideration before a decision is made. At the end of the consultation period, a report will be submitted to Gwynedd Council Cabinet.

A copy of this document, and other background papers, are available on the Council's website www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/modernisingeducation and at your local school and library. If you require additional copies you are welcome to contact the Modernising Education Office by telephone – 01286 679247 or by e-mailing modernisingeducation@gwynedd.gov.uk.

PLEASE NOTE – any comments on the statutory consultation document should be sent to the Modernising Education Office by **13:00 Tuesday 22 May 2018**. The relevant contact details are to be found at the end of the statutory consultation document.

We look forward to receiving your views.

Sincerely,

Garem Jackson
Head of Education

1. Introduction

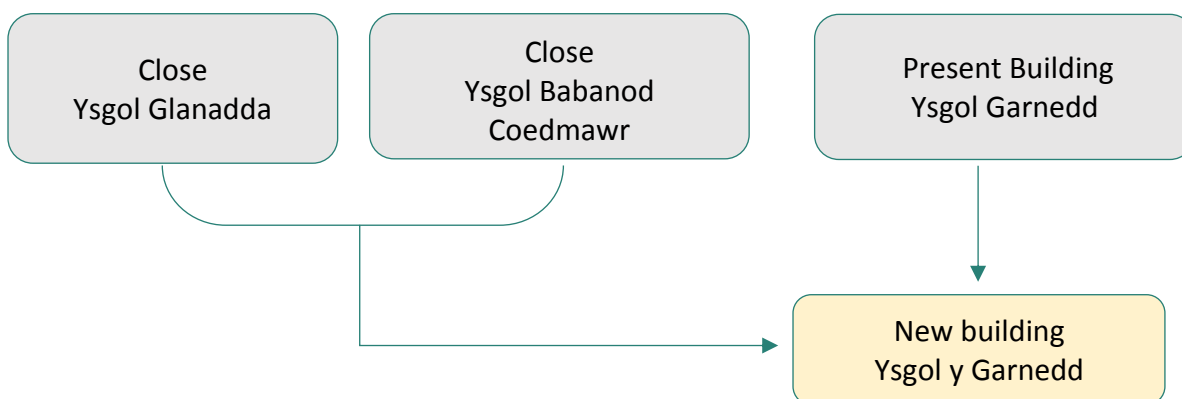
Gwynedd Council is considering re-organising schools within the Bangor catchment area.

There are 11 schools within the Bangor catchment area, two secondary schools (Ysgol Uwchradd Tryfan and Friars) and 9 primary schools (Ysgol Gynradd Y Garnedd, Hirael, Y Faenol, Llandygai, Cae Top, Glancegin, Babanod Coedmawr, Glanadda and Ein Harglwyddes). The schools are situated within and around the City of Bangor. The catchment area for Ysgol y Garnedd and Ein Harglwyddes includes the whole of Bangor. A new school building was opened at Ysgol Cae Top in September 2009 following an Investment of £4million. It is apparent that Ysgol Llandygai admits children from two catchment-areas, namely Bangor and Bethesda.

Gwynedd Council has considered several options for primary education in Bangor in order to ensure a sustainable provision for the future, responding in particular to an increase in the demand for places in the Penrhosgarnedd area and improving the provision for learners in the City. This document outlines the consultation process, the factors that the Council considers relevant and the decision-making process.

1.1 The Proposal Relating to this Statutory Consultation

Close Ysgol Glanadda and Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr on the 31 August 2020, and offer pupils a place at Ysgol y Garnedd (subject to parental choice); and increase the capacity of Ysgol Y Garnedd to 420.



1.2 The Vision for the Catchment Area

The statutory consultation relates to Ysgol y Garnedd, Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr and Ysgol Glanadda only. However, the re-organisation that is taking place in the city of Bangor forms part of Gwynedd Council's long-term vision for the catchment area.

Extend Y Faenol increasing capacity from 186 to 315. New school for Garnedd increasing capacity from 210 to 420. Close Ysgol Babanod Coed Mawr and Glanadda. Increase the capacity of Glancegin to receive additional foundation phase pupils. Improvements to part of Ysgol Hirael. Consideration given to Secondary provision to include the condition of existing buildings and a new build for Ysgol Ein Harglwyddes.

In addition to the proposal to consult on the option to close Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr and Ysgol Glanadda and increase the size of Ysgol y Garnedd, work will continue on the elements below.

- **Y Faenol:** As part of the favoured option, the need to increase the capacity of Ysgol Y Faenol has been identified to address a possible increase in pupil numbers stemming from factors such as housing developments at Penrhosgarnedd, and the current capacity of the school. The next step in the process will be to delegate the authority to the Cabinet Member for Education to hold a prior consultation with the trustees and/or the appropriate religious body in accordance with the requirements of the Schools Organisation Code 2013.
- **Ysgol Glancegin:** As part of the Band A 21st Century Schools Programme, the Council secured £5.11m towards building a new school for 240 pupils (including 30 nursery places) at Maesgeirchen to replace the current Ysgol Glancegin. When the original application was submitted, there were a substantial number of surplus places at the school, with a number of children attending other schools in the catchment area. If numbers continue to increase, some children in the catchment area may have to be refused admission. In order to resolve the situation, an assessment will need to be held to include provision for an additional class for 30 pupils at the school. The original scheme for the new building provided flexibility to adapt some areas in case there was future growth in pupil numbers in the catchment area.
- **Ysgol Hirael:** Sections of the building are in poor condition, with the flat roof building at the rear requiring attention. A further assessment will be made of the options for improvements.
- **Ysgol Ein Harglwyddes:** The state of this school's buildings was identified during CRP discussions as an element which will require attention in the future. For Voluntary Aided Schools (VA), funding arrangements involve an intervention rate of up to 85% by the Welsh Government and 15% by the appropriate Diocese. Further discussions will be held with the Diocese to obtain an understanding of the possibilities of improving the school's condition within strategic capital schemes.

2. The Consultation

This consultation will be held between **10 April and 22 May 2018**.

The consultation relates to Ysgol y Garnedd, Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr and Ysgol Glanadda, and therefore responses to this consultation should comment on the proposal as described in paragraph 1.1 above.

The consultation document will be distributed, in accordance with the Welsh Government School Organisation Code, to the following consultees prior to the statutory consultation period:

Requirements of the Organisation Code 006/2013	Distributed to...
Retaining authority or proposed retaining authority of any school which the proposals are likely to affect	Gwynedd Council is presenting the proposal
Any other local authority which the proposals are likely to affect – including, in the case of designated LEA provision, any authority which places or is likely to place pupils on statement within it	Powys, Denbigh, Conwy and Anglesey Councils
Church in Wales Diocesan Authority and the Catholic Church for the area where any school likely to be affected by the proposal is located	Church in Wales Bangor Diocesan Authority
Any other relevant religious body for any school which the proposal is likely to affect	Catholic Diocesan Authority

The governing body of any school which is the subject of proposals and the governing bodies of other schools which the proposal is likely to affect, including those which could receive any pupils who have been displaced	Governing Bodies of Ysgol Friars, Ysgol Tryfan, Ysgol Glanadda, Ysgol Glancegin, Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr, Ysgol y Garnedd, Ysgol y Faenol, Ysgol Hiracl, Ysgol Llandygai, Ysgol Cae Top, Ysgol Ein Harglwyddes
Parents (and future parents, where possible), carers and guardians, and the staff of those schools	Parents, carers, guardians, and the staff of Ysgol Tryfan, Ysgol Glanadda, Ysgol Glancegin, Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr, Ysgol y Garnedd, Ysgol y Faenol, Ysgol Hiracl, Ysgol Llandygai, Ysgol Cae Top, Ysgol Ein Harglwyddes
Welsh Ministers	Carwyn Jones AM, Jeremy Miles AM, Mark Drakeford AM, Vaughn Gething AM, Lesley Griffiths AM, Ken Skates AM, Kirsty Williams AM, Alun Davies AM, Julie James AM
Assembly Members (AMs) and members of Parliament (MPs) representing areas served by any school which is the subject of proposals	<u>AM for Arfon Constituency</u> Sian Gwenllian AM <u>Regional AMs North Wales</u> Michelle Brown AM Llyr Gruffydd AM Mark Isherwood AM Mandy Jones AM <u>MP for Arfon Constituency</u> Hywel Williams MP
Estyn	Meilyr Rowlands – Education and Training in Wales Chief Inspector
Teachers’ Unions and relevant staff unions representing schools and other staff in any school which is the subject of proposals	Representatives of ASCL, ATL, UCAC, GMB, NUT, NAHT, UNSAIN, NASUWT
The relevant Regional Education Consortium	Arwyn Thomas – Chief Officer GwE Anwen Williams – North Wales Consortium Co-ordinator
The relevant Regional Transport Consortium	-
The Police and Crime Commissioner for the area served, or intended to be served by any school which is the subject of proposals	Arfon Jones - North Wales Police Commissioner
Any community or town council for the area served, or intended to be served by any school which is the subject of proposals	City of Bangor Council
In the case of proposals affecting the nursery provision, any independent provider that the proposals could affect	Tir na n-Og Daycare, Ffalabalam Nursery, Nursery Wlpan Berea, Busy B’s Bangor Nursery, Cylch Meithrin Talybont a Llandygai, Cylch Meithrin Penrhosgarnedd, Caban Cegin, Caban Ysgol Hiracl, Cylch Ysgol Cae Top.
In the case of proposals affecting the nursery provision, the Children and Young People Partnership and/or The Early Years Development and Child Care Partnerships, where these partnerships exist	Gwynedd Ni Mudiad Meithrin – early years specialists
In the case of proposals affecting the LEA provision, any health body or relevant third sector body with interest in the proposals.	Representative for Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board

In the case of proposals affecting the secondary provision, any further education establishments which serve the school area.	Representative of Llandrillo Menai Group
In the case of proposals affecting the secondary provision, parents of pupils attending primary schools and who would normally transfer to that secondary school.	Parents of Ysgol Tryfan, Ysgol Glanadda, Ysgol Glancegin, Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr, Ysgol y Garnedd, Ysgol y Faenol, Ysgol Hiracl, Ysgol Llandygai, Ysgol Cae Top, Ysgol Ein Harglwyddes
Other	Meri Huws - Welsh Language Commissioner, Head teachers of all Gwynedd schools, All Gwynedd Council Councillors Mantell Gwynedd

This consultation document will be published on the Gwynedd Council website at www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/modernisingeducation and copies will be available on request from the Modernising Education Office.

