

# FORMAL CONSULTATION DOCUMENT



**Proposal to Amalgamate  
Brynford Community Primary School  
and Lixwm Community Primary School to Create  
One Area School from 1 September 2019**

**Spring 2018**



**Large print, Braille, alternative language and hard copy versions of this document are available on request**

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## A. INTRODUCTION TO THE PROPOSAL AND HOW WE WILL CONSULT WITH YOU

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### 1. Introduction

- 1.1. Flintshire County Council wishes to seek the views of interested parties regarding the proposal to amalgamate Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School to create one area school from 1 September 2019.
- 1.2. This consultation document sets out information which consultees should consider to fully participate in the consultation process. The process follows regulatory guidance as set out in the Welsh Government's School Organisation Code 2013.
- 1.3. The formal consultation period commences on **Thursday 15 March 2018** and ends on **Thursday 10 May 2018**.
- 1.4. Any figures, statistics and material referenced in this document are the most accurate available at the time of preparation and publication.

### 2. Development of School Organisation Proposal

- 2.1. Development of school organisation proposals should have regard to overarching national policies and principles, including:
  - United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child;
  - A Living Language : A Language for Living – Welsh Language Strategy 2012 – 2017;
  - Welsh Medium Education Strategy (WESP);
  - One Wales : One Planet, a new sustainable development scheme for Wales May 2009 or any successor strategy;
  - Child Poverty Strategy for Wales (issued February 2011 information document number 95/2011), or any successor strategy;
  - Faith in Education.
- 2.2. Additionally, the development of school organisation proposals should have regard to local plans, including:
  - Local plans for economic or housing development;
  - Welsh in Education Strategic Plans;
  - Children and Young People's Partnership Plans; and
  - Schools Modernisation Strategy.
- 2.3. Regard should also be given to Welsh Government guidance on matters relating to school organisation, such as:
  - Learner Travel Statutory Provision and Operational Guidance (June 2014); and
  - Measuring the capacity of schools in Wales (October 2011).
- 2.4. Factors that should be taken into account by relevant bodies when preparing publishing, approving or determining school organisation proposals are as follows:

- Quality and standards in education – outcomes, provision and leadership and management;
- Need for places and the impact on accessibility of schools; and
- Resourcing of education and other financial implications.

2.5. Other factors are also taken into account, such as the impact of the proposal on children from economically deprived backgrounds, and any equality issue (including these identified through equality impact assessments).

### **3. Background to the Proposal**

3.1. Our aim is that children and young people in Flintshire will develop essential life skills, a strong desire for lifelong learning and be very well prepared for the world of work. All children and young people will be supported to progress through the different stages of their education. Every child and young person will be entitled to a learning programme that will be personalised to make the most of their abilities. Children and young people will learn in an exciting and innovative range of styles and settings. These will include vocational, enterprising, voluntary, spiritual, cultural and sporting learning experiences. School organisation objectives will provide opportunities for Welsh and English medium provision, and also faith provision.

3.2. Flintshire County Council is committed to continuing to raise standards, with key tasks including securing:

- high expectations and a clear focus on improving teaching, learning and attainment in all school communities;
- all resources available to schools focusing on improving outcomes for children and young people in a context of annual budget pressures;
- a consistent approach to the collection, analysis and use of assessment information, including tracking systems, to target support and interventions; and
- continued commitment to the development of school teaching and support staff.

3.3. Flintshire County Council's Cabinet approved the revised School Modernisation Strategy in January 2015, which was updated from the Council's previous strategy adopted by Cabinet in 2010. This document is available at: [www.flintshire.gov.uk/schoolmodernisation](http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/schoolmodernisation)

3.4. The School Modernisation Programme is required because we need to:

- Ensure education provision is both high quality and sustainable;
- Improve the quality of school buildings and facilities;
- Provide the right number of school places, of the right type, in the right locations;
- Address unsustainable school buildings and supporting infrastructure;
- Recognise that doing nothing means higher pupil teacher ratios as funding reduces; and
- Ensure that we maximise external funding through the Welsh Government's 21st Century Schools Programme.

3.5. The key 'drivers' or criteria for modernisation which underpin the above are:

- Educational Improvement;
- Resilient School Leadership;
- Suitable Buildings;

- Unfilled Places; and
  - Diminishing Resources.
- 3.6. The primary school portfolio in Flintshire has 1678 (or 15.37%) unfilled places based on pupil number on roll for September 2017, whilst the national target set by Welsh Government is to reduce this level to under 10%.
- 3.7. The Council recognises there is a need to ensure that all schools and school sites are able to provide children with the widest possible opportunities. As a result the Council must consider the educational challenges faced by small schools, as referenced in the Estyn 2006 report 'Small Primary Schools in Wales'; which include:
- Teaching mixed age classes containing more than 2 or 3 age groups;
  - The restricted size of peer groups;
  - Limited opportunities for social interaction;
  - Difficulties with recruitment and retention of staff;
  - Excessive burdens on staff;
  - Increased expertise required to support pupils with additional learning needs.
- 3.8. The objectives of the schools modernisation strategy and the review of schools contained within the Council's implementation plan are to address these challenges and ensure that the current standards and attainment within the primary sector are maintained for the future.
- 3.9. Future primary school provision will endeavour to follow one of the Council's recommended models described below. The models are:
- 1 form entry or more – primary school providing a minimum of 210 full - time places or more (approximately 30 pupils per year group) and with no more than 25% unfilled places. Other models of at least one form of entry, for example, 1.5, 2, 2.5 or 3 forms of entry are also efficient and effective.
  - Schools with less than 1 form of entry, but with more than 0.5 forms of entry providing at least 105 full - time places (approximately 15 pupils per year group) where needed, may be considered for the formation of a federated school or an area school. Area schools would be formed in accordance with the Council's preferred operating model at (a) above.
- 3.10. The Council is bringing forward these proposals as it is of the view that the changes proposed would be of long term benefit to all pupils within Flintshire.

#### **4. Who will be consulted?**

- 4.1. This consultation will take place between **Thursday 15 March 2018** and ends on **Thursday 10 May 2018**. This consultation is required to take place for at least 42 days with at least 20 of these being school days.
- 4.2. As part of the consultation, Flintshire County Council (FCC) have produced this consultation document containing information as set out in the Welsh Government Guidance. The consultation document follows the guidance and sets out the information people will need to fully participate in the consultation process.
- 4.3. This formal consultation document has been sent to a wide range of consultees including:

- the maintaining or proposed maintaining authority for any school likely to be affected by the proposals;
- any other local authority likely to be affected - including in the case of dedicated Special Education Need (SEN)/Additional Learning Need (ALN) provision any authority placing or likely to place statemented pupils in it;
- the Church in Wales and Roman Catholic Diocesan Authority for the area in which any school likely to be affected is located;
- any other appropriate religious body for any school likely to be affected by the proposals;
- The governing body any school which is the subject of the proposals and of other schools likely to be affected by the proposals, including those that might receive any displaced pupils.
- Parents (and where possible prospective parents) carers and guardians, and staff members of those schools.
- The Welsh Ministers.
- Assembly Members (AMs) and Members of Parliament (MPs) representing the area served by/intended to be served by any school which is the subject of the proposals.
- Estyn.
- Teaching and staff trade unions representing teachers and other staff at any school which is the subject of the proposals.
- The relevant Regional Education Consortium.
- The relevant Regional Transport Consortium.
- The Police and Crime Commissioner for the area served by/intended to be served by any school which is the subject of the proposals.
- Any community or town council for the area served by/ intended to be served by any school which is the subject of the proposals.
- The local Communities First Partnership (in relevant areas).
- In the case of proposals affecting nursery provision, any independent providers who may be affected;
- In the case of proposals affecting nursery provision, the Children and Young People's Partnership and/or the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnerships where present.
- In the case of proposals affecting Special Education Need/Additional Learning Need provision, any relevant health or third sector bodies with an interest.
- In the case of proposals affecting secondary provision, any further education institutions serving the area of the school.
- In the case of proposals affecting secondary provision, parents of pupils attending primary schools from which pupils normally transfer to that secondary school.

4.4. This document has been published on the Flintshire County Council website and can be found by following the link below:

<http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/School-Modernisation-Related/Home.aspx>

4.5. A child-friendly version of this consultation document has been produced for children and young people who are likely to be affected by the proposal. These documents will be made available at Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School and nearby affected schools. The document is also available on the website using the link provided above. The children and young people's document have been specifically written and presented to enable children and young people to understand and engage with the consultation process.

4.6. Other relevant supporting documentation, such as the Community, Transport, Equality and Welsh Language Impact Assessments can also be found on the Flintshire County Council website using the link provided above.

## 5. How to have your say

5.1. There are a number of ways in which you can make your views known to us, ask any questions or suggest any alternatives that you have regarding the proposal. Details are included below on how you can submit responses in a number of ways:

- **By Email**

[21stCenturySchools@flintshire.gov.uk](mailto:21stCenturySchools@flintshire.gov.uk)

- **By filling out our online survey**

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BLA016>

- **By Post**

School Modernisation Team, Directorate of Education and Youth, Flintshire County Council, County Hall, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 6NB

5.2. A response form is also attached in hardcopy at the end of this document. This can be returned either by post or email to the above address:-

5.3. In order to obtain the views of children and young people who could be affected by the proposal, separate consultation events will be held with the School Councils of Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School. This will be facilitated by a Flintshire County Council officer whose role includes engagement and consultation specifically tailored for children and young people. Children and young people also have the opportunity to respond to the consultation using the children and young people's version of the consultation document. Those schools likely to be affected by the proposals will also be provided with the consultation information through their School Council.

5.4. Consultation events will be held at Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School for parents/carers of children attending these schools. Officers from the Council will be available to discuss the proposals and to listen to the views of parents/carers.

5.5. Separate meetings will also be held with teachers/support staff of each school and with the governing body of each school, to allow these groups to discuss the proposal with Council Officers and to provide their views.

5.6. At the close of the formal consultation process all views received will be collated and summarised within a formal consultation report alongside responses and clarification of issues by the local authority. This report will be presented to the Cabinet for their consideration.

5.7. Responses/views/comments on the proposal which are not sent to the School Modernisation Team directly may not be included within the analysis although every effort will be made to capture these views. Responses received after the deadline will not be included within analysis that will be presented to Cabinet as part of the formal consultation report.

5.8. All responses must be submitted by **Thursday, 10 May 2018**.

## 6. Community, Transport, Equality and Welsh Language Impact Assessments

- 6.1. As set out in the Welsh Government's School Organisation Code, it is a requirement to publish Community, Transport, and Equality and Welsh language impact assessments. Please click on the link below to access the documents.

<http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/School-Modernisation-Related/Home.aspx>

- 6.2. The main positive outcome emerging from the impact assessments is the impact on the educational provision. Providing an improved educational provision represents an opportunity to strengthen English Medium education in the area.
- 6.3. The project has the potential to strengthen links between the community and the schools. The main impact is on the disruption to the community groups that currently utilise the school buildings during the building works at Phase 2. We would look to work with both schools to ensure disruption is kept to a minimum for community groups.

## 7. Proposed Timeline

Key Milestone	DATE
Formal Consultation Period	15 March – 10 May 2018
Cabinet - Statutory Notice	19 June 2018
Statutory Notice Period	10 September – 1 October 2018
Cabinet – Objection Report	TBC - November 2018
Implementation of Proposal	1 September 2019

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## B. THE PROPOSAL

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### 8. What is the Proposal?

- 8.1. The proposal is as follows:

**Flintshire County Council wish to amalgamate Brynford Community Primary School with Lixwm Community Primary School in order to establish one new area school from 1 September 2019.**

- 8.2. If the current Proposal is agreed and implemented Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School will close on 31 August 2019. The new amalgamated area school would open on 1 September 2019 initially on a split site arrangement on the current Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community School sites (Phase 1) until capital investment is in place to develop a new area school (Phase 2) on one site.
- 8.3. The proposal for an area school in this region has been included in the Council's Strategic Outline Programme for the Welsh Government 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Investment Programme. With approval in principle, the second wave of investment, Band B, will commence in April 2019 and projects will be scheduled over the five year investment period.

- 8.4. Should the Cabinet, after appropriate consultation through the School Organisation Code, determine to proceed with the proposal, an area school on the current Brynford school site would require both modernisation and extension of elements of the existing school to ensure that the new facility meets modern standards for teaching and learning.
- 8.5. The release of capital funding to support the development of an area school is dependent on successful navigation of the Welsh Government's Business Case process.
- 8.6. The proposed capacity of the school would be in the region of 150 full time pupils, with an admission number of 20. However, pupil numbers and capacity will be reviewed again at an appropriate time. The list below provides an example schedule of what facilities the new area school could have:
- Classrooms of suitable size and shape;
  - Main Hall of suitable size, kitchen;
  - Small group Additional Learning Needs room;
  - Library, Learning resource areas & Cloakrooms;
  - Storage;
  - Staff & Admin area;
  - Pupil and staff WC's;
  - Circulation;
  - Specialist areas.
- 8.7. Should the proposal be determined further information on anticipated timelines for the development of a new area school will be provided to the communities as the council work through the business case process and investment programme.
- 8.8. A new area community primary school, teaching children aged 3 -11 in the medium of English, would require a change in governance, in that there would be a requirement to form a new Governing Body. Once formed they would determine the leadership and staffing structure for the new area school. The formation of a new governing body would implemented as per the Government of Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2005.