During the consultation period, Gwynedd Council officials will hold “drop-in” session in order for individuals to ask questions and to discuss the proposal with Governors, teaching and ancillary staff, parents and members of the public. See below for the dates and times for these sessions.

Date	Time	Location
Monday 30 April, 2018	16:00 – 20:00	Reichel Hall, Ffriddoedd Road, Bangor, LL57 2TR
Tuesday 1 May, 2018	14:00-18:00	Reichel Hall, Ffriddoedd Road, Bangor, LL57 2TR

The Cabinet will consider comments received during the consultation period before a decision is made regarding the next steps. Gwynedd Council’s Cabinet will decide whether to continue with the proposal, and whether a Statutory Notice on the proposal be published.

As part of the consultation process, a background information pack will be available at all local schools, in local libraries and on the Council’s website www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/modernisingeducation. This pack includes:

- School Organisation Code 006/2013
- School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013
- Excellent Primary Education for Children in Gwynedd
- Statistics Pack (2017-18)
- Language Impact Assessment
- Community Impact Assessment
- Equality Assessment
- Cabinet Report and Decision Notice – January 2017
- Cabinet Report and Decision Notice – March 2018

If you wish to receive this document in a different format, please contact the Modernising Education Office on 01286 679247.

Consultation with Children and Young People

Arrangements will be made to obtain the views of children and young people who attend the schools under consideration. Designated sessions will be held with small groups of pupils from each of the schools in the catchment area – the exact arrangements to be confirmed. The consultation document for children and young people together with a response form can be found on the Council's website www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/modernisingeducation. This will enable individual children and young people who do not attend a session to have an opportunity to respond to the consultation.

How to Respond to the Consultation?

You can respond to this consultation by completing the response form at the end of the consultation document. Please address all responses to:

E-mail: modernisingeducation@gwynedd.gov.uk

Post: Modernising Education Office
Gwynedd Council
Shirehall Street
Caernarfon
Gwynedd
LL55 1SH

Note – All responses, whether by post or e-mail, must arrive at the Council Headquarters by no later than **13:00 on Tuesday, 22 May 2018**.

3. Background Details

3.1 How the Proposal was Developed

The proposal was developed in line with achieving the aims of existing strategies. The “*Excellent Primary Education of the Best Quality for the Children of Gwynedd*” Strategy was submitted to the Full Council on 2nd April 2009. The strategy aimed to review primary schools in line with secondary catchment areas, and the criteria were established in order to prioritise the catchment areas which should be reviewed in Gwynedd.

The Strategy was unanimously accepted by the Council, with the vision being to:

"Provide education of the highest possible quality that will provide the county's children with the experiences, skills and confidence to develop into bilingual, successful and well-rounded citizens".

Six principal aims are identified within the strategy, namely:

- 1) Appropriately-sized classes and high quality school leadership
- 2) Promote and strengthen the Welsh language
- 3) Develop a pro-active and creative long-term scheme
- 4) Make the best use of available resources
- 5) Create a learning environment of the best possible quality for the County's children and teachers
- 6) Develop schools into establishments that are central to community activity.

The following strategies and objectives were also considered as the proposal developed:

- Towards 2025 – The Future of Education and Training for Children and Young People in Gwynedd
- 21st Century Schools Strategy
- Gwynedd Welsh Language Strategy

At the end of 2016, the Welsh Government announced that there was an opportunity for Local Authorities with the capacity, to fulfil additional projects within Band A of the 21st Century Schools Programme. This confirmation enabled the Council to commence the review of the current education provision in Bangor as part of a proposed financial package worth £12,730,000, which would include a contribution from the Council.

The review would take into account the impact of the new housing developments in Bangor on the capacity of local schools' to admit pupils. A developer has obtained planning permission to build 245 dwellings, with several houses already built. The firm is committed to contributing £1,115,387 towards adapting the primary educational provision in Bangor.

At the Cabinet meeting held on 17 January 2017, a recommendation was approved, "to request permission to commence local discussions as outlined in the report on reviewing primary education provision in Bangor"

3.2 Catchment Review Panel (CRP) Bangor

The Bangor Catchment Review Panel (CRP) was established during June 2017, several meetings were held between June and November 2017, with the last meeting held on 29 November 2017. Representatives were invited from each of the schools within the catchment area, including, head teachers, chairs of the governors and a parent governor. An invitation was also extended to local councillors, a representative of the Church in Wales (Bangor Diocese) and the Catholic Church.

During the meetings, several options for primary education in Bangor were considered in relation to future sustainability, including an appropriate response to an increase in the demand for places in the Penrhosgarnedd area and improving provision for the city's learners. As part of the process, several aims for consideration were identified for learning provision in the Bangor catchment area namely to:

- Ensure an adequate number of places for every child in the appropriate locations;
- Ensure that no school is overcrowded;
- Ensure that no school is assessed as being in condition C or worse;
- Reduce substantial surplus places in schools or increase effectiveness;
- Reduce range cost per head for educational provision in the catchment-area;
- Ensure that class sizes are appropriate in the primary schools;
- Ensure that there are not over 25 pupils of the same age in one class;
- Ensure that there are no more than 20 pupils of different ages in one class;
- Reconcile the quality of education in the catchment-area;
- Ensure that no head teacher spends more than 20% of their time teaching;
- Develop the use of schools as a community resource;
- Improve additional learning needs provision in the catchment area.

The main issues identified by the CRP members were:

- The need for any option to include improvements and increase capacity for some Bangor school buildings

- Consideration could be given to any impact from the traffic situation in Penrhosgarnedd.
- Consideration of language issues
- Ensuring appropriate arrangements for the children of Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr and Ysgol Glanadda
- The consideration of any suitable development sites available in Bangor.

Following the input of CRP members and the presentation of a shortlist of possible options, a questionnaire was sent to members of the CRP to submit comments from the relevant schools regarding the proposed options. In terms of the comments received, the response favoured options 3 and 10.

Option 3

Extend Y Faenol increasing capacity from 186 to 315. New school for Garnedd increasing capacity from 210 to 420. Close Ysgol Coed Mawr and Glanadda. Increase the capacity of Glancegin to receive additional foundation phase pupils. Improvements to part of Ysgol Hiracl. Consideration given to Secondary provision to include the condition of existing buildings and a new build for Ysgol Ein Harglwyddes.

Option 10

Increase Y Faenol capacity (270). Garnedd to move to a new site and capacity increased (330). Modify the Glanadda site to accept Coed Mawr pupils (90). Increase the capacity of Glancegin to receive additional foundation phase pupils. Improvements to part of Ysgol Hiracl. Consideration given to Secondary provision to include the condition of existing buildings and a new build for Ysgol Ein Harglwyddes.

3.3 Capital Investment

The size of the package available to modernise the provision of primary education in the City of Bangor is an important part of the context. After discussions began in the catchment area, a capital investment programme was adopted by the Welsh Government under the banner of the 21st Century Schools Programme. It would potentially include a total investment of £12.7 million, of which £6.35 million being a grant from the Welsh Government. There is also a commitment from a housing development company as part of an agreement for a new development at Goetre Uchaf in Penrhosgarnedd.

The grant from the Welsh Government has been approved following the submission of a full business case. In order to ensure that a change in the direction of the Project does not affect compliance with the terms and conditions of the grant, the published options being considered by the options appraisal (section 5.4) have been developed within the context of the needs of the business case.

4. Existing Arrangements in Bangor

Existing primary provision in the Bangor catchment area includes, 9 primary schools (Ysgol Y Garnedd, Hiracl, Y Faenol, Llandygai, Cae Top, Glancegin, Babanod Coedmawr, Glanadda and Ein Harglwyddes).

Schools which are the Subject of the Consultation:

4.1 Ysgol y Garnedd

- Ysgol y Garnedd serves Bangor as a whole including surrounding villages such as Tal-y-Bont and Llandygai.
- The school has 338 pupils on the register
- 7.5% of pupils are entitled to free school meals, which is lower than the 13.8% average for the County.
- 67.2% of pupils speak Welsh at home.

4.2 Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr and Glanadda

- Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr is located on the outskirts of the City of Bangor.
- The pupils transfer to the junior site of Ysgol Glanadda when at 7 years old.
- The school provides Foundation Phase Education for pupils between the age of 3 and 7.
- The school has 28 pupils on the register.
- 45.6% of pupils are entitled to free school meals, compared to the 13.8% County average.
- 25% of pupils speak Welsh at home.
- Ysgol Glanadda is located on the western border of Bangor.
- There are 38 pupils between the ages of 7-11 on the register.
- The school has been federated with Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr
- The current federation is known as Ysgol Bro Ddewi, which was formed as a federation in 2011 with one head teacher over two sites.
- 30.3% of pupils are entitled to free school meals, compared to the 13.8% County average.
- 25% of pupils speak Welsh at home.

Other Primary Schools which are part of the Catchment Area:

4.3 Ysgol Y Faenol

- Ysgol Y Faenol is Voluntary Controlled by the Church in Wales and is located in Penrhosgarnedd.
- There are 219 pupils on the school register.
- 4.1% of pupils are entitled to free school meals, which is lower than the County average of 13.8%
- 13.3% of pupils speak Welsh at home.

4.4 Ysgol Cae Top

- Ysgol Cae Top is Voluntary Controlled by the Church in Wales.
- The school is located in Bangor
- There are 239 pupils on the register
- 12.5% of pupils are entitled to free school meals, which is lower than the County average of 13.8%
- 37.5% of pupils speak Welsh at home

4.5 Ysgol Ein Harglwyddes

- Ysgol Ein Harglwyddes is a Voluntary Aided Catholic school, which is located on the outskirts of the City of Bangor.
- It services the Catholic parishes of Bethesda, Menai Bridge, Llangefni, some pupils travel from afar to be taught in the school.
- There are 123 pupils on the register.
- 12.5% of pupils are entitled to free school meals which is lower than the County average of 13.8%
- 3.2% of pupils speak Welsh at home.

4.6 Ysgol Glancegin

- Ysgol Glancegin is located within Maesgeirchen Estate in Bangor.
- There are 251 pupils on the register, with the majority coming from the estate.
- A new school was opened in September 2017.
- 36.1% of pupils are entitled to free school meals which is higher than the county average of 13.8%
- 24.1% of pupils speak Welsh at home.

4.7 Ysgol Llandygai

- Ysgol Llandygai is located in the village of Llandygai which is located outside Bangor.
- The school is Voluntary Controlled by the Church in Wales
- There are 149 pupils on the register
- 20.7% of pupils are entitled to free school meals, which is higher than the County average of 13.8%
- 29 % of pupils speak Welsh at home

4.8 Ysgol Hirael

- Ysgol Hirael is located on the north side of the City of Bangor.
- There are 195 pupils on the register
- 22.1% pupils are entitled to free school meals with the County average being 13.8%
- 13.3% of pupils speak Welsh at home.

4.9 School Categories

Gwynedd schools are defined as Community, Voluntary Aided (VA) or Voluntary Controlled (VC). In addition, Voluntary Aided or Voluntary Controlled Schools can be designated with religious character i.e. as Church of Wales Schools.

Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr, Ysgol Glanadda and Ysgol Y Garnedd are Community schools

Summary of School Statistics:

		School										
		Glancegin	Garnedd	Glanadda	Ein Harglwyddes	Y Faenol	Llandygai	Cae Top	Babanod Coedmawr	Hirael	Tryfan	Friars
<i>Location of the school</i>		LL57 4ST	LL57 2LX	LL57 4SG	LL57 2UT	LL57 2NN	LL57 4HU	LL57 2GZ	LL57 4TL	LL57 1BA	LL57 2TY	LL57 2LN
<i>Age range</i>		3-11	3-11	7-11	3-11	3-11	3-11	3-11	3-7	3-11	11-18	11-18
<i>School's category</i> Community School [CS] Voluntary Aided [VA] Voluntary Controlled [VC] County Secondary School [US]		CS	CS	CS (I)	VA (C)	VC (E)	VC (E)	VC (E)	CS (B)	CS	US	US
<i>Language Medium Category</i>		Welsh Medium	Welsh Medium	Welsh Medium	Welsh Medium	Welsh Medium	Welsh Medium	Welsh Medium	Welsh Medium	Welsh Medium	Welsh Medium	Welsh Medium
<i>Number of pupils on the register – September 2017</i>	<i>Nursery</i>	38	33	-	9	13	14	27	4	24	Yr. 7-11 352	Yr. 7-11 1,046
	<i>Reception – Yr. 6</i>	213	305	41	114	206	135	213	24	171	Yr. 12-13 84	Yr. 12-13 227
	<i>Total</i>	251	338	41	123	219	149	240	28	195	436	1,273
<i>Number of pupils on the register for the previous four years</i>	<i>September 2016</i>	235	357	50	128	236	151	240	34	159	465	1,213
	<i>September 2015</i>	229	346	42	126	253	143	242	40	168	484	1,226
	<i>September 2014</i>	218	335	43	124	259	156	236	39	164	518	1,253
	<i>September 2013</i>	218	333	45	123	261	158	240	53	181	526	1,269
	<i>September 2012</i>	205	344	41	114	237	154	245	65	195	542	1,277
<i>Capacity</i>	<i>Nursery</i>	30	30	-	16	26	22	30	18	26	-	-
	<i>Reception – Yr. 6</i>	210	210	71	113	186	157	214	56	186	628	1,328
<i>Surplus places September 2017</i>		29 (10%)	0 (0%)	30 (42%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	8 (5%)	0 (0%)	32 (57%)	0 (0%)	192 (31%)	55 (4%)
<i>Pupil Projections</i>	<i>September 2018</i>	264	344	36	121	206	138	240	28	191	430	1,272
	<i>September 2019</i>	262	333	38	116	206	144	240	28	197	436	1,280
	<i>September 2020</i>	268	337	28	115	206	141	240	26	188	447	1,280
	<i>September 2021</i>	261	328	32	106	200	140	240	30	188	447	1,279
	<i>September 2022</i>	261	326	34	94	192	140	240	29	188	454	1,274
<i>School performance data (Estyn)</i>		1xAdequate 2xGood (2013)	2xGood 1xExcellent (2012)	2xAdequate 1xUnsatisfactory (2013) Monitoring 2014	1xAdequate 2xGood (2013) Monitoring 2014	3xGood (2010)	3xGood (2012)	3xExcellent (2016)	3xAdequate (2015) Monitoring 2016	3xAdequate (2015) Monitoring 2016	3xGood (2013)	1xAdequate 2xGood (2011) Monitoring 2012
<i>Category condition of buildings (Council's Criteria)</i>		A	B	B	B	A	B	A	B	B	B	A
<i>2017/18 Financial Allocation</i>		£800,000	£1,039,000	£253,000	£429,000	£684,000	£527,000	£786,000	£189,000	£524,000	£2,342,000	£5,342,000
<i>Cost per pupil 2017/2018</i>		£3,674	£3,111	£5,052	£3,475	£3,121	£3,782	£3,521	£6,525	£3,562	£5,037	£4,404

5 Case for change

5.1 Background

The area has been prioritised for a review of the existing educational provision as it faces several challenges including:

- Two schools in the Penrhosgarnedd catchment area are substantially over capacity, namely Ysgol Y Garnedd and Ysgol Y Faenol. In September 2017, Ysgol Y Faenol was 20 places above capacity, and Ysgol Y Garnedd 95 above capacity.
- New housing developments in Bangor will potentially impact on the capacity of local schools to admit pupils. A developer has obtained planning permission to build 245 dwellings, and several houses have already been built.
- Ysgol Coedmawr has 57% surplus places and Ysgol Glanadda has 42% surplus places
- All other primary schools in Bangor have no more than 10% surplus places and 5 out of the ten primary schools are full, with some where pupil numbers exceed capacity.
- The cost per pupil in the majority of the catchment area's primary schools are slightly below the county average of £3,777, with Coedmawr (£6,525), Glanadda Schools (£5,052) substantially higher. There is a range in cost per pupil between two primary schools in Bangor of £3,414, between Coedmawr (£6,525) and Ysgol Garnedd (£3,111).
- Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr receives £32,520 of additional annual funding through "Minimum staffing protection"
- Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr and Glanadda are under the leadership of an acting head teacher due to recruitment problems.
- There are inconsistencies in relation to teaching quality

The aim for the proposed investment is that it will address Gwynedd Council and Welsh Government strategic goals to deliver sustainable Welsh medium education provision, including:

- Better consistency in the standard and quality of education provided in the catchment area
- Improving the efficiency of the school estate by reducing the number of buildings in poor condition
- Making a significant contribution towards reducing surplus places
- Releasing funding to be spent on children within the education system rather than on buildings
- Reconciling the number of schools to match the need
- Rationalising the cost per pupil in schools, by reducing the cost per pupil to equal or better than the County average of £3,777 for primary.
- Better consistency in the size of classes and a reduction in the age range within primary school classes
- Improving the learning environment for more pupils and increasing the number of pupils who will benefit from a 21st Century learning environment
- Ensuring strong leadership and management

Pupil numbers attending Ysgol Coedmawr and Ysgol Glanadda are low compared to the remaining schools in Bangor. In September 2017, there were 28 pupils at Ysgol Coedmawr and 41 pupils at Ysgol Glanadda with a total of 69 (Nursery- Yr.6) on both schools registers, whilst 224 of pupils within the catchment-area opted to attend other primary schools (Ysgol Y Garnedd admit the largest number with 78 pupils from Coedmawr and Glanadda catchment area).

		Home Catchment Area							Total
		Cae Top	Hirael	Babanod Coedmawr + Glanadda	Y Faenol	Glancegin	Llandygai	Other	
School	Y Garnedd	46	28	78	69	23	20	74	338
	Cae Top	90	13	59	18	7	3	49	239
	Hirael	13	102	20	5	37	2	17	196*
	Babanod Coedmawr + Glanadda	5	2	50	4	2	2	4	69
	Y Faenol	12	1	34	111	3	3	55	219
	Ein Harglwyddes	8	20	43	11	12	1	28	123
	Llandygai	1	8	4	1	28	45	63	150*
	Glancegin	3	5	5	0	235	0	3	251
	Total	178	179	293	219	347	76	293	1,585

** Data taken from school SIMS on census day may not match exactly the school census return

Source: September 2017 School Census

5.2 Pupil Population and Projections

Pupil numbers in Gwynedd schools have varied since 1975, however, in general there has been a decline of around 18% in the number of pupils across the county. Therefore, resources are spent each year on maintaining inefficient buildings and systems rather than on education for children and young people.

The below table summarises pupil numbers in the catchment area between 1980 and 2017.