## **9. Background to the Proposal**

- 9.1. In June 2015 the Council's Cabinet provided a mandate to officers to review schools and areas as part of its School Modernisation programme. Included in the onward programme was a review of education provision in the villages of Brynford, Lixwm and Rhosesmor.
- 9.2. During July 2015 initial options presented to Headteachers and Governors for schools in the area were as follows:
- Status Quo;
  - Area School multiple sites (two);
  - Area School one site;
  - Federation.

- 9.3. There was universal agreement from schools that federation should be dropped as an option and Area school multiple sites (two) is replaced with the following option.
- Two schools in the area. One school at Ysgol Rhos Helyg, Rhosesmor, with amalgamation of Brynford and Lixwm Community Primary Schools on one site.
- 9.4. Informal consultation was undertaken during the summer of 2016 on the following options as agreed:
- Status Quo;
  - Two schools in the area. One school at Ysgol Rhos Helyg with amalgamation of Brynford and Lixwm Community Primary School onto one site;
  - Area School one site.
- 9.5. The results of the informal consultation formed the basis of a recommendation presented to the Council's Cabinet on 13 December 2016.
- 9.6. It was resolved that:
- (a) Cabinet commission consultation on statutory proposals for school organisation change for September 2017 based on Option B – Area school on two sites – Ysgol Rhos Helyg, Rhosesmor would remain as it is, retain its name, category, budget, governors, staff and would remain in its community. Brynford Community Primary and Lixwm Community Primary would amalgamate onto one site. The amalgamated school would retain its category but would have a new name, governing body, head teacher and budget and would remain in one of the communities, either Brynford or Lixwm; and
  - (b) That if proposals for a federation between Brynford Community Primary or Lixwm Community Primary were to be submitted from both governing bodies prior to consultation on statutory proposals commencing in September 2017, this would be considered by Cabinet at that time.
- 9.7. The decision, minutes and background information can be found on the Flintshire County Council website via the following link:
- <http://committeemeetings.flintshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=391&MId=3855&Ver=4&LLL=0>
- 9.8. In response to the Welsh Government National Strategy for Small and Rural Schools, officers met with the Chair of Governors of Brynford and Lixwm Community Primary Schools. At this meeting officers confirmed that they would be willing to support the governors through the federation process and also bid for funding to Welsh Government in 2018/2019 via this grant (should it continue to be available) if there is mutual agreement between the governing bodies to pursue a formal federation.
- 9.9. The Governors of Lixwm Community Primary were in favour of federation. However, the initial view of the Governors of Brynford Community Primary was that they were not in favour of a federation. In order to gauge the opinion of their parents and carers, the Governors of Brynford Community Primary held two meetings, one at the end of the summer term 2017 and one at the beginning of the autumn term 2017. Having considered the view of parents and carers, the Governors of Brynford Community Primary confirmed in writing that they do not wish to pursue a Federation arrangement with Lixwm Community Primary School.

- 9.10. On 26 September 2017 Cabinet underpins its previous decision to provide a mandate for officers to consult via statutory proposals for Brynford Community Primary and Lixwm Community Primary Schools. At this meeting Cabinet agreed to a short pause to allow officers to work with the Governing Bodies of Brynford Community Primary and Lixwm Community Primary Schools.
- 9.11. To gain a personal insight, the Cabinet Portfolio Member wished to meet with governors of both Brynford Community Primary and Lixwm Community Primary Schools, and governors of other school/s approached to form a federation.
- 9.12. Consequently, separate meetings have taken place with the Cabinet Portfolio Member, Senior Officers and representative governor groups at both Brynford Community Primary and Lixwm Community Primary Schools.
- 9.13. The meeting at Lixwm Community Primary took place on the 10 October 2017 and the Governors confirmed they had not been able to come to an agreement with the Governors of Brynford Community Primary in respect of a proposed federation. However, they were continuing to seek out other opportunities for a possible federation.
- 9.14. The meeting at Brynford Community Primary took place on the 16 October 2017 and the Governors explained their rationale for not wishing to pursue a federation arrangement and have sent in further correspondence reaffirming that position.
- 9.15. Previously both schools had been working collaboratively. However, given the difference of opinion and the resulting tension, informal collaboration between the two schools has now discontinued. As a result, the resurrection of proposed federation appears an unlikely prospect.
- 9.16. In seeking out new federation opportunities Lixwm Governors had approached the Governing body of Ysgol Y Foel, Cilcain and a meeting took place on 6 November 2017.
- 9.17. The Cabinet Portfolio Member and Senior Officer's met with the Chair and Vice Chair of Ysgol Y Foel, Cilcain dated 20 November 2017 to ascertain the views of the Ysgol Y Foel Governors on the request to consider a federation proposal with Lixwm Community Primary School.
- 9.18. The Chair of Governors at Ysgol Y Foel, has confirmed that the Governors of Ysgol Y Foel are happy to continue working closely with Lixwm Community Primary School and other schools in their small school family, but they are not seeking a federation partner at this time.
- 9.19. The Governors of Lixwm Community Primary School have also approached the Church in Wales Diocesan Authority to pursue becoming a Church School. However, the Diocesan do not feel that Lixwm Community Primary School at this time has firm enough foundation for the Diocesan to pursue discussions on becoming a Church School.
- 9.20. The Governors of Lixwm Community Primary School have been unable to establish a federal partner.

9.21. Therefore, Cabinet determined to proceed to statutory consultation on school organisational change on 23 January 2018. The proposal will be to amalgamate Brynford and Lixwm Community Primary Schools to create one area school.

## **10. Land and Buildings**

10.1. The proposal will use the current school site at Brynford Community Primary School for the development of a new 3-11 area primary school.

10.2. The existing Lixwm Community Primary School site is not considered suitable for this option. With an existing site area of 6,205.4m<sup>2</sup>, an amalgamated 150 place + 20 nursery Area School requires a minimum site area of 8,105m<sup>2</sup>, therefore, this option is not achievable on this site. Please see link to the options appraisal carried out.

<http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/School-Modernisation-Related/Home.aspx>

10.3. Should the proposal be implemented the Council have no plans for the Lixwm site, and will not consider the future of the site until such time as the proposals have been determined and funding has been secured for an area school.

10.4. Should the proposal be implemented and funding secured Lixwm Community Primary School (building and site) could be declared surplus to Education and Youth Services and transferred to the Property Asset Team at Flintshire County Council, who would consider options for the site. Any determination on future use will require Cabinet consideration and approval.

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## **C. WHY THE PROPOSAL IS NEEDED?**

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10.5. The proposal is put forward on the basis of criteria laid down in the Council's School Modernisation Strategy, namely:-

- Unfilled places across the primary school portfolio – Brynford Community Primary School as at September 2017 had 67 full time pupils on roll with unfilled places of - 15.52%. This is over their capacity of 58. Unfilled places across the primary school portfolio – Lixwm Community Primary School as at September 2017 had 52 full time pupils on roll with unfilled places of 26.76%.
- Diminishing resource criteria (i.e. schools supported by pupils not from their local community and/or small numbers within the community raise concern regarding sustainability within the school's portfolio) 47.76% of pupils attending Brynford Community Primary School are not attending their nearest school; 50.00% of pupils attending Lixwm Community Primary (January 2018) are not attending their nearest school;
- Small School Criteria – The School population and capacity of Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School is lower than national designation of a small school, additionally school numbers do not meet the minimum requirements of primary school models as noted in the Council's School Modernisation Strategy, and
- Brynford Community Primary School is currently (2017) in Welsh Government Support categorisation Yellow, and Lixwm Community Primary School is currently (2017) in Welsh Government Support categorisation Amber, on a scale of Red - Green, with Red being the lowest for educational categorisation.

- 10.6. This leads to higher costs per pupil, as well as unnecessary premises, leadership and administration costs. The proposal will enable the Council to focus spending on the classroom in a time of annual diminishing budgets for schools for the foreseeable future.
- 10.7. The Council acknowledges that statutory consultation around school organisational change will cause a level of uncertainty within the local school community which can be a contributory factor in pupil number reduction.

## 11. Educational Case of Change

### Brynford Community Primary School

- 11.1. The school was categorised by Estyn as current performance **Good** with **Good** prospects for improvement at the last inspection in January 2014. In 2017 the school was allocated the support category of Yellow school in the National School Categorisation System.
- 11.2. The school currently has an acting Headteacher as the previous Headteacher who had served for a number of years moved on. The Local Authority requested Brynford Governing Body did not move to make a new Headteacher appointment due to School Reorganisation uncertainty.
- 11.3. The school does not have sufficient teaching space for Nursery provision, therefore the Nursery provision is accommodated within the school hall. The School does not have sufficient indoor resources to offer pupils a broad range of experiences in physical education compared to other primary schools. Currently the school uses the school main assembly hall for Nursery, Physical Education and dining which can lead to compromises in provision.

### Lixwm Community Primary School

- 11.4. The School was categorised by Estyn as current performance **Good** and **Adequate** prospects for improvement at the last inspection in December 2016. Estyn will continue to monitor the school's progress. In 2017 the school was allocated the support category of Amber in the National School Categorisation System.
- 11.5. The school has a permanent headteacher.
- 11.6. The 3-11 Area Primary school will help to alleviate the budgetary constraints that has limited both schools over many years. It will allow the area primary school to have an effective leadership structure, a broad and balanced curriculum that meets the statutory requirements. The new area school will have the staffing capacity and resources to enable them to offer a wider technological experience opportunities to reflect new technologies and the increasing experience and expertise within the digital learning field.

## 12. Small Schools

- 12.1. Whist reviews undertaken by Estyn, Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Wales, on the correlation between school size and school effectiveness notes that 'there is little difference in the standards achieved by pupils or in the quality of education provided by small schools when compared with other schools' it does note that small schools

‘generally do not do so well as other schools in the areas of leadership and management, staff development and curriculum planning’.

- 12.2. Estyn acknowledges that in small schools, where the headteacher has a substantial teaching commitment, there is less time for leadership and management tasks. This can contribute to workload pressures on headteacher in small schools.
- 12.3. Estyn notes that while ‘there are few differences in the quality of teaching between small and other schools...the smaller the school, the more challenging it often is for the teacher to match work to all pupils’ learning needs. This is because, in these schools, teachers have to teach pupils of widely different ages and stages of development in the same class;’
- 12.4. These issues can be addressed through school organisational change to create larger schools where headteacher teaching commitment can be reduced to increase capacity to focus on leadership and management tasks, which contributes to school improvement. It can also provide more capacity for other senior staff to have the opportunity and time to become involved in leadership tasks which supports their professional development and future career progression.
- 12.5. By having fewer year groups in one class the demands of differentiation to meet the needs of all learners can be more effectively managed and reduce the strain on teachers’ planning and preparation, reducing workload.
- 12.6. Having more classes with the pupils spread more evenly, teachers could have increased opportunities to teach in different year groups or different phases within the primary sector, enhancing their skills and experience and supporting their career progression, than they would in a much smaller school. Teachers with a wider range of experience more effectively supports school improvement.
- 12.7. Teachers in smaller schools often have an increased burden in relation to subject co-ordination and often have to work outside their area of expertise to support curriculum development as there are not enough of them in a small school to cover all areas of the national curriculum. Formal opportunities for additional payment for leadership responsibility (Teaching and Learning Responsibility Allowances) can also be limited in small schools because of budgetary constraints. Creating larger schools can provide opportunities for staff to spread the load of subject co-ordination, reducing workload and increase opportunities to be given formal leadership roles.
- 12.8. All of the above factors can contribute to challenges in recruitment to positions in very small schools, particularly at a leadership level.

## **13. Adequacy of the existing buildings**

### **Backlog Maintenance Information**

- 13.1. The school buildings at both schools are in need of investment to bring the buildings up to a satisfactory standard, reflective of a 21<sup>st</sup> Century School. Condition surveys conducted over a five year rolling programme. A report is generated that assigns a grade (see table below) to each school and identifies work that is necessary to elevate the building to a good standard.

GRADE	DESCRIPTION
A	Good. Performing as intended and operating efficiently.
B	Satisfactory. Performing as intended but exhibiting minor deterioration.
C	Poor. Exhibiting major defects and/or not operating as intended.
D	Bad. Life expired and/or serious risk of imminent failure.