Ysgol School	Niferoedd [Meithrin – Bl.6 (Oed 3-11)] Number [Nursery - Yr.6 (Age 3-11)]									1980-2017	1980-2017
	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2017	twf / growth	% twf / growth
	Glanadda	128	83	87	89	61	63	45	42	41	-87
Coed Mawr	73	67	48	90	54	49	57	40	28	-45	-62%
Y Garnedd	218	185	191	268	271	312	325	346	338	120	55%
Hirael	189	167	168	221	223	252	201	168	195	6	3%
Y Faenol	141	108	110	147	244	243	244	253	219	78	55%
Llandygai	128	128	135	150	176	169	181	143	149	21	16%
Cae Top	243	170	207	195	212	216	251	242	240	-3	-1%
Ein Harglwyddes	135	149	113	151	123	113	115	126	123	-12	-9%
Glancegin	309	235	326	328	264	226	207	229	251	-58	-19%
Ardal / Area	1564	1292	1385	1639	1628	1643	1626	1589	1584		

Source: September 2017 Data

The table shows that Ysgol Coedmawr and Ysgol Glanadda pupil numbers for September 2017 are at their lowest for the last 25 years. A substantial change has occurred in pupil numbers since 1980, with a reduction of 62% at Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr and 68% at Ysgol Glanadda. In contrast, numbers at Ysgol y Garnedd have increased by 55% in the same period.

This table shows the catchment area’s pupil population for the current year:

School	Numbers on Roll (September 2017)	
	Full Time	Part Time
Glanadda	41	-
Coedmawr	24	4
Y Garnedd	305	33
Hirael	171	24
Y Faenol	206	13
Llandygai	135	14
Cae Top	212	27
Ein Harglwyddes	114	9
Glancegin	213	38

Source: September 2017 Data

Future projections for the catchment area over the next 5 years

School	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Glanadda	36	38	28	32	34
Coedmawr	28	28	26	30	29
Y Garnedd	334	333	337	328	326
Hirael	191	197	188	188	188
Y Faenol	206	206	206	200	192
Llandygai	138	144	141	140	140
Cae Top	240	240	240	240	240
Ein Harglwyddes	121	116	115	106	94
Glancegin	264	262	268	261	261
Total	1558	1564	1549	1525	1504

5.3 Evaluating Different Options

Possible Options

A number of options were discussed prior to creating the long list of options. These options were based on the potential way forward after considering all of the schools within the catchment area and by seeking ways which would maintain and improve educational standards in the catchment area.

The options included:

- Developing co-operation/federation options between some or all of the current schools without closing schools.
- Developing co-operation/federation options between some or all of the current schools after closing some schools.
- Closing some primary schools by transferring pupils to nearby schools without capital investment or co-operation between the remaining schools.
- Closing some primary schools by transferring pupils to nearby schools without capital investment and establishing a co-operation between the remaining schools.
- Closing some primary schools and establishing new schools following capital investment
- Establish one 3-18 school on one site for the pupils of the entire catchment area.

5.4 Long List of Possible Options

A long list of options was created following discussions with CRP members:

Status Quo	Do nothing.
Option 1	Extend Y Faenol increasing the capacity from 186 to 270. Close Ysgol Coed Mawr, Glanadda and Garnedd. Establish a new school on 2 sites (infant and junior) with the infants at Coed Mawr (180) and juniors at the Garnedd site (240). Increase the capacity of Glancegin to receive additional foundation phase pupils. Improvements made to part of Ysgol Hiracl. Consideration given to Secondary provision to include the condition of existing buildings and a new build for Ysgol Ein Harglwyddes.
Option 2	Close Ysgol Coed Mawr, Glanadda, Y Faenol and Garnedd. Establish a new school with a capacity of 690. Increase the capacity of Glancegin to receive additional foundation phase pupils. Improvements made to part of Ysgol Hiracl. Consideration given to Secondary provision to include the condition of existing buildings and a new build for Ysgol Ein Harglwyddes.
Option 3	Extend Y Faenol increasing capacity from 186 to 315. New school for Garnedd increasing capacity from 210 to 420. Close Ysgol Coed Mawr and Glanadda. Increase the capacity of Glancegin to receive additional foundation phase pupils. Improvements to part of Ysgol Hiracl. Consideration given to Secondary provision to include the condition of existing buildings and a new build for Ysgol Ein Harglwyddes.
Option 4	New build for Garnedd, capacity from 350 to 380. New school for Coed Mawr and Glanadda to include places for additional children from Pen y Ffridd (Goetre Uchaf). Extend Y Faenol to c.250 and address traffic problems. Increase the capacity of Glancegin to receive additional foundation phase pupils. Improvements to part of Ysgol Hiracl. Consideration given to Secondary provision to include the condition of existing buildings and a new build for Ysgol Ein Harglwyddes.
Option 5	One lifelong learning school in Bangor (2,746 + 306). Close all existing primary and secondary schools.
Option 6	Combine Ysgol Tryfan and Ysgol Friars and establish a new Welsh medium school (1,347 + 306) building a new primary school on the current Tryfan site (420) and extending Ysgol Y Faenol (270). Close Ysgol Coed Mawr, Glanadda and Garnedd. Increase the capacity of Glancegin to receive additional foundation phase pupils. Improvements to part of Ysgol Hiracl. New build for Ysgol Ein Harglwyddes.
Option 7	Combine Ysgol Tryfan and Ysgol Dyffryn Ogwen on a new site (700 + 150?). New primary school built on the current Tryfan site (420) and Ysgol Y Faenol (270) extended. Close Ysgol Coed Mawr, Glanadda and Garnedd. Increase the capacity of Glancegin to receive additional foundation phase pupils. Improvements to part of Ysgol Hiracl. New build for Ysgol Ein Harglwyddes.
Option 8	Close Glanadda and Coed Mawr. Extend Ysgol Y Faenol (270). New build for Garnedd (380-420 children). New Building for Ysgol Ein Harglwyddes (120) during the second phase (through Church in Wales funding). Establish community sports facilities shared by Garnedd, Friars, Cae Top (as at Parc Eirias). Increase the capacity of Glancegin to receive additional foundation phase pupils. Improvements to part of Ysgol Hiracl. Consideration

	given to Secondary provision to include the condition of existing buildings.
Option 9	Rebuild Ysgol Ein Harglwyddes on the current site (120). Provide an extension for Glanadda (90) to merge with Ysgol Coed Mawr. Rebuild Coed Mawr to accommodate the overflow from Faenol and Garnedd (240). Possibly Parc Cegin. Re-introduce bus service for pupils. Ensure enough capacity for population growth. Increase the capacity of Glancegin to receive additional foundation phase pupils. Improvements to part of Ysgol Hirael. Consideration given to Secondary provision to include the condition of existing buildings.
Option 10	Increase Y Faenol capacity (270). Garnedd to move to a new site and capacity increased (330). Modify the Glanadda site to accept Coed Mawr pupils (90). Increase the capacity of Glancegin to receive additional foundation phase pupils. Improvements to part of Ysgol Hirael. Consideration given to Secondary provision to include the condition of existing buildings and a new build Ysgol Ein Harglwyddes.
Option 11	New build for Y Faenol (270). Garnedd to move to a new site and capacity increased (420). Close Coed Mawr and Glanadda. Increase the capacity of Glancegin to receive additional foundation phase pupils. Improvements to part of Ysgol Hirael. Consideration given to Secondary provision to include the condition of existing buildings and a new build for Ysgol Ein Harglwyddes.
Option 12	Extend Y Faenol to increase the capacity from 186 to 360. New school for Garnedd increasing capacity from 210 to 330. Close Ysgol Coed Mawr and Glanadda with pupils sent to Ysgol Y Faenol. Increase the capacity of Glancegin to receive additional foundation phase pupils. Improvements to part of Ysgol Hirael. Consideration given to Secondary provision to include the condition of existing buildings and a new build for Ysgol Ein Harglwyddes.

5.5 Options Appraisal

An options appraisal was completed in order to summarise the main advantages and disadvantages of the options considered as part of the long list of possible options. All the options were evaluated against the CRP factors, taking into account the School Organisation Code 2013, Gwynedd Council Re-organisation Strategy, the Bangor catchment areas vision and other relevant factors.

A copy of the full options appraisal has been included as an annex to this document.

6. The Proposal

Summary of the Proposal

Following the appraisal of the possible options, the preferred direction and the proposal which is the subject of the statutory consultation is to close Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr and Ysgol Glanadda and build a new school for Ysgol y Garnedd with a capacity of 420.

Location	Land near Ysgol y Garnedd	
Age range	3-11	
The school category (community, voluntary aided, voluntary controlled, foundation)	Community	
Language category	Welsh Medium	
Implementation Date	1 September 2020	
Predicted Numbers – September 2020	<i>Nursery</i> 52	<i>Reception – Yr 6</i> 339
Admission Number	<i>Nursery</i> 30 morning 30 afternoon	<i>Reception – Yr 6</i> 60
Capacity (based on Welsh Assembly Government Circular 21/2011 ‘Measuring the Capacity of Schools in Wales’)	<i>Nursery</i> 30 morning 30 afternoon	<i>Reception – Yr 6</i> 420
Quality of the buildings and classrooms (Building Condition Category)	A	

This would include the relocation of Ysgol y Garnedd on an adjacent site and offer places for pupils from Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr and Ysgol Glanadda at Ysgol y Garnedd (subject to parental choice).

As with any similar situation, parents have the right to choose alternative locations for their children if they so wish. Due to the fact that Ysgol y Faenol will also be subject to change during the same time as the development of the new building on the Garnedd site, it is possible that some parents will choose this school for the education of their children.

This option would mean:

- a) Building a school with the a 21st Century Schools standards, and the highest curriculum standard.
- b) An improved working environment for staff
- c) A reduction in building and maintenance costs
- d) Reconciliation of the cost per pupil allowance
- e) Reducing the number of surplus spaces within the schools.

This section outlines the reasons why this option is the preferred option and why this is the subject of the statutory consultation.

6.1 Quality of Education

The Council is committed to providing education of the best possible quality which will provide the County's children with the experiences, skills and confidence to develop into bilingual, successful and well-rounded citizens.

It remains a high priority to provide the best possible learning experience for all learners within the County, ensuring an exciting and broad curriculum, as well as the extra-curricular activities which motivate pupils to learn and understand leading to improved standards.

The Council has decided to invest in school re-organisation, in order to improve and secure consistency in pupils' educational and learning attainment. It also seeks to reduce the difference in performance between schools and within schools.

Leadership, good governance and management are key factors in ensuring that schools, which are underperforming, improve their performance.

Ysgol y Garnedd has been categorised green which means it is a "a highly effective school which is well run, has strong leadership and is clear about its priorities for improvements"

Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr is designated Yellow "an effective school that is already doing well and knows what areas it needs to improve"

Ysgol Glanadda is designated as amber "a school that needs improvement and needs support to identify the steps to improve"

Summary of Estyn reports:

School	Year of Inspection	How good are the outcomes?	How good is the provision?	How good is the leadership and management?
Glanadda	2013	Adequate	Adequate	Unsatisfactory
Babanod Coedmawr	2015	Adequate	Adequate	Adequate
Y Garnedd	2012	Good	Good	Excellent

Source: Estyn Website

Quality of Education and Standards Within the Three Schools which are Part of the Statutory Consultation:

Estyn inspection reports indicate that the standard of education provision for the three schools varies.

Ysgol y Garnedd

During the last inspection by Estyn October 2012. Estyn noted that the performance of Ysgol Garnedd was good with the school's prospects for improvement as excellent.

"Pupils enjoy being at school, and their behaviour and commitment to learning are excellent"

In addition, it has been identified that teacher work well together to develop detailed schemes of work for pupils. It was mentioned that the work of the Autism Unit was outstanding, also particularly good support

for pupils of additional learning needs. The report also highlighted that pupils made very good progress with some aspects of learning being outstanding.

KS2 achieving at least level 4 in the core subject 2017 (Y Garnedd)					
	CSI	English	Mathematics	Science	Welsh
School	96.2%	100.0%	96.2%	100%	100.0%
Gwynedd average	92.1%	93.2%	93.3%	93.8%	91.1%
Wales Average	89.5%	91.1%	91.6%	92.2%	91.6%

Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr

During the last inspection in January 2015, it was noted that the school was adequate with prospects for improving the school also adequate.

"Pupils across the school show an interest in their work and their behaviour and attitudes towards learning are good"

It was also noted that pupils made appropriate progress during their time at the School. However, it was noted that "the school performance at the end of the Foundation Phase places it consistently in the lower 50% or the bottom 25% in comparison with similar schools". It was mentioned that the attendance rate remained low. They declared "Staff don't plan enough different activities to challenge pupils of higher ability appropriately"

Foundation Phase that have achieved outcome 5 and at least outcome 6 2017 (Babanod Coedmawr)			
	Personal and Social Development, Wellbeing and Cultural Diversity	Welsh	Mathematics
School	100%	87.5%	100.0%
Gwynedd average	95.3%	88.3%	90.3%
Wales average	94.7%	90.9%	90.3%

Ysgol Glanadda

In the February 2013 inspection, it was noted that the school was adequate with prospects for improvement unsatisfactory. It was also noted that the school has a "happy and caring" community. The report mentioned that "the pupils' personal, social and life skills develop well and prepare them well for life and work outside of school"

The report stated that "there is not enough progress in reading and writing skills of many pupils in both languages" as well as noted; "there is not enough of a challenge to ensure that the most able pupils make appropriate progress across the curriculum";

KS 2 achieving at least level 4 in the core subject 2017 (Glanadda)					
	CSI	English	Mathematics	Science	Welsh
School	78.6%	78.6%	92.9%	85.7%	83.3%
Gwynedd average	92.1%	93.2%	93.3%	93.8%	91.1%
Wales average	89.5%	91.1%	91.6%	92.2%	91.6%

6.2 Summary of the Effect of the Current Proposal on Improving Educational Standards

By moving with the preferred option to close Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr and Ysgol Glanadda and moving the pupils to Ysgol y Garnedd (subject to parental choice) would align the education provision and ensure that the children receive the best possible education for the future.

The proposal will not impact on the delivery of the full curriculum including the foundation phase as Ysgol y Garnedd already provides education for the foundation phase and key stage 2.

6.3 School Capacity

Appropriate Class Size and Age Range

Our expectation is that as far as possible, there will be appropriately sized classes in primary schools so that children within the county receive the best possible experiences and opportunities.

Gwynedd Council aims to have class sizes of between 12-25 pupils, where children are all of the same age range. The table below shows current class sizes in the Bangor catchment area.

Gwynedd Council is currently consulting on adopting new principles and provide future education system foundations which will be fit for purpose. A proposed education system for primary schools has been assessed based on general principles:

- Leadership arrangements which aim to offer 80% of non-contact time for the headteacher
- Classes of no more than two age-groups.

These objectives would address the biggest challenge that the primary sector faces, headteachers with inadequate time to lead, and teachers in small schools who have to teach a broad range of children of various ages and abilities within the same class.

In September, 2017, Ysgol y Garnedd was substantially over capacity with 95 over the capacity.

Increasing the size of Ysgol Y Garnedd to 420 would lead to a structure which would include two classes for each age-group i.e. access and space for 60 pupils in every year group, between Reception and Year Six groups. It is envisaged that the age range peaks within classes which exist in some schools will disappear, which would reduce the challenges and problems of effective learning and teaching that may occur when there is a wide age range in a class.

The table below shows the current class size of Ysgol y Garnedd, Babanod Coedmawr and Ysgol Glanadda. Currently, children are taught in age groups that span two age ranges. Numbers in classes vary from school to school and affect pupils' educational experience - class sizes range from 17 to 30.

School	Nursery	Reception	Yr1	Yr2	Yr3	Yr4	Yr5	Yr6	Total	Number of classes	Largest class	Smallest class	Average class size
Ysgol y Garnedd	7	5	15	15	14	16	14	17	338	12	30	24	28.1
	8	3	13	16	13	17	13	17					
	6	4	15	16	14	15	13	16					
Ysgol Coedmawr	4	7	11	6	-				28	2	17	11	14
Ysgol Glanadda	-				4	17	9	11	41	2	21	20	20.5

Source: September 2017 Data

Through closing Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr and Ysgol Glanadda, and transferring pupils to the new Ysgol y Garnedd, the educational provision would combine the existing primary educational provision, leading to greater consistency in class sizes.

It would be a matter for the Governors of Ysgol y Garnedd to determine the size and distribution of school staff resources.

6.4 Management and Leadership

Gwynedd Council recognises the importance of strong leadership at a school as a means of maintaining and improving standards. The following steps have been implemented to ensure strong leadership in Gwynedd schools for the future:

- GwE train a Senior manager from every secondary school to develop their personal leadership skills, and to develop their schools middle managers;
- Successful schools share good practice and hold Leadership Development dates for the managers of the rest of the schools;
- School to school plans ensure that school leaders collaborate and develop a leader's specialisation;
- Encourage prospective leaders to gain NPQH qualification;
- Headteachers mentoring scheme;
- Catchment Area Strategy Leader Pilot Scheme implemented to promote and develop strategic leadership in Gwynedd

Our expectation is that head teachers will have a fair opportunity to provide professional leadership and management for their schools. In addition, we expect school governing bodies to lead schools effectively within their budgets for the benefit of pupils. We expect schools to have the best staff to provide education of the highest quality.

Leadership at Y Garnedd has been recognised by Estyn (2012) as "excellent", with the Headteacher and Senior Management team providing robust leadership.

Currently, neither Ysgol Coedmawr nor Glanadda has a permanent headteacher. Rather there are two Assistant Headteachers, together with an Acting Headteacher on a non-contact basis. In addition, the Assistant Headteachers are responsible for managing the sites as well as teaching.

The situation at Glanadda and Coedmawr schools has been one of the main considerations for change, with a vulnerable situation related to a lack of robust leadership arrangements. This has provided a short-term solution, but a long-term solution is now required.

Impact on leadership and management

Work conditions are required that enable headteachers to establish a productive and positive environment in order for pupils to reach their potential. In addition, headteachers are responsible for setting up a culture of continuous improvement which is evaluated and offers support to the teachers and other middle managers in their schools. One of the biggest challenges facing the primary sector is that headteachers do not have sufficient time to lead in very small schools, and that there is a need to teach a wide range of children of different ages and abilities in the same class. Estyn (2013) states:

“Leadership and processes to improve quality are usually better developed in large primary schools. In small primary schools, many headteachers have a significant teaching responsibility that limits the time they can devote to leading and managing and they have fewer opportunities to evaluate standards and to drive improvement.”

Schools with high numbers of children such as Ysgol y Garnedd can offer a more robust structure to plan and deliver the curriculum through the establishment of middle management teams and subject and curriculum leaders. In addition, many responsibilities such as those relating to the curriculum and management issues, which can be a burden for small schools, e.g. appraisal arrangements, development plans, performance management can be centralised. It is more challenging for smaller schools to be able to create specific professional development training and development plans, and offer reasonable opportunities for staff to develop subject expertise and share good practice with peers.

6.5 Condition and Suitability of Buildings

The Council aims to provide quality primary education buildings within the county through structured planning, providing head teachers and teachers with appropriate rooms and access to playing fields and an appropriate hall for children. Buildings also need to comply with Foundation Phase and curriculum requirements.

The Welsh Government's 21st Century Schools Programme states that the teaching environment is an important factor in the provision of education.

The Estyn report *“Evaluation of the performance of schools before and after moving into new buildings or renovated property”* (2007) confirms the above opinion. The report notes that schools which have seen their buildings being renovated have noticed an improvement in pupils’ achievement and attainment. It notes that Estyn reports on individual schools show that the quality of the teaching has improved, that staff morale is higher, that attendance has been maintained and that behaviour has improved. In addition, buildings which have been improved, offer better choice and provision in terms of education within the school and activities held before and after school hours.

Our expectation is that the “learning environment” for the county’s children and teachers (i.e. the condition of the school, classroom, staff room, play provision) meets 21st century school teaching and learning requirements. There is real concern about the condition and suitability of the county’s primary schools. The

buildings require substantial investment to address health and safety matters and to achieve appropriate standards. A number of school buildings are in poor condition. The cost of upgrading and adapting the county's school buildings to meet new curriculum requirements and expected standards are substantial.