- In June 2014 Brynford Community Primary School was graded as condition 'B', with backlog maintenance costs calculated at £50,000.00.
- In April 2013 Lixwm Community Primary School was graded as condition 'B', with backlog maintenance costs calculated at £93,000.00.

13.2. Priority Codes for backlog maintenance are as follows:-

Priority 1	Urgent work required to be undertaken within 1 year
Priority 2	Essential work required to be undertaken within 2 years
Priority 3	Desirable work (deemed as) required to be undertaken outside the 5 year (cycle) period
Priority 4	Long term work (deemed as) required to be undertaken outside the 5 year (cycle) period

13.3. The element Total 1 - 3 defines a five year financial investment and element 4 defines a six - ten year financial investment.

13.4. Brynford Community Primary School (survey date June 2014)

Element	Priority 1 cost estimates (£)	Priority 2 cost estimates (£)	Priority 3 cost estimates (£)	Priority 4 (£)	TOTAL
01 Roofs			2,000		2,000
02 Floors and stairs		3,000	14,000		17,000
03 Ceilings					
04 External Walls, windows and Doors					
05 Internal Walls and Doors		2,000			2,000
06 Sanitary Services		10,000	4,000		14,000
07 Mechanical Services					
08 Electrical services		2,000			2,000
09 Redecorations		1,000	11,000		12,000
10 Fixed Furniture and Equipment					
11 External Areas			1,000		1,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>18,000</b>	<b>34,000</b>		<b>50,000</b>

Backlog Maintenance Tech Forge January 2018

### 13.5. Lixwm Community Primary School (April 2013)

Element	Priority 1 cost estimates (£)	Priority 2 cost estimates (£)	Priority 3 cost estimates (£)	Priority 4 (£)	TOTAL
01 Roofs		4,000			4,000
02 Floors and stairs			4,000		4,000
03 Ceilings					
04 External Walls, windows and Doors		3,000	21,000		24,000
05 Internal Walls and Doors		1,000	2,000		3,000
06 Sanitary Services			4,000		4,000
07 Mechanical Services		16,000			16,000
08 Electrical Services		9,000			9,000
09 Redecorations		2,000	10,000		12,000
10 Fixed Furniture & Equipment		6,000			6,000
11 External Areas			11,000		11,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>41,000</b>	<b>52,000</b>		<b>93,000</b>

Backlog Maintenance Tech Forge January 2018

### Suitability Information

13.6. Suitability surveys were independently commissioned in 2016 to assess how the school building(s) impact upon teaching. Primary schools are assessed against Building Bulletin 99 and are graded (see table below) on such aspects as the size and shape of rooms, welfare facilities and outdoor space. Building Bulletin 99 was superseded by Building Bulletin 103 but has not been adopted by Welsh Government for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools programme.

GRADE	DESCRIPTION
A	Good. Facilities suitable for teaching, learning and well-being in schools.
B	Satisfactory. Performing as intended but does not support the Curriculum in some areas.
C	Poor. Teaching methods inhibited/adverse
D	Bad. Buildings seriously inhibit the staff's ability to deliver the curriculum

- In September 2016 Brynford Community Primary School was graded as suitability 'D'.
- In September 2016 Lixwm Community Primary School was graded as suitability 'C'.

13.7. Brynford Community Primary School identified Suitability Issues:

- Insufficient number of class bases to meet Building Bulletin standards, including meeting area and shape requirements

- Shared teaching spaces/specialist areas
- Space for nursery reception class
- Hall / dining area
- Separate head teachers office
- Pupil Preparation area for staff
- Staff toilet
- Secure holding area
- Cloaks / changing area
- Medical Inspection area
- Access issues

#### 13.8. Lixwm Community Primary School identified Suitability Issues:

- Specialist areas within Juniors
- Foundation Phase Area
- School Hall below minimum requirements
- Headteachers office
- Medical Inspection/Pupil Preparation Area
- Catering facilities
- Access issues

### 14. Future demand for places

14.1. The percentage of unfilled places in Flintshire Primary Schools is 15.37% (September 2017) in which remains above the Welsh Government target of 10%.

14.2. An excessive number of unfilled places unproductively ties up resources. As school funding and provision are largely driven by pupil numbers, surplus capacity means a disproportionate amount of funding is spent on infrastructure (such as buildings) and the “fixed costs” of running a school (such as leadership and administration).

14.3. This funding could be better used to ensure that pupil teacher ratios are maximised to make a direct difference to learners. As public service funding reduces over forthcoming years the case for reprioritisation and change becomes even more compelling.

14.4. Schools supported by pupils not from their local community and/or small numbers of pupils within the community raise concerns regarding sustainability within the school’s portfolio.

- In January 2018 47.76% of children attending Brynford Community Primary School are not attending their nearest school.
- In January 2018 50.00% of children attending Lixwm Community Primary School are not attending their nearest school.

14.5. The development of school organisation proposals should also have regard to local plans, including housing. Potential pupils which could be generated from new housing developments is calculated using a housing yield formula. The housing yield formula has been derived from researching the work of several authorities. The current housing yield formula for primary is as follows:

$$\text{Number of housing units} \times 0.24 \text{ (primary school formula)} = \text{child/pupil yield}$$

14.6. The current housing development planning applications approved for the Brynford/Lixwm area are listed below, including the number of units planned to be released over the coming years. The housing yield figures are a maximum figure and do not take into account parental choice and/or pupil movement i.e. pupils moving into the new homes but who are already in the local education system.

#### Potential Housing Developments – Brynford

Planning Reference	No of Units	Description	Total Potential Child Yield (Primary only)
034784	2	This is a related to a listed building and was started years ago but nothing has been done since then so in reality there is little chance of it coming forward in the foreseeable future	1
054523	3	Adjacent to Llyn y Mawn – erection of affordable dwellings	1
<b>Total</b>			<b>2</b>

#### Potential Housing Developments – Lixwm

Planning Reference	No of Units	Description	Total Potential Child Yield (Primary only)
046406	5	Adjacent to Llwyn Onn	2
056225	2	Rear of Crown Inn	1
<b>Total</b>			<b>3</b>

#### Measuring the Capacity of Schools

14.7. All Local Authorities are required to use the mandatory Welsh Government method of measuring school capacity using the Measuring Capacity of schools in Wales Assessment form.

14.8. Unfilled places are calculated by subtracting the actual number of full time pupils on roll from the full time capacity of a school. This figure contributes to a schools' sufficiency grade (see table below) which also considers the overall areas of buildings and grounds in support of the places available and the current number on roll.

14.9. The Welsh Government has tasked local authorities with maintaining no more than 10% unfilled places across their school network.

- In September 2017 Brynford Community Primary School had -15.52% unfilled places (i.e. it was over capacity) and was graded as sufficiency 'C'.
- In September 2017 Lixwm Community Primary School had 26.76% unfilled places and was graded as sufficiency 'D'.

GRADE	DESCRIPTION
A	Less than 10% unfilled places or 3% over capacity
B	10-25% unfilled places or 4 -10% over capacity
C	More than 10% over capacity
D	More than 25% unfilled places
D	Small schools with fewer than 90 places and more than 25% and 30 unfilled places

14.10. The table below shows the five year trend of unfilled places at each school.

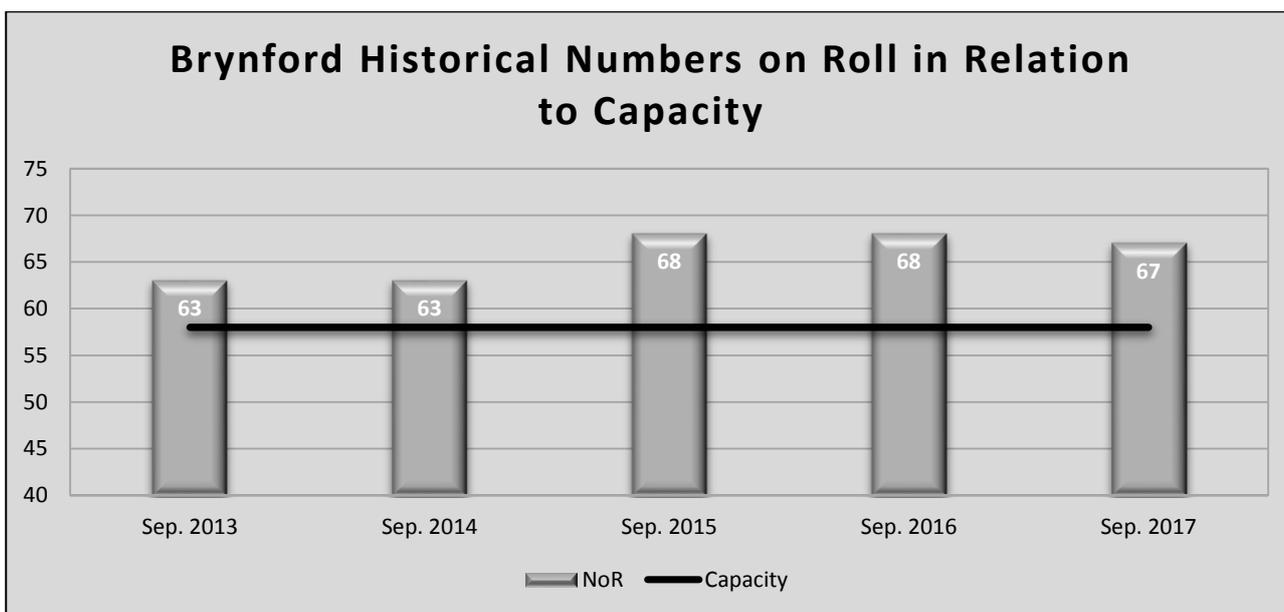
SCHOOL	SEP. 2013	SEP. 2014	SEP. 2015	SEP. 2016	SEP. 2017
Brynford Community Primary School	-8.62%	-8.62%	-17.24%	-17.24%	-15.52%
Lixwm Community Primary School	26.76%	27.16%	28.17%	29.58%	26.76%

## D. EXISTING PROVISION

### 15. Brynford Community Primary School

15.1. Brynford Community Primary School is located within the parish of Brynford, south of Holywell in Flintshire. The most recent Census in 2011 identified the parish population to be 2,153. The primary school is situated in the south of the parish and provides education to children aged 3-11 in the medium of English.

15.2. In September 2013 Brynford Community Primary School had 63 full time pupils on roll. By September 2017 the number had risen to 67 full time pupils, exceeding the official capacity of 58 full time pupils due to successful admission appeals. The five year trend of the number of full time pupils on roll is shown below.



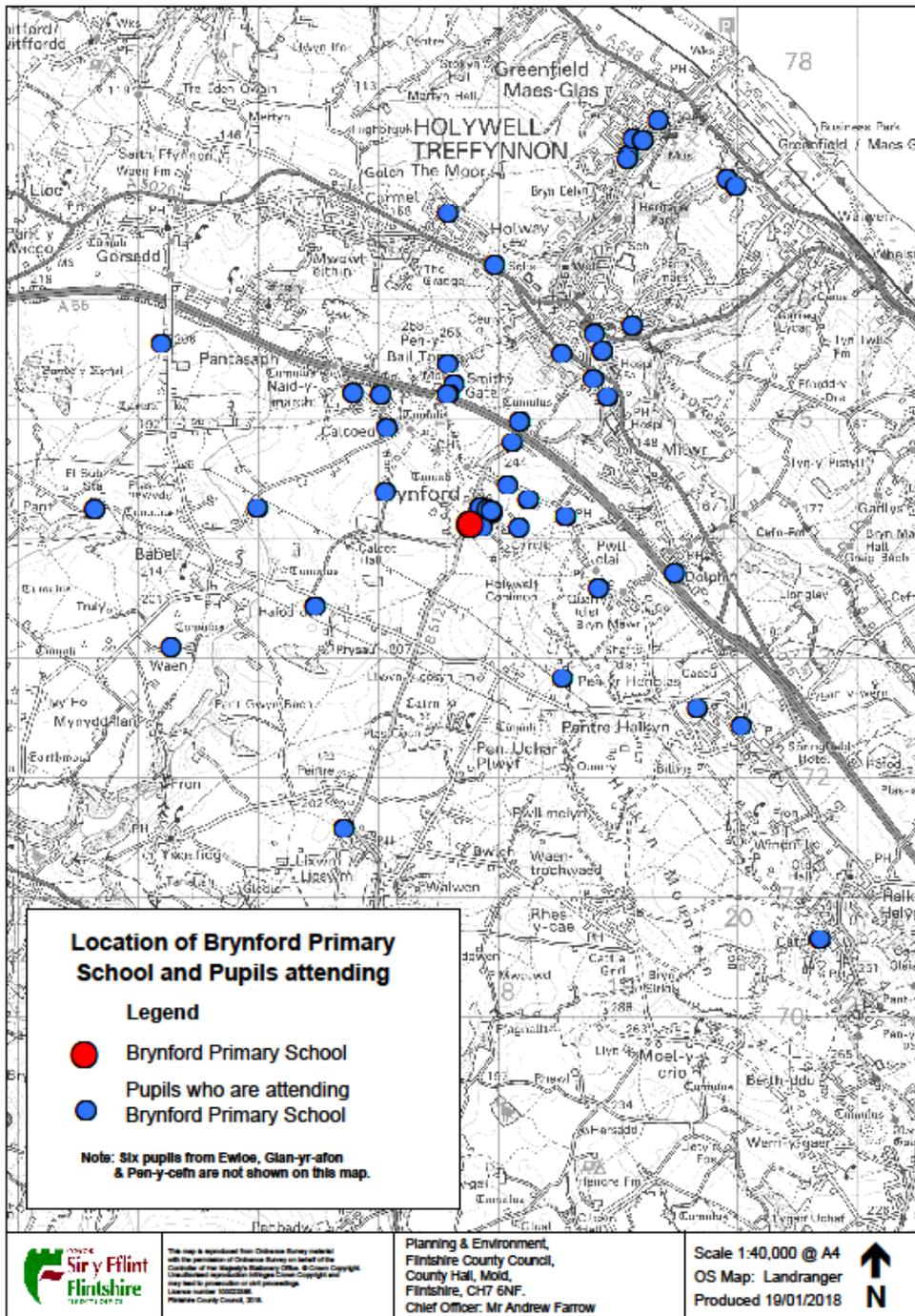
Brynford CP School Historical NoR

15.3. It is forecasted (see table below) that the number of full time children attending Brynford Community Primary School will fall over the next five years from 67 to 60; this is still 3.45% above the current capacity of the school. (Subject to no admission appeals being upheld)