The table below includes the condition and suitability of Ysgol y Garnedd, Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr and Ysgol Glanadda's buildings, as well as the maintenance costs required.

School	Condition Category	Shortcomings of Suitability and Condition	Cost of Maintenance Required
Ysgol y Garnedd	C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitability - The number of learners in the School more than the official capacity of the School. Number of learners being educated in an unsuitable space. Class size's too small. Condition - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Almost all elements of the structure now need work. Extensive parts of the structure are made of wood and thus maintenance can be difficult. In the future, extensive parts of the building would require renewal and even then it would remain unsuitable for purpose. 	-
Ysgol Glanadda	B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitability - The School's Plan is rigid. Size of classrooms not to current standards Condition – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to refresh windows Need to upgrade the kitchen ventilation system Need to renovate the barge board of the roof Need to paint outside 	£85,000
Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr	B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitability - The School's Plan is rigid. Classes too small. Site is limited and can't be expanded. Condition – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need to renew the electrical system. Work for playground Need windows refreshment Need to refurbish parts of the kitchen including improving the ventilation. Need to renovate flat roofs 	£245,000

Source: Gwynedd's Property Department

Key to the Categories:			
A	GOOD (No Deterioration)	C	Poor (Big Decline)
B	SATISFACTORY (Minor Deterioration)	D	BAD (Has reached the end of its life)

The Council undertakes annual condition surveys of all its properties. The annual surveys inform the Authority's Asset Management Plan and enables the prioritisation of the repair and maintenance planned works programme in schools. These surveys have also led to a substantial increase in repair and maintenance budgets since 2009/10.

Ysgol y Garnedd

Almost all elements of the structure now need work. Extensive parts of the structure are made of wood and thus maintenance can be difficult. The number of pupils in the School is more than the school's official capacity, with a number of pupils being educated in an unsuitable space. Class size is too small.

Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr

Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr is not in a good condition and needs to be re-wired, the flat roofs refurbished, new windows and work completed on the kitchen. It can be maintained but it will not be of standard construction and will require ongoing investment. The school's plan is rigid and the size of classrooms is not to the current standards. The site is limited and cannot be expanded

Ysgol Glanadda

Ysgol Glanadda is a Victorian stone building and can be maintained continuously. The windows, roof and kitchen needs work. Otherwise it is in an acceptable condition. The school's plan is rigid and the size of classrooms is not to the current standards.

6.6 Details of the Proposal

Following the completion of the ECI tender process (Early Contractor Involvement), a company has been identified to assist the design team to plan the new school in terms of cost effectiveness and buildability. This work has already started. The construction work is scheduled to start in October this year and the school's construction programme is expected to be completed by the Easter term 2019. Below is the Architect's (AGA) first edition of the design for the new school.





The initial high level design was prepared following a number of site visits and meetings with project stakeholders.

An important objective in the design will be to improve the flow of people through the building and improve the suitability of the children's learning environment. Organising the internal spaces will enable the School to control access to the hall space and the 'community' area by carefully arranging a timetable and improving access.

Aspects of the design include elements that have been identified as examples of best practice from previous projects completed by the Authority and other projects completed within the 21st Century Schools Programme. For example, innovative features such as toilets in an open area to prevent bullying, and flexible learning spaces. In addition, the design considers those suitability issues that currently hinder learning.

The table below gives details of the different elements which would include as part of the new school's construction work, as well as the associated benefits.

Element	Description	Benefit
Classroom	Create learning areas of a suitable size for the numbers of learners; improve education provision by having flexible rooms in pairs for every year.	This will improve the children's learning environment and offer a new teaching environment
Foundation Phase Classrooms	Create bespoke classrooms with suitable resources. Creating openings of the foundation phase classrooms to the outside and place canopies outside the openings. Toilets from all classrooms.	
Canopies	Provide a canopy to protect against rain / sun outside of the Foundation Phase classes	The children can be outdoors even if the weather is not favourable
Additional Learning Needs	New facilities and two classrooms for pupils with additional learning needs	This will improve the learning environment of children with Additional Learning Needs
Multi Use Games Area	Provide an all-weather play area with a tarmac surface.	The play area can be used regardless of the weather
Headteacher's Room	New Headteacher's room suitable for meetings with parents, governors and staff.	As Headteachers are discharged more of their learning responsibilities to focus on leadership issues in line with national guidelines. These rooms will be a useful place and a resource for the Headteacher.

Staff room	A new dedicated staff room is central to the School, overlooking the Foundation Phase play area	A staff room centrally located to the School will ensure a collaboration between staff across the School is facilitated.
PPA room	Dedicated rooms for Staff to prepare their work away from class and Staff Room.	Provide fair opportunities for teachers to prepare in an unrestricted environment.
Reception and Administrative Rooms.	A new reception that is large enough to be a hallway for hall activities. Administrative rooms in the foyer / reception area.	Access to the School and community facilities can be managed and monitored using a minimum amount of resources. This will enable the provision of high quality services to all pupils, staff and visitors to the school
Resources	Purposeful areas close to classrooms where practical tasks can be undertaken using the latest technology and equipment.	Enable modern teaching to the highest standard with suitable resources and furniture.
Quiet Area / Relax	Specific area for unwell pupils and a fit for purpose space for visiting specialists.	Improving specific area for pupils who are unwell to wait for parents to pick them up and for visiting doctors, dentists, nurses, child welfare officers to use to conduct visits.
School Hall	Hall fit for use as a resource for assembly, sports, and dining hall to school.	Pupils, staff and the public will benefit from this multi-use area.
Studio / Small hall	Provide a parallel studio with the hall with a mobile wall between the two to create one more room. Small kitchen and storage	Pupils benefit from improved facilities for physical education. The studio is a resource where the 'Breakfast Club' or 'After School Club' can meet - the potential to raise income.
Changing rooms	Resources for learners to change before physical education lessons	As the changing rooms are located near the hall, they can be used for the performances held in the hall.
Storage rooms	Create adequate storage rooms	These improvements will improve the standards of the learning environment, health and safety and access issues.
Toilets and Hygiene Room	New modern toilets, suitable for different ages in different areas of the building.	
Parking	New access to the site with measures to ensure separation between pedestrians and traffic. Create a new car park on the site of the old building with dedicated parking spaces for staff and visitors. There will be a drop off / pick up bus area and a disabled parking area.	
Kitchen	New kitchen with modern equipment and new technology e.g. induction oven.	Improve efficiency and give the school the highest possible environmental rating.
Heating Room and Equipment	Gas heating system to include efficient energy boilers	

6.7 Proposed Transport Arrangements

Gwynedd Council's strategy for both primary and secondary education is that it aims to limit home to school travel to a maximum one-way journey of 45 minutes. Free transport is available for primary school pupils who live 2 miles or more from the school in their catchment area and secondary school pupils under 16 that live 3 miles or more from the school.

When moving to the new building, it is not envisaged that any pupil will be required to travel an unreasonable distance to reach an educational site, in accordance with the strategy. Ysgol Glanadda is situated 0.8 of a mile away from the current site of Ysgol Y Garnedd, with Ysgol Coedmawr situated 0.3 of a mile away. Transport would be provided in accordance with the County's schools Transport Policy, and no increase is envisaged in Transport costs following the implementation of the preferred option.

The number of pupils who attend the two schools Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr and Ysgol Glanadda walk to the school. The proposal will be such that those pupils who currently walk to school will continue to do so to attend Ysgol y Garnedd.

6.8 Surplus Places

National Targets for Authorities

The Council needs to reduce the number of surplus spaces in order to match the targets set out by the Welsh Government and to follow the recommendations which were made by Estyn in their Authority educational provision report in March 2013.

Reducing the number of surplus spaces will ensure that a higher percentage of the Authority's Education budget is spent directly on education rather than maintaining a costly and ineffective school infrastructure, which is unsustainable for the future.

Local Authorities are expected to manage the changes in catchment areas to ensure that demand and growth in the pupil population is considered when making a decision to establish a new school or extend an existing building. The choice of site and the option for a new school must ensure that sustainability and reducing the number of surplus places are at the core of the project's objectives.

Planning for the future of education in different catchment areas therefore needs to reflect trends in terms of population and primary pupil numbers. The Council has already taken initial steps to respond to this challenge and this proposal directly contributes to the objective of reducing surplus places and establishing a sustainable education system. In a post inspection visit in 2014 to monitor the specific recommendation made to the County of reducing surplus places, Estyn reached the positive conclusion that the Council was meeting the challenge "to a great extent".

Financial Costs of Surplus Places

According to Estyn, closing and combining schools is one way of reducing surplus places, releasing savings for reinvestment and raising standards. Where there are educational and sound reasons for doing so, this is an approach Gwynedd Council will follow. However, how surplus capacity is addressed, will vary from catchment to catchment according to the particular situation and requirements of each catchment area.

There are a high number of surplus places in Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr and Glanadda compared to their capacity. Ysgol Coedmawr has 57% empty places and Ysgol Glanadda has 42% empty places. In contrast, all other primary schools in Bangor have no more than 10% empty places and 5 out of the ten primary schools are full, with some where pupil numbers exceed capacity.

Estyn has placed a notional cost of one surplus place in a primary school at £262 and the cost of a surplus place in a secondary school at £510. The cost of the surplus places in Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr and Glanadda, based on Estyn's data is as follows:

Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr has 30 empty spaces within the school which means a total cost of £7,860 and in the same instance Ysgol Glanadda has 32 surplus places with a total of £8,384.

Although the cost of surplus places is a factor that needs to be taken into account as part of the reorganisation process, it is not the sole driver. However, we have to be aware of the effects and implications of substantial expenditure on schools which have a high percentage of surplus places – especially the impact and implications that this has on the budget which reaches the pupils, and balance this against other factors which are relevant when considering what is best for pupils in the catchment area.

6.9 Financial Resources

The expectation is that Gwynedd makes the best possible use of financial resources available for the provision of education in the county. It is also sensible, wherever possible to make to make the best use of resources across the county by reducing the range of cost per pupil.

This is even more important with the extremely challenging financial climate facing the Council at present. It is therefore important that efforts are made to utilise resources as effectively as possible within the education and training system for the benefit of children and young people. This includes all resources – human, technical, construction and financial. In particular, a substantial proportion of the Education budget is spent on maintaining a very expensive and inefficient school infrastructure which in many cases was designed in the last century, or during the Victorian era. In addition there is a substantial expenditure on schools where there is a large percentage of surplus places.

The expenditure per pupil varies greatly from school to school.

For the 21st Century, there is a need to ensure that Gwynedd has a network of schools of the correct type at the appropriate locations across the county. Reducing the number of empty places and ensuring robust schools regarding size, would provide opportunities to develop inclusive and community-focused elements. Such a course of action is crucial if equal opportunities are to be promoted across the county and the impact of poverty in children and young people’s lives is to be reduced.

A total of £5,231,881 was allocated to the catchment primary schools for 2017/18. This corresponds to £3,527 per pupil on average, compared to the average primary pupil cost of £3,777.

School	SHARE OF BUDGET	
	Total Budget	Cost Per Pupil
Y Garnedd	£1,039,000	£3,111
Babanod Coedmawr	£189,000	£6,525
Glanadda	£253,000	£5,052

By establishing the new building for Ysgol y Garnedd, and transferring Ysgol Coedmawr and Glanadda pupils to the new site, it is predicted that the proposal could lead to revenue saving of approximately £107,519 compared to the current situation.

It has to be recognised that national NNDR calculation arrangements (building’s tax), leads to an increase following capital investment, but with the NNDR fund being disseminated to authorities, it could be argued that this matter should not be ignored when identifying revenue savings.

6.10 The Welsh Language

We expect that the County’s primary schools support and improve the use of the Welsh language as a social language and as the educational language of our pupils.

In developing any proposals relating to school reorganisation, consideration must be given to the impact on the Welsh language. Maintaining and increasing the use of Welsh as a social language and a language for education is always an essential consideration in planning proposals and assessing options.

A language assessment was completed on all 12 possible long listed options in order to compare the impact they would have on the Welsh language in the area. A copy of the assessment report is included in the

background pack which is available on the Council's website at, www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/modernisingeducation

Any discussions on education re-organisation in the catchment-area and providing more opportunities for learners needs to note Welsh Government's efforts to achieve the objective of a million Welsh speakers by 2050. The Welsh Government has specifically asked Gwynedd Council to work with them to disseminate Language Charter practices throughout Wales by 2019. This follows the sweeping success of the pilot scheme in 2015-16 between Gwynedd and the Welsh Government where all North Wales regional authorities achieved the Charter bronze award.

Work on developing the Language Charter to be a national programme is a key part of a broader framework that the Welsh Government is developing to increase use of Welsh amongst children and young people. The Framework will address interventions within three main fields, the educational system, the community, and change in language behaviour. The focus tries to integrate these three fields as well as try and bring the education policy and overall use of language policy closer together. The Framework will therefore support the objective of providing more opportunities for learners in the catchment-area.

The options to close Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr and Ysgol Glanadda schools also include developing a substantial extension to Ysgol Y Garnedd. It is therefore expected that the majority of pupils who would attend these schools would attend Ysgol Y Garnedd, conditional on parents preference. When considering that the majority of Glanadda pupils are confident Welsh speakers, think that speaking Welsh is important and "always" speak Welsh with their teachers, the assessment notes that they would be likely to be comfortable in the Welsh culture of Ysgol y Garnedd without excessively changing the language spoken in class.

Through increasing capacity at Ysgol y Garnedd, it is expected that more children from non-Welsh speaking homes will attend the school. It is possible that the school's Welsh cultures will maintain, and that pupils from non-Welsh homes will frequently use Welsh as already observed at Y Garnedd. The figures indicate that given robust leadership by the teachers, a school can impact use of Welsh within school classes. It is expected that this will remain strong at Y Garnedd following increased capacity. It is possible that increasing capacity at Ysgol y Garnedd would increase the percentage who speak Welsh "every time" on the playground. However, the non-Welsh speakers will have more opportunities to integrate and socialize with children who speak Welsh in the classes and on the playground.

6.11 The Community

The Council undertook a community impact assessment on all 12 of the possible long listed options in order to compare the impact they would have on the communities affected. The full community assessment report is included in the background pack or on the Council's website www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/modernisingeducation.

In developing any proposals involving modernising education, full consideration must be given to the possible community impact.

The assessment noted, through the closure of Glanadda and Coedmawr sites, that certain elements of community events will be lost. However, other schools in the area such as Ysgol Y Garnedd already make similar use of the school building and consequently, similar community use could continue.

The assessment's conclusion notes that there is no reason why any of the options should have a negative impact on the community.

	Glanadda	Babanod Coedmawr	Y Garnedd
Yr Urdd			✓
Sports	✓		✓
Choir Practice			✓
Music Practice	✓		✓
After School Club			✓
Breakfast Club	✓		✓
Charity Events	✓		
Educational Clubs			
Community Services			
Nurse Group (Cylch Meithrin)			
School Holidays Club			
Catholic Church Confirmation Classes			

In the case of the communities whose schools will close, we suggest the adoption of some measures which will alleviate the negative impact. The alleviation measures will be discussed by the Council as measures to be borne in mind if the decision is taken to implement the proposals in the catchment area:

- In order to create an inclusive spirit and a feeling of ownership, it should be ensured at the start of – and throughout – the transferral process that the Governors of every school are an integral part of the developments and decisions and that regular updates are circulated to parents.
- Appropriate consultations should be held with the local villages and communities regarding agreement on suitable use for school buildings for the future.
- The Council should ensure that school transport arrangements are suitable

If this option is implemented, appropriate consideration could be given to the mitigating actions noted here.

6.12 Governance and Staffing Matters

Governing Body

Should the proposal to build a new school for Ysgol y Garnedd and close Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr and Ysgol Glanadda be implemented. It would mean that the governing body for the federation of Ysgol Bro Ddewi would be dissolved if Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr and Ysgol Glanadda were to close on the 31 August 2020.

No anticipated changes will be made to the current governing body of Ysgol y Garnedd.

Staffing Implications

Should the proposal to close Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr and Ysgol Glanadda on 31 August 2020 be implemented, there would be staffing obligations which would lead to redundancies due to the posts coming to an end when the schools close. Gwynedd Council has developed a redeployment policy model for schools, in conjunction with the Trade Unions and headteachers. It would be up to the Governing Body to decide whether to adopt, amend or decide not to implement this policy. Any redundancies resulting from a proposal would have to conform with the necessary employment law and the Gwynedd Redundancy scheme. Clear and open communication with staff will play a core part in implementing any proposal.

Should the proposal be approved to build a new school for Ysgol y Garnedd, it is not anticipated that there would be any changes to the current staffing structure at Ysgol y Garnedd, as the staff would transfer directly to their posts in the new building.

In situations where schools would close, drop in sessions will be available where Human Resources officials from the Council will be present, should a member of staff wish to discuss the situation. Staff are welcome to contact the Human Resources department directly should they wish to have one to one discussions. A support package, including training if appropriate, will be offered to all staff affected by the proposal.

6.13 Impact on Equality

An equality assessment was held on the short list of possible options. The assessment gives due focus to different equality elements such as race, gender, disability, language, religion, or belief and age-group. The assessment notes the current situation and policies and arrangements in place which would ensure that the proposal considers and aligns with equal rights.

The assessment notes that the favoured options are unlikely to have a negative impact on equality features, and it is expected that some of the features will have a positive impact. The principal objective of the scheme is to improve the educational provision in the catchment-area, ensuring that children in the area receive a good education and equal opportunities in high quality and fit for purpose buildings, and also to ensure the future viability of any improvements. There will be no change to the relevant schools policies on equality matters.

The Council follows agreed processes through supporting and monitoring, to ensure compliance by every school with the equality features. Estyn also inspect the schools and assess e quality aspects in accordance with their usual guidelines.

6.14 Potential Advantages for Children and Young People

Core Aim of the United Nations Conference on Child’s Rights	Advantages
Having a fair start in life	Better resources and amenities, and policies for nursery and foundation phase education provision being implemented to twenty first century standards.
Having a comprehensive variety of education and learning opportunities	Opportunities for sharing staff expertise in specific fields across the learning sectors, in order to ensure a range of opportunities as well as providing new curricular advantages.
Enjoying the best possible health and not being abused, victimised or exploited	Appropriate plans and policies to ensure progression in these matters in the catchment school.
Having access to play, leisure, sports and cultural activities	Opportunities to share expertise in these fields across the learning sector, and also to share resources and good practice, thus improving access for pupils into the leisure, sport and culture provision.
Being heard, treated with respect, and their culture, race and identity recognised	School council forums would ensure that pupils’ voices are heard.
Living in a safe home and community which support physical and emotional welfare	Interagency teams could be developed around the children to ensure care and communication progression throughout the child’s time at the catchment schools.
Not being disadvantaged on account of poverty	There would be an opportunity to develop cross-agency plans in order to tackle child poverty in the Berwyn catchment.

Through careful planning, the proposal could ensure that all pupils have access to the same resources and experiences.

This could be a way in which the Council could maintain standardised services in rural areas and reduce the number of surplus spaces. The challenges for this element include the successful management of a range of responsibilities thus ensuring that such duties do not affect the main responsibility of the organisation, namely promoting education.

6.15 Proposed Admission Arrangements

The Education Department of Gwynedd Council would be the Admission Authority and would operate in accordance with the County's School Admission Policy.

6.16 Information regarding Additional Learning Needs

The new building for Ysgol y Garnedd would ensure that the facilities offered are suitable for pupils with additional learning needs.

The 21st Century Schools Programme funding provides an opportunity to ensure better resources for ALN pupils in the area through giving due focus to:

A Language Resources Centre for pupils with specific language difficulties who would benefit from receiving intensive support for a short period. The objective of this provision is to try and achieve a long-term positive change in young people's language difficulties, and thus ensure their academic success.