	Actual Sep. 2017	Forecast Sep. 2018	Forecast Sep. 2019	Forecast Sep. 2020	Forecast Sep. 2021	Forecast Sep. 2022
Numbers on Roll – Full Time	67	68	67	63	61	60
Capacity – Full Time	58	58	58	58	58	58
Unfilled Places	-9	-10	-9	-5	-3	-2
Unfilled Places %	-15.52	-17.24	-15.52	-8.62	-5.17	-3.45

Brynford Forecasts 2018 – 2022 based on September 2017 NOR

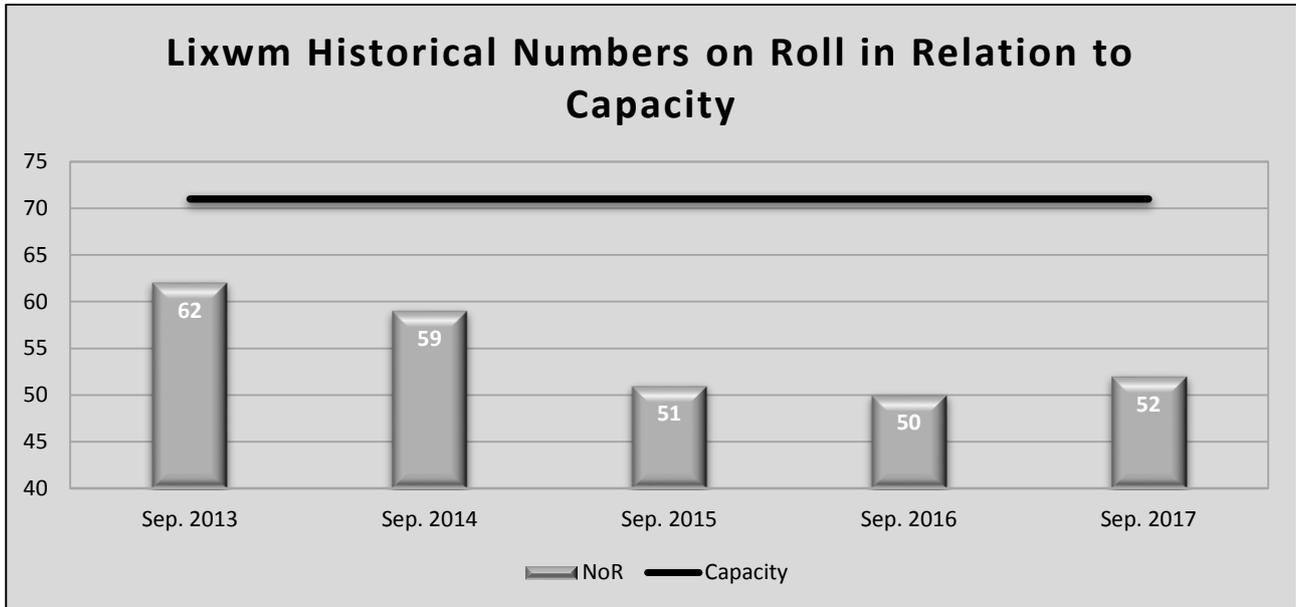
15.4. Below is a map showing the home location of full time pupils in relation to the location of the school.



## 16. Lixwm Community Primary School

16.1. The neighbouring parish of Ysceifiog, within which Lixwm Community Primary School is situated, had a population of 1,286 in 2011. The primary school also provides education to children aged 3-11 through the medium of English.

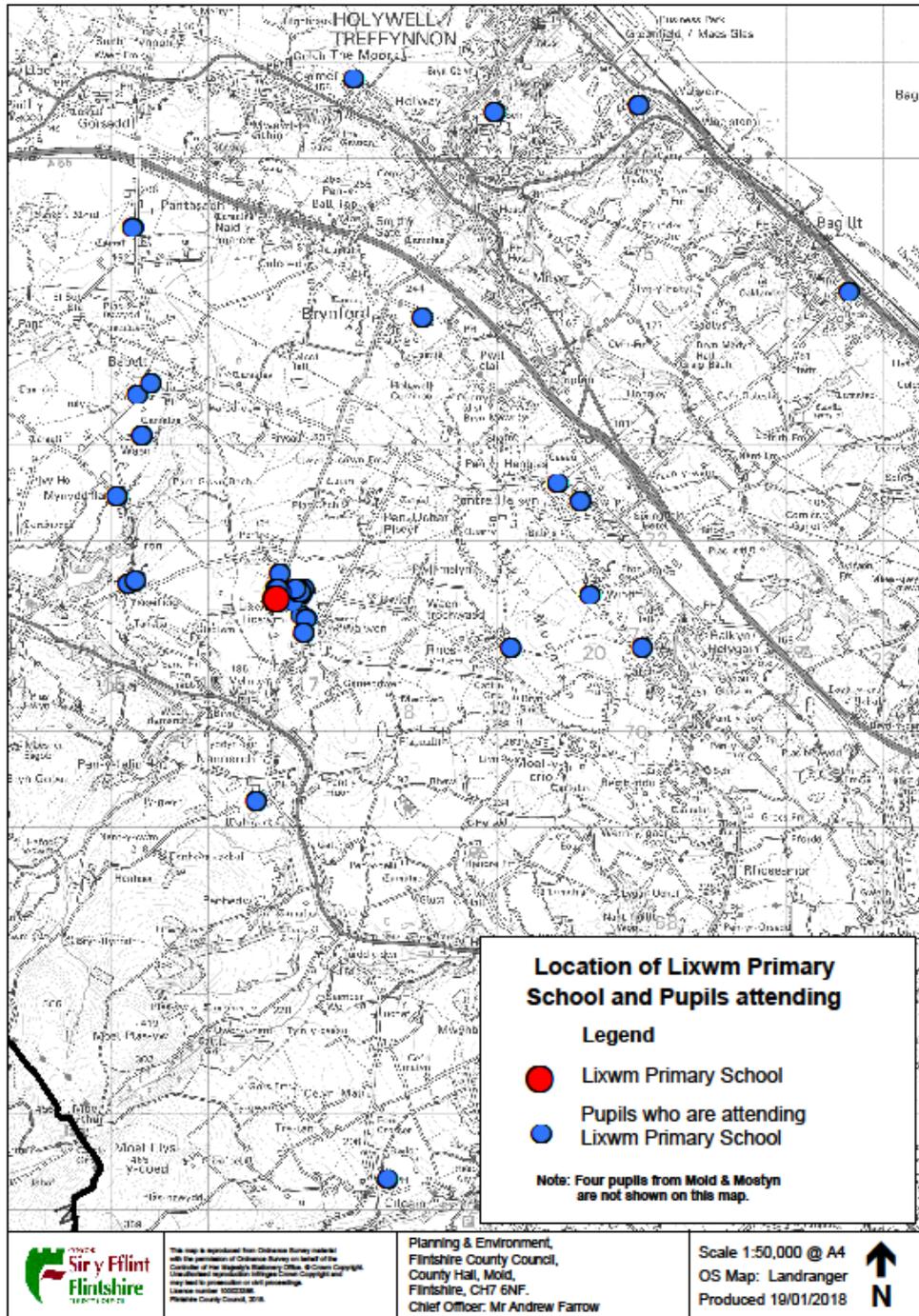
16.2. With an official capacity of 71 full time pupils, Lixwm Community Primary School had 52 full time pupils on roll in September 2017. This number has decreased over the last five years, which is shown in below.



16.3. The number of children (full time only) attending Lixwm Community Primary School is forecasted to rise over the next five years from 52 to 58, reducing surplus places from 26.76% to 18.31% (see table below)

	Actual Sep. 2017	Forecast Sep. 2018	Forecast Sep. 2019	Forecast Sep. 2020	Forecast Sep. 2021	Forecast Sep. 2022
Numbers on Roll – Full Time	52	54	57	59	57	58
Capacity – Full Time	71	71	71	71	71	71
Unfilled Places	19	17	14	12	14	13
Unfilled Places %	26.76	23.94	19.72	16.90	19.72	18.31

16.4. Below is a map showing the home location of full time pupils in relation to the location of the school.



Map of Lixwm CP School Pupils

16.5. If the proposal is progressed, the Councils forecast of future pupils of the new area school is illustrated in the table below.

	Forecast Sep. 2019	Forecast Sep. 2020	Forecast Sep. 2021	Forecast Sep. 2022	Forecast Sep. 2023
Numbers on Roll – Full Time	123	122	123	123	124
Capacity – Full Time	150	150	150	150	150
Unfilled Places	27	28	27	27	26
Unfilled Places %	13.11	13.59	13.11	13.11	12.62

Full Time Pupil Forecasts based on preferred proposal and NOR

## 17. School Comparisons

17.1. The tables below summarises the school profile information and shows how Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School compare to each other.

<b>SCHOOL INFORMATION</b>		
<b>School</b>	<b>Brynford Community Primary School</b>	<b>Lixwm Community Primary School</b>
Address	Brynford, Holywell, Flintshire CH8 8AD	Ffordd Gledlom, Lixwm, Holywell, Flintshire CH8 8NF
Age Range	3-11	3-11
School Category	Community	Community
Language Medium	English	English

School Information (Jan. 2018)

<b>NUMBER OF REGISTERED PUPILS ON ROLL (Sep. 2017)</b>		
<b>School</b>	<b>Brynford Community Primary School</b>	<b>Lixwm Community Primary School</b>
Nursery (Part Time)	8	9
Reception	9	7
Year 1	11	8
Year 2	9	8
Year 3	10	11
Year 4	12	6
Year 5	9	5
Year 6	7	7
<b>Total (Full Time / R-Yr 6)</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>52</b>
Capacity (Full Time Pupils)	58	71
Capacity (Part Time Pupils)	17	10

Number on Roll September 2017

<b>HISTORIC NUMBER OF REGISTERED PUPILS ON ROLL (Full Time Only)</b>		
<b>School</b>	<b>Brynford Community Primary School</b>	<b>Lixwm Community Primary School</b>
September 2013	63	52
September 2014	63	53
September 2015	68	51
September 2016	68	50
September 2017	67	52

Historic Numbers on Roll

<b>FORECASTED NUMBERS OF REGISTERED PUPILS (Full Time Only)</b>		
<b>School</b>	<b>Brynford Community Primary School</b>	<b>Lixwm Community Primary School</b>
September 2018	68	54
September 2019	67	57
September 2020	63	59
September 2021	61	57
September 2022	60	58

Forecasted Number on Roll 2018 – 2022 based on September 2017 NOR

## 18. Alternative Schools

18.1. The proposal assumes that all pupils attending Brynford and Lixwm Community Primary Schools will transfer to the new area school when it is consolidated on to one site.

18.2. Therefore, all pupils who will be on roll at Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School on 31 August 2019 will “transfer” to the new amalgamated school when it opens on 1 September 2019. However, parents/carers may express a preference for another school which will be dealt with in accordance with Flintshire County Council’s Admissions Policy.

18.3. If the school in Lixwm is closed this could impact on nearby schools that could take current and future children. Excluding what would be the new area school in Brynford, there are four English-medium community primary schools within five miles of Lixwm Community Primary School that could potentially be affected:

- Ysgol Rhos Helyg, Rhosesmor;
- Ysgol Maes-y-Felin, Holywell;
- Ysgol Y Foel, Cilcain; and
- Ysgol Bro Carmel, Carmel.

18.4. Information about the four potentially affected schools is summarised in the tables below.

<b>SCHOOL INFORMATION</b>				
<b>School</b>	<b>Ysgol Rhos Helyg, Rhosesmor</b>	<b>Ysgol Maes-y-Felin, Holywell</b>	<b>Ysgol Y Foel, Cilcain</b>	<b>Ysgol Bro Carmel, Carmel</b>
<b>Address</b>	Village Road, Mold, Flintshire CH7 6PJ	Pen y Maes Road, Holywell, Flintshire CH8 7EN	Ffordd-Y-Llan, Cilcain, Mold, Flintshire CH7 5NW	34 Ffordd Ffynnon, Carmel, Holywell, Flintshire CH8 8SJ
<b>Distance from Lixwm CP School</b>	3.80 miles	3.81 miles	4.37 miles	4.58 miles
<b>Age Range</b>	3-11	3-11	3-11	3-11
<b>School Category</b>	Community	Community	Community	Community
<b>Language Medium</b>	English	English	English	English

Alternative School's Information January 2018

<b>NUMBER OF REGISTERED PUPILS ON ROLL (Sep. 2017)</b>				
<b>School</b>	<b>Ysgol Rhos Helyg, Rhosesmor</b>	<b>Ysgol Maes-y-Felin, Holywell</b>	<b>Ysgol Y Foel, Cilcain</b>	<b>Ysgol Bro Carmel, Carmel</b>
Nursery (Part Time)	17	33	7	25
Reception	20	32	6	20
Year 1	20	42	11	26
Year 2	18	32	3	27
Year 3	20	39	4	23
Year 4	24	43	8	19
Year 5	16	43	4	26
Year 6	18	46	8	22
Total (Full Time / R-Yr 6)	136	277	44	163
Capacity (Full Time Pupils)	168	315	84	180
Capacity (Part Time Pupils)	17	45	11	24

Alternative School's Registered Number of Pupils on Roll September 2017

<b>HISTORIC NUMBER OF REGISTERED PUPILS ON ROLL (Full Time Only)</b>				
<b>School</b>	<b>Ysgol Rhos Helyg, Rhosesmor</b>	<b>Ysgol Maes-y-Felin, Holywell</b>	<b>Ysgol Y Foel, Cilcain</b>	<b>Ysgol Bro Carmel, Carmel</b>
September 2013	131		71	152
September 2014	140		58	154
September 2015	128		55	165
September 2016	134	269	46	168
September 2017	136	277	44	163

Alternative School's Historic Numbers September NOR

<b>FORECASTED NUMBERS OF REGISTERED PUPILS (Full Time Only)</b>				
<b>School</b>	<b>Ysgol Rhos Helyg, Rhosesmor</b>	<b>Ysgol Maes-y-Felin, Holywell</b>	<b>Ysgol Y Foel, Cilcain</b>	<b>Ysgol Bro Carmel, Carmel</b>
September 2018	135	264	43	166
September 2019	138	257	47	164
September 2020	133	249	46	168
September 2021	132	246	50	169
September 2022	133	250	55	166

Alternative School's Forecasted Pupil Number on Roll 2018 – 2022 based on September 2017 NOR

## 19. Impact of the Proposal on Secondary Provision

19.1. The table below shows the main secondary school primary transfer for pupils from the six primary schools as well as the five year average percentage of children that have transferred to that school.

School	Main Secondary Receiver	Five Year Trend
Brynford Community Primary School	Alun High School, Mold	48.0%
Lixwm Community Primary School	Alun High School, Mold	58.8%
Ysgol Rhos Helyg, Rhosesmor	Alun High School, Mold	87.2%
Ysgol Maes-y-Felin, Holywell	*	*
Ysgol Y Foel, Cilcain	Alun High School, Mold	91.1%
Ysgol Bro Carmel	Ysgol Treffynnon, Holywell (formally Holywell High School)	65.7%

Main Secondary School Primary Transfer PLASC January 2017

\* Information is not available on Ysgol Maes-Y-Felin, Holywell as the school opened in September 2016

19.2. Should the proposal be implemented it is anticipated that this would not have a significant impact on the secondary provision within the area. Pupils from both Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School typically transfer to Alun High School, Mold and this would therefore be expected to continue.

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## E. QUALITY AND STANDARDS IN EDUCATION

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### 20. Estyn reports

20.1. Estyn is the body responsible for assessing the quality and standards in education and training in Wales. Following an inspection of a school / facility Estyn will publish a report detailing their findings. Both schools were last inspected under the previous Inspection Framework (prior to September 2017) and assigned grades as shown below.

RATING	DESCRIPTION
Excellent	Many strengths, including significant examples of sector-leading practice
Good	Many strengths and no important areas requiring significant improvement
Adequate	Strengths outweigh areas for improvement
Unsatisfactory	Important areas for improvement outweigh strengths

Estyn Ratings

20.2. Brynford Community Primary School's last Estyn inspection was in January 2014. For the inspection report in summary please see **Appendix 1**.

Key Question / Assessment Area	Brynford Community Primary School Inspection Judgement
1. How good are the outcomes?	Good
2. How good is provision?	Good
3. How good are leadership and management?	Good
The School's current performance	Good
The school's prospects for improvement	Good

20.3. Lixwm Community Primary School's last Estyn inspection was in December 2016. For the inspection report in summary please see **Appendix 1**.

Key Question / Assessment Area	Lixwm Community Primary School Inspection Judgement
1. How good are the outcomes?	Good
2. How good is provision?	Good
3. How good are leadership and management?	Adequate
The School's current performance	Good
The school's prospects for improvement	Adequate

20.4. Following the outcome of the inspection at Lixwm Community Primary School. Estyn will continue to monitor the school to review progress the school has made towards addressing the recommendations highlighted in the report.

20.5. Full Estyn reports can be found at <https://www.estyn.gov.wales/>

## **21. What will be the impact of the proposals on the Quality and Standards in Education?**

21.1. The formulation of this proposal has given careful consideration to the likely impact of the proposal on the quality of outcomes, provision and leadership and management. This section provides information for consultees regarding the current provision at Brynford Community Primary School, Lixwm Community Primary School and other nearby English Medium Primary Schools within 5 miles (of Lixwm Community Primary School) with an evaluation of the impact on quality and standard in education should the current proposal be implemented.

21.2. The data included within the tables below provides the outcomes at the end of the Foundation Phase (7 year olds) and Key Stage 2 (11 year olds) for the six schools against local, national and their respective family averages for the last five years of verified data (2013-2017).

21.3. The Foundation Phase Outcome Indicator is achieved when the national benchmark for 7 year olds (Outcome 5 or above) is reached by a pupil in the three core areas of learning of Language, Literacy & Communication; Mathematical Development and Personal & Social Development, Well-Being & Cultural Diversity.

<b>Foundation Phase Outcome Indicator</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Brynford CP School	100.0%	100.0%	90.0%	84.6%	100.0%
Family Total	87.4%	82.5%	86.8%	88.0%	84.6%
Lixwm CP School	100.0%	71.4%	83.3%	40.0%	100.0%
Family Total	82.3%	91.0%	91.7%	90.9%	93.3%
Ysgol Rhos Helyg, Rhosesmor	73.3%	93.8%	66.7%	78.3%	80.0%
Family Total	90.4%	89.3%	88.5%	89.7%	93.0%
Ysgol Maes-y-Felin, Holywell	*	*	*	*	89.5%
Family Total	*	*	*	*	*
Ysgol Y Foel, Cilcain	100.0%	90.9%	80.0%	100.0%	*
Family Total	91.9%	92.7%	90.8%	95.8%	93.0%
Ysgol Bro Carmel, Carmel	96.2%	90.5%	88.9%	94.4%	91.7%
Family Total	93.3%	95.5%	93.3%	93.6%	91.5%
Local Authority Average	84.4%	84.5%	87.0%	86.9%	89.5%
Wales Average	83.0%	85.2%	86.8%	87.0%	87.3%

My Local School - Foundation Phase Outcome Indicator January 2018

21.4. The Core Subject Indicator is achieved when the national benchmark for 11 year olds (National Curriculum Level 4 or above) is reached by a pupil in the three core subjects of English, Maths and Science.

<b>Core Subject Indicator</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Brynford CP School	100.0%	83.3%	80.0%	77.8%	100.0%
Family Total	86.9%	85.1%	89.3%	91.7%	94.5%
Lixwm CP School	80.0%	70.0%	84.6%	83.3%	83.3%
Family Total	90.3%	89.9%	92.4%	92.5%	93.7%
Ysgol Rhos Helyg, Rhosesmor	88.0%	77.8%	88.9%	89.5%	90.5%
Family Total	90.6%	93.8%	92.3%	93.0%	94.1%
Ysgol Maes-y-Felin, Holywell	*	*	*	*	89.5%
Family Total	*	*	*	*	*
Ysgol Y Foel, Cilcain	92.9%	100.0%	100.0%	92.9%	100.0%
Family Total	91.6%	93.1%	97.5%	96.1%	98.1%
Ysgol Bro Carmel, Carmel	94.7%	92.0%	94.1%	95.7%	95.7%
Family Total	92.5%	93.8%	94.0%	95.6%	93.8%
Local Authority Average	84.4%	84.5%	87.0%	86.9%	91.0%
Wales Average	83.0%	85.2%	86.8%	87.0%	89.5%

My Local School - Core Subject Indicator January 2018

21.5. The tables below show the Additional Learning Needs (ALN) average numbers over the past five years for the six schools. Some data is either not available or not published if fewer than ten children have ALN in order to protect individual children.

21.6. When a class or subject teacher identifies that a pupil has Special Educational Needs (SEN) they provide interventions that are additional to or different from those provided as part of the school's usual curriculum. These children are referred to as accessing School Action intervention.

School Action	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Brynford CP School	*	*	*	*	24.6%
Lixwm CP School	13.5%	*	*	*	19.0%
Ysgol Rhos Helyg, Rhosesmor	19.1%	12.6%	13.2%	22.1%	18.6%
Ysgol Maes-y-Felin, Holywell	*	*	*	*	21.0%
Ysgol Y Foel, Cilcain	*	*	*	*	*
Ysgol Bro Carmel, Carmel	19.2%	19.1%	21.5%	21.9%	21.4%
Local Authority Average	12.6%	12.1%	13.5%	13.7%	2017
Wales Average	15.1%	15.1%	15.1%	15.1%	24.6%

21.7. If the class or subject teacher and the Additional Learning Needs Coordinator (ALNCo) require advice or support from external specialists/agencies to meet the child's needs, then the child is referred to as accessing School Action Plus intervention.

School Action Plus	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Brynford CP School	*	*	*	*	*
Lixwm CP School	*	*	*	*	*
Ysgol Rhos Helyg, Rhosesmor	6.1%	8.1%	7.4%	6.2%	8.8%
Ysgol Maes-y-Felin, Holywell	*	*	*	*	2.5%
Ysgol Y Foel, Cilcain	*	*	*	*	*
Ysgol Bro Carmel, Carmel	*	4.4%	4.4%	3.6%	4.3%
Local Authority Average	7.1%	1.0%	6.3%	6.3%	6.4%
Wales Average	9.2%	8.8%	8.3%	8.2%	8.1%

21.8. Children with significant learning difficulties which requires special educational provision to be made for them may be subject to a Statement of SEN. This provides additional resources for children who have significantly greater difficulty in learning than most children of the same age or a disability that needs different educational facilities from those that a school generally provides for children.

Statemented	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Brynford CP School	*	*	*	*	*
Lixwm CP School	*	*	*	*	*
Ysgol Rhos Helyg, Rhosesmor	*	*	*	*	*
Ysgol Maes-y-Felin, Holywell	*	*	*	*	4.2%
Ysgol Y Foel, Cilcain	*	*	*	*	*
Ysgol Bro Carmel, Carmel	*	*	*	*	*
Local Authority Average	1.2%	1.3%	1.2%	1.3%	1.4%
Wales Average	1.7%	1.7%	1.7%	1.7%	1.7%

My Local School ALN Statemented Trend January 2018

21.9. Please note that data published on Special Educational Needs (SEN), is based on pupils of statutory school age only.

21.10. The table shows the EAL average over the past five years for the six schools. Once again some data is either not available or not published if there are fewer than ten to protect individual children.

<b>EAL Trend</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Brynford CP School	*	*	*	*	
Lixwm CP School	*	*	*	*	
Ysgol Rhos Helyg, Rhosesmor	*	*	*	*	
Ysgol Maes-y-Felin, Holywell	*	*	*	3.3%	7.6%
Ysgol Y Foel, Cilcain	*	*	*	*	
Ysgol Bro Carmel, Carmel	*	*	*	4.4%	*
Local Authority Average	2.1%	2.7%	3.5%	3.7%	4.8%
Wales Average	5.1%	5.5%	5.9%	6.2%	6.1%

21.11. Please note that data published on English as an Additional Language (EAL) and Minority Ethnic pupils is based on pupils of statutory school age only.