A Social Communication Centre for pupils with social communication difficulties and a diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Difficulty, who would benefit from receiving intensive support in the mainstream education system. This provision seeks to enable a long term positive change in young people's social communication skills, and thus ensure their academic, social and independent success.

6.17 Future use of sites

Should the proposal be implemented there would be two sites which would no longer provide education. The Council has a post-use policy for school buildings and this would be followed. The Council would need to discuss and consider any legal binding terms or limitations which could come into effect should any of the sites cease to be a site for education provision.

6.18 Potential Risks

Risk	Possible Impact	Action to Mitigate Risk
Lack of decision making	Inability to implement change due to lack of decisions which increases likelihood of disruption to pupils' education. Could cause reputational damage to the Council	Timetable with clear milestones that note when key decisions are required from the Education Cabinet Member and the Project Board
Insufficient transport for the new arrangements	Children unable to access the new education provision	Prepare and plan a timetable with clear milestones for planning transport tenders well before opening day.
Local reluctance to support the schools after the reorganisation process	This could decrease pupil numbers and available financial resources	Sustained community contact, informing them of developments and resource benefits included in the plan.
Quality of education in the short term while schools are under review	Decrease, quality which could affect any new educational establishments while in their infancy	Monitor the schools in line with the Education department's policy. Any new educational establishment will be inspected by Estyn within its first year.
Late completion of building projects	Delayed implementation, potential disruption to pupils' education and requirement of extra short term funding	Close monitoring of building projects with regular updates to the Project Board.
Over-run in building contract costs	Requirement for additional funding	Detailed planning with project costs subject to robust scrutiny at every stage and expenditure monitored regularly

Possible Site Issues e.g. archaeological or environmental	Could delay the building work	Sites in question are existing school sites. Contract will require all essential checks to be completed before construction begins.
Site Safety	Any complications or issues could cause delays	A full Health & Safety plan will be prepared by the contractor in consultation with Council Health and Safety Officers. It will ensure full separation of children from working areas on any existing school sites that are developed. Officers will continue to assess health and safety as the development progresses.
Long term financial viability of the option	Future vulnerability for the area	The favoured option reduces educational running costs in the area and reduces the range in cost per pupil.
Gwynedd Council or Welsh Government funding delays	A significant delay could result in the project being abandoned.	Gwynedd Council's contribution has already been confirmed by the Cabinet. The creation of robust business cases and continued discussion with the Welsh Government.
Cabinet does not approve the proposal	Delay to timetable, any significant delay could mean that the project must be abandoned	Ensure the Cabinet is updated regularly
Decision referred to the Education Minister	Delay to timetable	Ensure that adequate resources and expertise are available when required. Keep the key consultees up to date as the project develops and include the possibility of referral into the project timetable
Education & Skills Minister rejects proposal (if proposal is referred)	Significant delay to the timetable would result in the 21 st Century Schools funding window being missed.	Consideration should be given that the most financially, economically and educationally beneficial option is selected.
Project Management Issues	Could cause delays	The job will be managed jointly by a client office and the Project Manager, under the supervision of the Project Board. A community support officer will foster relationships with the communities involved and keep them apprised of developments. The project team will provide administrative support.

6.19 Legal Category Relating to the Proposal

In developing this proposal, consideration must be given to the legal category.

In accordance with the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013, schools are defined as:

- Community
- Voluntary Aided (VA) with religious designation (Church in Wales)
- Voluntary Controlled (VC) with a religious designation (Church in Wales)

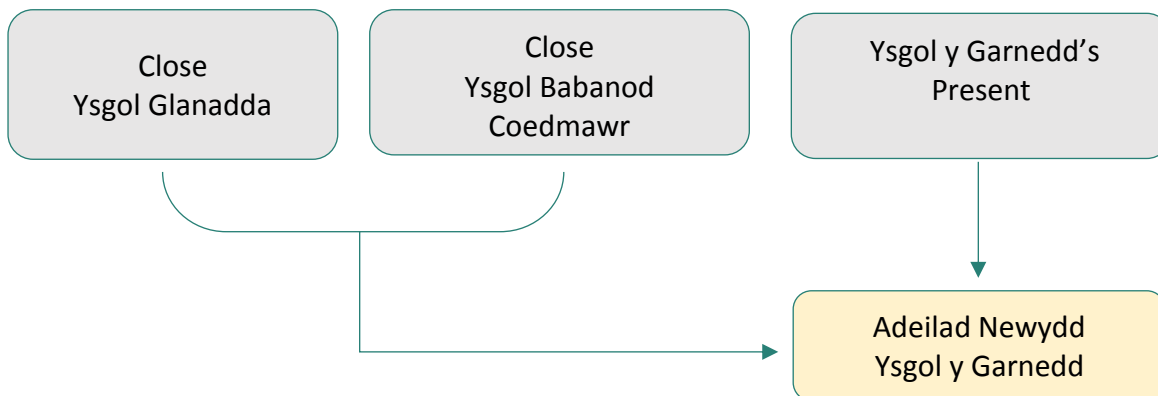
The table below indicates the schools categories within the Bangor catchment area:

Category	Primary (September 2017)		Secondary (September 2017)	
	Number of school	Number of pupils	Number of schools	Number of pupils
Community	5	754	2	1,709
Voluntary Aided	1	114	0	0
Voluntary Controlled	3	554	0	0
Total	9	1,422	2	1,709

Currently Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr, Ysgol Glanadda and Ysgol y Garnedd have a community school category. On this basis, in terms of the legal category for the statutory consultation, it will remain as a community category.

7. Summary of the Proposal

This proposal would mean that Ysgol Babanod Coedmawr and Glanadda would close and a new school built for the existing Ysgol y Garnedd.



8. Explaining the Statutory Process

At the Cabinet meeting held on 17 January 2017, the recommendation was approved, “to request permission to commence local discussions as outlined in the report on reviewing primary education provision in Bangor”

The Cabinet supported the recommendation to proceed to hold a statutory consultation period on the favoured option. This is the consultation document, which contains details of the proposal. This document was published on 10th of April, 2018 and responses can be received until **13:00 Tuesday 22nd of May, 2018. These responses will not be counted as objections, but comments.** If any one wishes to object they must do so following the publication of the statutory notice (should one be issued). During this consultation responses may include comments or questions on any aspect of the proposal (e.g. the option, sites involved, category etc.) or suggest alternative options.

Following this statutory consultation period, a report will be submitted to the Cabinet in June 2018 where a decision will be made whether or not to proceed with this proposal. This consultation report will be published on the Council’s website and hard copies will be available on request. Parents, carers and guardians, staff and governors of all schools in the catchment area will be informed when the report is available. A number of representatives from other agencies will be informed that the consultation report is available e.g. Church representatives, Anglesey Council, Estyn, Welsh Ministers, relevant Assembly Members and Members of Parliament etc.

If the Cabinet decides to proceed following consideration of the consultation report, the proposal will have to be issued in the form of a statutory notice. The notice will be published on a school day and there will be an “**objection period**” of 28 days from the date when the proposal is published. Anyone can object to the proposal. The notice will be posted on the Gwynedd Council website and also close to the main reception in all schools involved in the proposal; copies will be sent to the schools to be distributed to pupils, parents,

carers and guardians, staff and governors. Hard copies will be available on request to the modernising education office.

After the objection period closes, the Council will publish a summary of the statutory objections and the Council's response to the objections in an "objection report". The objection report will be posted on the Council's website and hard copies will be available on request. Parents, carers and guardians, staff and governors of all schools in the catchment area will also be informed that the objection report is available. A number of representatives from other agencies will be informed that the objection report is available.

The Council's Cabinet will make the final decision on the objection report within 28 days of the end of the objection period. When the Cabinet has reached its final decision, the decision will be put in writing along with explicit reasons for the decision. The decision will be posted on the Council's website, and parents, carers and guardians, staff and governors of all schools in the catchment area will be informed of the decision. A number of representatives from other agencies will also be informed of the decision.

In some instances, after the Cabinet's final decision – it is possible for the following bodies to refer the proposal to Welsh Ministers for their consideration:

- Another local authority affected by the proposal
- Appropriate religious body for any school affected
- Governing body of a voluntary or foundation school which is the subject of the proposal
- Any trust which holds land on behalf of a voluntary or foundation school which is the subject of the proposal
- Further education establishment affected by the proposal

The bodies which refer the proposal need to note the reason why they are of the opinion that the decision reached by the Local Authority is incorrect. Welsh Ministers would then decide whether the proposal affect the bodies and whether they need to consider the proposals.

9. Proposed Outline Timetable

Date	Step
13 March 2018	Cabinet Report: requesting permission to conduct a statutory consultation
10 April 2018	Statutory consultation period begins: At least 42 days for consultees to respond, at least 20 of those days being school days.
22 May 2018	Statutory consultation periods ends: Closing date for receiving comments on the proposal.
June 2018	Cabinet: Following the statutory consultation, a report on the responses will be submitted to the Cabinet. The Cabinet will discuss the report and decide whether or not to proceed with the proposal. This report will be published on the Council's website.
June 2018	Issue a statutory notice: If the Council decides to proceed with the proposal, a statutory notice will be issued and an objection period held. Any objection must be submitted within the 28 day objection period.
September 2018	Cabinet: Following the objection period, the Cabinet will discuss the objections report and decide whether or not to confirm the proposal.
September 2018	<p>Referring the decision to the Welsh Ministers: In accordance with section 54 of the 2013 Act, within 28 days of the Cabinet's decision, the following bodies have the right to refer the Authority's decision to Welsh Ministers for determination:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Another local authority affected by the proposals; ii. The appropriate religious body for any school affected iii. The governing body of a voluntary or foundation school subject to the proposal; iv. A trust holding the property on behalf of a voluntary or foundation school subject to the proposals; and v. A further education institution affected by the proposal.