21.12. Pupils of statutory school age (ages 5-15) known to be eligible for free school meals

<b>FSM Trend</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Brynford CP School	6.9%	5.8%	6.0%	6.7%	5.9%
Lixwm CP School	7.1%	7.6%	7.0%	5.3%	4.0%
Ysgol Rhos Helyg, Rhosesmor	8.5%	6.9%	4.6%	5.5%	6.6%
Ysgol Maes-y-Felin, Holywell	*	*	*	*	33.4%
Ysgol Y Foel, Cilcain	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.7%
Ysgol Bro Carmel, Carmel	14.2%	10.1%	9.1%	7.4%	7.5%
Local Authority Average	15.7%	15.3%	15.2%	15.6%	15.4%
Wales Average	20.8%	20.5%	20.1%	19.6%	18.9%

My Local School FSM Trend January 2018

21.13. The Pupil Teacher Ratio is calculated by dividing the full time equivalent of pupils on roll in schools by the full time equivalent of qualified teachers (Headteachers, Deputy Heads and other qualified teachers). The lower the figure, the more teachers there are per pupil.

<b>Pupil Teacher Ratio</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Brynford CP School	19.8	21.3	20.6	18.3	17.0%
Lixwm CP School	18.0	19.5	19.2	18.0	15.0%
Ysgol Rhos Helyg, Rhosesmor	20.2	20.3	21.1	19.7	20.1%
Ysgol Maes-y-Felin, Holywell	*	*	*	*	20.1%
Ysgol Y Foel, Cilcain	19.1	18.4	17.4	16.9	14.6%
Ysgol Bro Carmel, Carmel	22.9	26.7	23.2	23.6	20.8%
Local Authority Average	20.6	20.8	20.9	21.2	21.1%
Wales Average	20.7	20.8	21.2	21.6	21.8%

My Local School Pupil Teacher Ratio January 2018

21.14. Each school is then judged based on their capacity to self-improve, where a grade 'A' is awarded to a school with the greatest capacity to improve as well as potentially being able to support other schools. A grade 'D' signifies schools requiring the most support.

- Improvement Capacity at Brynford Community Primary School is graded as 'B'.
- Improvement Capacity at Lixwm Community Primary School is graded as 'C'.

21.15. The standards and improvement capacity are combined to determine a school's support category. Schools are colour-coded either 'green', 'yellow', 'amber' or 'red' depending upon the number of support days they require (with the schools in the green category needing the least support and those in the red category needing the most intensive support).

- The Support Category at Brynford Community Primary School is colour-coded 'Yellow'.
- The Support Category at Lixwm Community Primary School is colour-coded 'Amber'.

21.16. The above information can be found at <http://mylocalschool.wales.gov.uk/>

21.17. The table below summarises the information above to show how Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School compare against the School Modernisation key drivers:

School	Brynford CP School	Lixwm CP School
<b>EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS</b>		
Improvement Capacity	B	C
Support Category	Yellow	Amber
Most Recent Estyn Report	Jan-14	Dec-16
Performance	Good	Good
Improvement	Good	Adequate
<b>RESILIENT SCHOOL LEADERSHIP</b>		
Head Teacher Status	Acting	Permanent
<b>SUITABLE BUILDINGS</b>		
Building Condition Grade	B	B
Building Suitability Grade	D	C
<b>UNFILLED PLACES</b>		
Unfilled Places (%)	-15.52%	26.76%
<b>DIMINISHING RESOURCES</b>		
Pupils Attending Their Nearest School (%)	47.76%	50.00%
School Budget per Pupil	£4,655.00	£4,954.00

21.18. The table below shows how the potentially affected schools compare against the School Modernisation key drivers:

School	Ysgol Rhos Helyg, Rhosesmor	Ysgol Maes-y-Felin, Holywell	Ysgol Y Foel, Cilcain	Ysgol Bro Carmel, Carmel
<b>EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS</b>				
Improvement Capacity	B	B	B	A
Support Category	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green
Most Recent Estyn Report	June-17	N/A	Oct-11	Feb-14
Performance	Good	N/A	Adequate	Good
Improvement	Good	N/A	Good	Good
<b>RESILIENT SCHOOL LEADERSHIP</b>				
Head Teacher Status	Permanent	Permanent	Permanent	Permanent
<b>SUITABLE BUILDINGS</b>				
Building Condition Grade	B	A	B	B
Building Suitability Grade	C	A	B	A
<b>UNFILLED PLACES</b>				
Unfilled Places (%)	20.83%	11.43%	41.67%	6.67%
<b>DIMINISHING RESOURCES</b>				
Pupils Attending Their Nearest School (%)	62.50%	67.99%	76.60%	62.42%
School Budget per Pupil	£3,703.00	£3,984.00	£4,725.00	£3,497.00

Specific Key Drivers of Potentially Affected Schools

## 22. Evaluation of the Impact of the Proposal on the Quality and Standards of Education

22.1. It is the view of the Council that should the current proposal be implemented it would improve the current standard of quality of education within the area and more specifically for the pupils of Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School. The review has set out to address challenges within the area that have the potential to impact upon the sustainability of high quality provision in the future. This proposal and related proposals seek to maintain the current standard with a view to strengthening and improving educational provision within the area for the following reasons:

- Outcomes (standards and wellbeing);
- Provision (learning experiences, teaching, care, support and guidance, and learning environment);
- Leadership and Management (Leadership, improving quality, partnership working and resource management).

22.2. Strong and stable leadership contributes to the success of schools. Small schools in particular find it difficult to recruit and retain head teachers and to provide sufficient opportunities for other staff to progress. Both schools are considered to be 'small maintained schools' as they have fewer than 91 registered pupils.

- Brynford Community Primary School has an acting head teacher (This position was agreed by the Governing Body with the Local Authority as the departure of the previous head coincided with the launch of the areas review and with the uncertainty about the outcome, it was agreed to make temporary leadership arrangements)
- Lixwm Community Primary School has a permanent head teacher

## **23. Impacts on Outcomes – Standards and Wellbeing and Curriculum Delivery**

23.1. It is the view of the Council that the proposal would at least maintain the current standard of outcomes and attainment should the proposal be implemented. The new amalgamated area school would continue to provide all pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum at both Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2.

23.2. Should pupil numbers rise in any of the nearby affected schools as a result of the proposal this would not negatively impact on the capability of any school to deliver the curriculum.

23.3. Schools with higher pupil numbers, such as the amalgamated area school are able to recruit a broader range of teaching staff. Staff have more opportunity to specialise in different knowledge and subject areas which helps drive standards and outcomes. In small schools staff must adequately plan for a wide range of pupils of differing ages and abilities; staff development opportunities are reduced where staff are fewer within a school.

## **24. Adequacy of School Accommodation and Impact of the Proposal on the Quality of Accommodation**

### **Asset Management**

24.1. It is a Welsh Government requirement that Local Authorities keep asset management data for their school's portfolio. Asset Management data is an essential tool to inform strategic decision making (along with other criteria) with regard to school building management for issues such as prioritisation of maintenance programme, capital projects and School Organisation Change.

24.2. Asset Management guidance from CLAW (Consortium of Local Authorities in Wales) makes the following statement:

24.3. The main practical ways in which the operational estate can adversely affect service delivery are as follows:

- Operating from too many buildings;
- Under-spending on planned maintenance;
- Operating from inefficient property;
- Under-investment in appropriate buildings/facilities;
- When reviewing school buildings and premises, the Council will take into account statutory requirements and relevant building bulleting guidance.

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## F. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

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### 25. Options process

25.1. The Council has given careful consideration to a range of alternative options as part of the development of the current proposal. In considering these options reference has been made to the main investment objectives of the school modernisation strategy which are as follows:

- Learning creating the conditions for school leaders to succeed;
- ensuring that school buildings are attractive learning and working environments;
- reducing the number of unfilled places and the inequity of variation in cost per pupil; and
- Providing resilience against falling revenue funding.

25.2. Additionally, all options have been analysed against the key drivers for the review, these are:

- Educational improvement
- Resilient School Leadership
- Suitable Buildings
- Unfilled places
- Diminishing Resources

25.3. The alternatives considered by the authority with regard to Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School are outlined below alongside associated advantages and disadvantages of each option.

25.4. **Retaining Status Quo** - Both Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School have a number of shortcomings that means retaining the status quo is deemed not to address maintenance problems and suitability issues.

25.5. The reasons why change is considered to be necessary are discussed in more detail in section 'Why the Proposal is needed'.

25.6. **One Area School on one Site** - As part of the informal consultation process an Area Review Option Appraisal Report was produced by Flintshire County Council's Design and Consultancy Team. You can view the Area Review Option Appraisal Report by clicking on the following link:

25.7. This report established that an amalgamated area school, with capacity to accommodate 150 full time pupils and 20 part time pupils (nursery) requires a minimum site area of 8,105m<sup>2</sup>.

25.8. With an existing site area of 6,205.4m<sup>2</sup> Lixwm Community Primary School is too small to accommodate the area school and has therefore been discounted as a potential option. As a result only information regarding amalgamating on to the Brynford site has been considered thereafter.

25.9. **Federation** - The federation of schools is a legal process which enables schools to work together through a formal structured process by sharing a governing body that

will make decisions in the best interest of all the schools, staff and pupils in that federation.

- 25.10. Federation was originally discussed with head teachers and representatives of the governing bodies prior to the informal consultation but there was universal agreement that it should be removed as a potential option.
- 25.11. Following the decision by the Cabinet in December 2016, federation between the schools in Brynford and Lixwm could have been considered prior to the publication of statutory proposals. As a result, in June 2017 individual meetings were held with the Chair of each governing body to discuss the possibility of establishing a federation.
- 25.12. Support was offered by the Local Authority to help facilitate consultation with stakeholders on a federation proposal and to provide additional funding, subject to availability via Welsh Government, to help set up a formal federation if one was agreed.
- 25.13. The governing bodies met to discuss a potential federation but whilst Lixwm Community Primary School were prepared to explore the possibility, the governors of Brynford Community Primary School decided not to pursue this option. Therefore, no federation partnership could be established between Brynford and Lixwm.
- 25.14. In September 2017 the Cabinet agreed to a short pause to allow officers to work with the governing bodies of Brynford and Lixwm to seek out other opportunities for a possible federation.
- 25.15. Following formal discussions with other potential federation partners, no federation partnership could be established.
- 25.16. It should be noted that should a viable federation emerge during this consultation then Cabinet can be given the opportunity to reconsider.
- 25.17. **One Area School on two Sites** - Both Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School sites have a number of accommodation deficiencies. Retaining two sites and bringing them up to standard is an inefficient use of resources.
- 25.18. The alternatives considered by the Council with regard to Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School are outlined below, alongside associated advantages and disadvantages for each option.

<b>OPTION 1 : RETAIN THE STATUS QUO</b>	
<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Disadvantages</b>
Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School would remain open.	<p>The Council would be unable to make progress towards the national 10% target for unfilled places across all school sectors.</p> <p>It would not reduce the cost per pupil for the schools, with smaller school receiving subsidy from the Council in order to maintain it.</p> <p>This option would not lead to a more balanced distribution of pupil-led funding.</p>

<b>OPTION 1 : RETAIN THE STATUS QUO</b>	
<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Disadvantages</b>
	<p>This option would not lead to greater efficiency and effectiveness of the school estate.</p> <p>The Council would still have to support building maintenance and capital improvement costs leading to inefficient use of resources.</p>

<b>OPTION 2 : AREA SCHOOL ONE SITE (BRYNFORD/LIXWM)</b>	
<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Disadvantages</b>
<p>Continuity would be provided for pupils in area school.</p> <p>Pupils would be able to access at least an equivalent standard of education in a number of schools within the area. Unfilled places would be reduced in line with National and Local guidance.</p> <p>The cost per pupil range will be reduced in the primary sector</p> <p>Reactive, cyclical and planned Building maintenance activities and costs will be reduced.</p> <p>A revenue saving would be realised on staffing and leadership.</p> <p>Per pupil funding would become more evenly distributed across the area and would impact more widely across the school estate.</p> <p>Resources could be implemented more efficiently and effectively to maintain and strengthen educational improvement in remaining schools.</p> <p>The Council would not have to expend capital resources to address suitability and sufficiency issues.</p>	<p>Primary education provision would cease in the village of Lixwm.</p> <p>Staff may be redeployed or made redundant.</p> <p>Some pupils would see a marginal increase in travel time.</p> <p>Potential Impacts on friendship groups.</p> <p>Impact on the community of Brynford and Lixwm.</p>

<b>OPTION 3 : FEDERATION</b>	
<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Disadvantages</b>
<p>Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School would remain open.</p> <p>One Headteacher across two sites, would provide an opportunity to strengthen leadership and management and a result in a Headteacher salary saving.</p> <p>There would be greater opportunity to share resources than the status quo and share best practice and staff expertise would be broader.</p>	<p>Unfilled places would remain an issue – pupil forecasts suggest unfilled places above the national target of 10% across English medium provision in the Brynford and Lixwm area.</p> <p>There would still be a requirement to finance and maintain two school buildings and staffing bodies (excluding Headteacher).</p> <p>There may be increased staffing costs due to additional staff requirements as a consequence of revised leadership and management structures.</p> <p>Pupils would remain in mixed age cohorts in Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School– although some opportunities would be presented to undertake activities with pupils of a federated partner.</p> <p>Would not result in any significant revenue efficiency.</p> <p>This option would not lead to a more balanced distribution of pupil led funding.</p> <p>This option would not lead to greater efficiency and effectiveness of the school estate.</p> <p>The Council would still have to support building maintenance and capital improvement costs.</p>

<b>OPTION 4 : ONE AREA SCHOOL ON TWO SITES</b>	
<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Disadvantages</b>
<p>Brynford Community and Lixwm Community would have a school remain open in the Community.</p>	<p>The Council would be unable to make progress towards the national 10% target for unfilled places across all school sectors.</p> <p>It would not reduce the cost per pupil for the schools, with smaller school receiving subsidy from the Council in order to maintain it.</p> <p>This option would not lead to a more balanced distribution of pupil-led funding.</p>

<b>OPTION 4 : ONE AREA SCHOOL ON TWO SITES</b>	
<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Disadvantages</b>
	<p>This option would not lead to greater efficiency and effectiveness of the school estate.</p> <p>The Council would still have to support building maintenance and capital improvement costs leading to inefficient use of resources.</p>

25.19. Following assessment of the benefits and disadvantages to the available options, the Council is proposing to amalgamate Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School (English Medium, community school) to create one area school on one site from 1 September 2019.

## **26. Advantages, Disadvantages and Risks of the Proposal**

### **Advantages**

- 26.1. The new area school will provide the conditions that will enable a broader and more diverse curriculum to be developed, to better meet the needs of the school's young people in ways that will be viable and sustainable over the longer term.
- 26.2. The new area school will improve the range and quality of facilities and learning resources available to the benefit of all pupils.

### **Disadvantages**

26.3. Where school organisation proposals are brought forward there will inevitably be some disadvantages. The disadvantages of the proposal are as follows:

Disadvantage 1	The risk of Brynford Community Primary and Lixwm Community primary becoming unsustainable before the option can be delivered.
Disadvantage 2	Involves school reorganisation proposals
Disadvantage 3	Staff may be redeployed or made redundant

### **Risks**

26.4. Many of the risks associated with the proposal arise from the disadvantages of the proposal outlined above. The risks and measures required to minimise or negate the impact of these risks are outlined below:

<b>DISADVANTAGES/RISK</b>	<b>RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
The risk of Brynford Community Primary and Lixwm Community primary becoming unsustainable before the option can be delivered.	The Governors of both Brynford and Lixwm Community Primary Schools will need to communicate regularly and keep parents/carers informed of progress.
Involves school reorganisation proposals	Working closely with both schools will hopefully mean both schools will be supportive of the proposal. Discussions have already taken place

DISADVANTAGES/RISK	RISK MANAGEMENT
	with both Headteachers and Governors. In working in partnership with the schools any concerns around the proposal can be addressed in a positive manner.
Staff may be redeployed or made redundant	Staff at both schools will be offered support from Flintshire County Council Human Resources service. A link officer will be established as a contact for staff at the schools.
Parents may not want to choose the 3-11 area school and seek alternative English medium primary provision	There is a risk that some parents may seek alternative provision.
Risk of sizing the school too small should parental preference be strong	Ensure there is flexibility within the remodelling to future proof and possibly extend the school

26.5. All risks will be monitored as part of the Council's School Modernisation Programme risk management strategy. By monitoring and ensuring there is a robust approach to the above risks and disadvantages the impact on pupils, parents/carers and staff can be minimised. An evaluation on the impact of staff and pupils can be found on page 43 implications of the proposal of this document.

26.6. In view of the above advantages, risks and disadvantages, the Council believes that the longer term benefits of the proposal outweigh any disadvantages.

## 27. Benefits, disadvantages and risks of the proposal

27.1. Should the proposal be implemented it is expected that the following benefits would be realised.

EXPECTED BENEFITS OF THE PROPOSAL	
1	The proposals would at least maintain the current standards and quality of education for the future which the Council is seeking to strengthen. The proposal would, in the view of the Council, improve the current standards of education within the area and in the longer term would be to the benefit of all pupils within the area (found on page 35 in the Impacts on Outcomes – Standards and Wellbeing and Curriculum Delivery)
2	The proposal to amalgamate Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School on to one site would result in a reduction of unfilled pupil places within the primary school network in line with national policy.
3	The proposal would lead to a reduction in the cost per pupil across the primary school network.
4	The proposal would contribute to the greater efficiency and effectiveness of the school estate by re-directing resources to teaching and learning.
5	The proposal would contribute towards establishing a more equitable pattern of school funding.
6	The proposal would reduce travel to school for the majority of pupils attending the school (assuming they choose their nearest school).

27.2. Where school organisation proposals are brought forward there will be some disadvantages. The disadvantages of the proposal are as follows:

<b>DISADVANTAGES OF THE PROPOSAL</b>	
1	The proposal would result in the closure of Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School and a new area school on the Brynford site, therefore English medium primary provision would cease in the village of Lixwm.
2	A small percentage of pupils who live in the Lixwm area may be required to travel further to the nearest appropriate school and increase travel time.
3	The proposal would impact on staff, who may be redeployed or made redundant as a result of the proposal.

27.3. Many of the risks associated with the proposal arise from the disadvantages of the proposal outlined above. The risks and measures required to minimise or negate the impact of these risks are outlined below:

<b>RISK</b>	<b>RISK MANGEMENT</b>
A small number of pupils may be required to travel further to school.	32 pupils who reside in the area will be required to travel further to school. For those pupils should they choose to transfer to the Brynford site, they would be eligible for free home to school transport under the current transport policy. Transport costs will therefore increase to reflect the change in demography.
Staff may be redeployed or made redundant	Should the proposal be implemented, the Council will work with the current members of staff at Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School, should they wish to seek redeployment or retirement opportunities. The governing body of the school will apply its own organisational change and redundancy policy. Support for all staff will be provided during this time through the school's leadership team and the Council. Staff displaced by the proposal may have the opportunity to be employed in the local schools network.
Potential negative impact on the community of Brynford and Lixwm.	The Council acknowledges that where a school amalgamation is proposed it will have some impact on the community. The Community Impact Assessment completed for this proposal has shown that whilst there is some community use of the schools it is not extensive. Should the proposal be implemented there may be an opportunity for the community to retain the building in Lixwm. A separate exercise will be conducted by the Council once the future of the schools has been determined. The Community Impact Assessment can be found on the Flintshire County Council website by following this link: <a href="http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/School-Modernisation-Related/Home.aspx">http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/School-Modernisation-Related/Home.aspx</a>

27.4. Flintshire County Council has carefully considered a number of options when formulating school modernisation proposals for the Brynford and Lixwm area. In considering these options, reference has been made to the main objectives of the School Modernisation Strategy and the key drivers for the Brynford and Lixwm area review as detailed in section Development of the School Organisation Proposals of this document.

27.5. A number of options has been considered including maintaining the status quo, federation or one area school to include Brynford, Lixwm and Rhosesmor area.

- 27.6. The options that have been explored by the Council are detailed in the Alternative Options section of this document.
- 27.7. This proposal has been developed in line with Learner Travel Operational Guidance provided by the Welsh Government (guidance revised in 2014). Should the parents/carers choose to send their child/children to the school nearest to their home address, 53 pupils would be entitled to free school transport. The estimated annual cost of transport provision would be £52,250.00 if there is 100% take up.
- 27.8. A large percentage of pupils will have a reduced home to school travel time and distance from their home location based on the assumption that they choose the school nearest to their home address.
- 27.9. The Transport Impact Assessment for this proposal can be found at the following link:- <http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/School-Modernisation-Related/Home.aspx>

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## **G. IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSALS**

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### **28. Impact of the Proposal on Pupils**

- 28.1. When proposing changes to school organisation the Council acknowledges that there will be some impact for pupils. Should the proposal be implemented and the schools amalgamated to establish a 3-11 area primary school, it would result in changes for the existing pupils as follows:
- A new uniform
  - A new learning environment for some pupils
  - An average increase of 1.57 miles for 32 pupils currently attending Lixwm Community Primary School, resulting in an increased journey time;
  - An average decrease of 0.79 miles for 18 pupils currently attending Lixwm C.P. School, resulting in an decreased journey time;
  - New teachers and support staff;
  - A new learning environment; and
  - New friendship groups.
- 28.2. As there will be one headteacher, pupils and parents will experience continuity in school policy and practice. The transition period between every key stage can be better facilitated for the benefit of all pupils.
- 28.3. Pupils will have facilities fit for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and an environment that will inspire and motivate them in their learning. Children and parents/carers will establish a good strong relationship with the school. This will help create a positive and nurturing environment for all pupils at the school.
- 28.4. There will be possible disruption to pupils during the construction period (Phase 2). Steps will be taken to minimise this and to ensure that it does not impact adversely on the teaching and learning experience.
- 28.5. Flintshire County Council will take all practicable steps in order to provide pupils with the smoothest transition possible, particularly for vulnerable groups of learners. If the proposals were to be implemented the Council would work with pupils, their

parents/carers and the relevant schools to develop individually tailored transition plans to help pupils to familiarise themselves with their new environments (subject to parental preference).

## **29. Staffing and Governance**

- 29.1. The Council will help teaching and support staff potentially affected by the proposal should it be implemented. A named representative from the Human Resources Business Partner Team will be appointed to liaise directly with individuals in order to provide advice and guidance on opportunities for redeployment, retirement and, where necessary, redundancy.
- 29.2. As part of the Formal Consultation process the Council will arrange meetings with both staff and respective Trade Unions to discuss any implications of the proposal, should it be implemented. Appropriate support to teaching and support staff during this time will also be provided through the Schools Leadership Team.
- 29.3. Should the proposal be implemented the governing body of Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School will cease from the date of amalgamation and a new governing body appointed to the new area school. The governing body will be supported through this process by a representative of the Education Business Change and Support Team.
- 29.4. The governing body of the school will apply its own organisational change and redundancy policy when it is required to do so.

## **30. Additional Learning Needs (ALN) and Groups of Vulnerable Learners**

- 30.1. Local authorities, schools and early years settings should seek to optimise the educational opportunities for children with special educational needs. The Special Educational Needs Code of Practice for Wales (2002) states that children have special educational needs if they have a learning difficulty which calls for special educational provision to be made for them and determines that a child with special educational needs should have their needs met.
- 30.2. It is recognised that although the proposal, if implemented, will impact all pupils it may be more challenging for pupils with additional learning needs. Where a pupil has significant special educational needs (SEN) and has been issued with a Statement of SEN, they will continue to have access to the additional resources identified within the Statement at their new school.
- 30.3. For some pupils a Service Level Agreement (SLA) may be in place providing individual intervention from central services, or financial resources for the school to provide additional support. Where this is the case, the resources/provision will also transfer to the new school. For pupils with an SLA or Statement, the named officer would offer support to parents/carers and pupils during the period of transition.
- 30.4. The percentage of children accessing free school meals at five of the six schools (there is no data available for Ysgol Maes-y-Felin as this school was only established in 2016) is well below the national average.

## 31. Transport/Access implications

31.1. Local Authorities are required to follow the legal framework related to travel and transport provisions for learners as set out in the Learner Travel Statutory Provision and Operational Guidance 2014 by the Welsh Government:

<http://gov.wales/topics/educationandskills/allsectorpolicies/learner-travel/?lang=en>

31.2. Local Authorities must, as per the Learner Travel Measure:

- Assess the travel needs of learners in their authority area
- Provide free home to school transport for learners of compulsory age attending primary school who live 2 miles or further from their nearest suitable school
- Provide free home to school transport for learners of compulsory school age attending secondary school who live 3 miles or further from their nearest suitable school
- Assess and meet the needs of 'looked after' children in their authority area
- Promote access to Welsh Medium Education
- Promote sustainable modes of travel

31.3. Any transport arrangements would be carried out in line with Flintshire County Council's school transport policy:

<http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/School-Transport.aspx>

31.4. At present the costs for this academic Years 'Home to School Transport' for Brynford Community Primary School is £0.00. The cost of 'Home to School Transport' for Lixwm Community Primary School is £0.00.

31.5. By maintaining the status quo, children would continue to attend their existing school and as a result there would be no impact on current transportation costs nor on current journey times.

31.6. Implementing the proposal would impact on transport arrangements but not until Phase 2 is realised. It is anticipated that both transportation costs and journey times would remain the same during Phase 1 as although a new area school would be created, children would not be required to relocate from their current site.

31.7. Consolidating the new area school on to the Brynford site under Phase 2 would mean that some children would see their journey time to school increase. Some children however would have a reduction in their journey time because although they attend Lixwm Community Primary School they actually live closer to the Brynford site.

31.8. Should the proposal be implemented, if every child who was eligible to receive free transport to the new area school accessed the service, transportation costs could rise to £52,250. The actual figure would be determined by the number of applications, the areas from where requests are made from, the size of vehicles required and costs agreed during the tendering process and contract negotiations.

31.9. It should be noted however that although there is potential to do so transportation costs are not anticipated to rise significantly due to the number of children currently accessing the service.

- 31.10. A complete Transport Impact Assessment has been produced and can be found using this link:  
<http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/School-Modernisation-Related/Home.aspx>

## **32. Admission Arrangements**

- 32.1. Should the current proposal be implemented admission arrangements for a new area school will be dealt with in line with Flintshire County Council's School Admissions Policy. This policy can be found on the website via the following link:  
<http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/School-Admissions.aspx>.
- 32.2. The proposal assumes that all pupils attending Brynford and Lixwm Community Primary Schools will transfer to the new area school when it is consolidates on to one site.
- 32.3. Therefore, all pupils who will be on roll at Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School on 31 August 2019 will "transfer" to the new amalgamated school when it opens on 1 September 2019. However, parents/carers may express a preference for another school which will be dealt with in accordance with Flintshire County Council's Admissions Policy
- 32.4. Flintshire County Council is the admissions authority for Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School and the other affected schools identified within this document. Should the proposal be implemented, pupils currently attending Brynford Community Primary or Lixwm Community Primary School will transfer to the new area school, if parents/carers request an alternative school they will have to apply for a school place.
- 32.5. Flintshire County Council's admissions team will liaise with parents/carers should the proposal be implemented to ensure a stable transition for pupils who are transferring to an alternative school. The admissions team would assist parents/carers to identify suitable alternative provision taking into consideration individual pupil needs.
- 32.6. Parents/carers can complete an online form for admission to the alternative schools at the following link.

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## **H. COSTS**

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### **33. What will be the impact of the proposal on financing of Schools?**

- 33.1. Inefficient school organisation can result in uneven and unfair funding patterns where some schools receive a disproportionate share of funding at the expense of pupils attending other schools in the area, this is mostly the case of schools that are classified as small schools. Any school proposals should contribute towards establishing a more equitable pattern of school funding.
- 33.2. In line with regulatory requirements Flintshire County Council has a schools' funding formula which is the methodology by which the budget share for each school in the County is determined. Each year the formula is reviewed and in consultation with relevant stakeholders amendments are made to reflect changes in funding and policy.

(The detailed methodology and the budget shares are sent to all schools and a summary is published in what is referred to as the section 52 budget statement).

33.3. Schools receive a budget for a financial year from April to March and this is based on the pupils in each school in the September preceding the financial year. The 2017/18 section 52 budget statement has been used as the basis of analysis.

33.4. In 2017/18 Brynford Community Primary, School received a formula funding allocation of £335k which represents £4,655 per pupil, ranking the school as 8<sup>th</sup> highest funded per pupil in Flintshire, and £1,154 higher than the average funding per pupil in Flintshire. In 2017/18 Lixwm Community Primary School received a formula funding allocation of £268k which represents £4,954 per pupil, ranking the school as 5<sup>th</sup> highest funded per pupil in Flintshire, and £1,453 higher than the average funding per pupil in Flintshire.

33.5. The proposal would also lead to a reduction in the cost per pupil across the primary school network. In particular, the current combined cost per pupil at Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School is £4,786 but it is expected to be reduced to £4,001 per pupil at the proposed modernised area school.

33.6. The budget allocated to an individual school is mainly derived from the number of pupils attending that school. High unfilled places reduces the potential budget and results in a disproportionate amount of money being spent on infrastructure and fixed costs as opposed to pupil development.

33.7. The table below contains the cost per pupil funding for each of the nearby schools potentially affected by the proposal.

School	Per Pupil Funding 2017/18	Budget Allocation 17/18 (£)
Ysgol Rhos Helyg, Rhosesmor	£3,482	£498k
Ysgol Maes Y Felin, Holywell	£3,617	£1,120k
Ysgol Y Foel, Cilcain	£5,364	£257k
Ysgol Bro Carmel, Carmel	£3,439	£607k

33.8. Due to austerity measures and pay inflation arising from an increase in the employers' pension contribution, higher employer NI contributions, and general pay awards school budgets are under increasing pressure. In recent years the level of funding awarded to schools has not kept pace with inflation.

33.9. With reduced funding due to falling pupil numbers and a reduction in real term budgets due to inflationary pressures, the financial resilience of the schools is a significant concern.

33.10. There will be a requirement for capital investment in other schools as a consequence of the proposal. The proposal involves the construction of an extension to the current school at Brynford as well as refurbishment of the existing facilities. The necessary works have been estimated at approximately £2.7m and will be funded through a combination of internal and external funding.

33.11. Other savings which can also be achieved are reduction in the Council's backlog maintenance. Implementation of the proposal will remove the maintenance backlog

costs of £50,000.00 from Brynford Community Primary School (due to improvement works) as well as the £93,000.00 from Lixwm Community Primary School (due to closure) and reduction in cyclic maintenance servicing costs for legionella, gas and electric testing.

33.12. In January 2018 there were 67 full time pupils registered on roll at Brynford Community Primary School, with 35 of those pupils attending their nearest community school. If all children eligible for free transport to the school applied for the service the total cost to the Local Authority would be £22,800.00.

33.13. Of the 48 full time pupils registered at Lixwm Community Primary School in January 2018 there were 24 who were attending their nearest community school. The cost to the Local Authority if all eligible children claimed free transport to Lixwm Community Primary School would be £6,650.

33.14. However in 2017/2018 the total cost to the Local Authority for transporting children to Brynford and Lixwm Community Primary School was £0, this is due to parents/carers not applying for free home to school transport.

33.15. The school meals services is now provided by a local authority trading company. Any costs or savings arising through school reorganisation would rest with this company.

33.16. The net saving that could be achieved if the proposal to amalgamate Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School goes ahead is as follows:-

<b>SAVING / COSTS</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
Formula Funding Saving	£84,530.00
Backlog Maintenance Saving	£143,000.00
Transport Costs could rise to	- £52,250.00
<b>Total Net Saving</b>	<b>£175,280.00</b>

33.17. Flintshire County Council has a Carbon Reduction Strategy that seeks to reduce the County's Carbon emissions by 60% from 2007/08 levels by 2021. Within this strategy are four defined areas of action,

- Good housekeeping, i.e. minimise wasteful/inappropriate use of energy
- Technical upgrades - install new and more energy efficient equipment and controls
- Asset rationalisation - the closure/mothballing of unsuitable or excess buildings
- Renewable Energy generation - invest in low carbon generation technologies.

33.18. All the above elements contribute to the important goal of reduced emissions, leading to a better environment and lower costs to the Council, particularly in relation to energy costs and various carbon taxes.

## **34. How would any new remodelling works be financed?**

34.1. The Council's Corporate Plan includes provision for the cost of £2.7 million for this project. The current breakdown of funding between the Welsh Government and Flintshire County Council for the overall programme is based on a 50:50 approach.

34.2. The Strategic Outline Case (SOP) was submitted to the Welsh Government and the funding in principle was approved in January 2018 for inclusion in the Band B 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Funding. Business Cases will need to be resubmitted if the proposal were to go ahead for Welsh Government to consider the proposal. The funding for the project will be provided in partnership between the Welsh Government and Flintshire County Council.

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## **I. NEXT STEPS**

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34.3. Within 13 weeks of the end of the period of consultation a formal consultation report must be published. The formal consultation report must contain the following:

- A summary of each of the issues raised by consultees;
- A response to each of the issues raised by consultees by means of clarification together with supporting reasons;
- Estyn's view in full (as it is provided in its consultation response) of the overall merits of the proposal; and
- Any proposer must ensure that any views expressed by children and young people affected by the proposals are highlighted within the consultation report and that it is accessible to them.

34.4. The formal consultation report will be considered by Cabinet in June 2018. Cabinet will decide whether to proceed with the proposal. Should Cabinet decide to proceed the proposals must then be published by way of a Statutory Notice.

34.5. The statutory objection period lasts for 28 days (of which 15 days must be school days). To be considered as a statutory objection, objections must be made in writing or by email and sent to Flintshire County Council.

34.6. Following the statutory objection period a summary of the statutory objections and the proposer's response to the objections must be published. The Objection Report must be published before the end of 7 days beginning with the day of the proposal's determination.

34.7. Please note that responses submitted as part of the formal consultation period will not be counted as objections to the proposal. Statutory objections can only be made if a Statutory Notice is published. If a Statutory Notice is published objections can then be registered. Consultees may submit a request during the statutory objection period that their response submitted at the consultation stage should be treated as an objection.

34.8. Flintshire County Council has 16 weeks from the end of the objection period to decide whether to not to implement the proposal. This is known as 'determining the proposal'.

34.9. Flintshire County Council will make and issue its decision in relation to the proposal in writing, setting out the reasons for the decision. The decision will be published on Flintshire County Council's website.

34.10. Under section 54 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 the following bodies may within 28 days refer the proposal to the Welsh Ministers for consideration:

- Another local authority affected by the proposal;

- The appropriate religious body for any school affected;
- The governing body of a voluntary or foundation school subject to the proposals;
- A trust holding property on behalf of voluntary or foundation school subject to the proposals; and
- A further education institution affected by the proposals

34.11. The bodies making the referral will need to set out why they believe that the decision reached by the local authority is wrong.

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## **J. FORMAL CONSULTATION RESPONSE FORM**

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Please see below.



## Brynford and Lixwm Area School Review - Formal Consultation Response Form Adolygiad Ysgol Ardal Brynffordd a Licswm - Ffurflen Ymateb i'r Ymgynghoriad

Flintshire County Council has proposed to amalgamate Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School to create one area school from 1 September 2019.

Mae Cyngor Sir y Fflint wedi cynnig uno Ysgol Gynradd Gymunedol Brynford ac Ysgol Gynradd Gymunedol Lixwm i greu un ysgol ardal o 1 Medi 2019.

A Formal Consultation Document, along with supporting documents, has been produced to explain why the proposal has been put forward. This information is available on the Flintshire County Council website via the following link:

[www.flintshire.gov.uk/schoolmodernisation](http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/schoolmodernisation)

Mae Dogfen Ymgynghori Ffurfiol, ynghyd â dogfennau ategol, wedi'u llunio i egluro pam mae'r cynnig wedi'i wneud. Mae'r wybodaeth hon ar gael ar wefan Cyngor Sir y Fflint drwy ddilyn y ddolen ganlynol: [www.siryfflint.gov.uk/moderneiddioysgolion](http://www.siryfflint.gov.uk/moderneiddioysgolion)

Large print, Braille, alternative language and hard copy versions of these documents are available on request from the School Modernisation Team. The Team can be contacted by:

- Writing to School Modernisation Team, Education and Youth, Flintshire County Council, County Hall, Mold CH7 6NB;
- Emailing [21stcenturyschools@flintshire.gov.uk](mailto:21stcenturyschools@flintshire.gov.uk); or
- Telephoning 01352 704134 or 01352 704014.

Mae fersiynau print mawr, Braille, mewn iaith arall a chopi caled o'r dogfennau hyn ar gael ar gais gan y Tîm Moderneiddio Ysgolion. Gallwch gysylltu â'r Tîm drwy:

- Ysgrifennu at y Tîm Moderneiddio Ysgolion, Adran Addysg ac Ieuenctid, Cyngor Sir y Fflint, Neuadd y Sir, yr Wyddgrug, CH7 6NB;
- Anfon e-bost at [21stcenturyschools@flintshire.gov.uk](mailto:21stcenturyschools@flintshire.gov.uk); neu
- Ffonio 01352 704134 neu 01352 704014

Based on the information available please let us know what you think by:

- Completing a hard copy of this response form and posting it in the collection box provided at either Brynford CP School or Lixwm CP School;
- Completing a hard copy of this response form and returning it to School Modernisation Team at the address above; or
- Completing an electronic copy of this response form via ([www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BLA016](http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BLA016)).

Ar sail y wybodaeth sydd ar gael, gadewch i ni wybod beth yw eich barn drwy:

- Lenwi copi caled o'r ffurflen ymateb hon a'i phostio yn y blwch casglu sydd wedi'i ddarparu un ai yn Ysgol Gynradd Brynffordd neu yn Ysgol Gynradd Licswm;
- Llenwi copi caled o'r ffurflen ymateb hon a'i dychwelyd at y Tîm Moderneiddio Ysgolion yn y cyfeiriad uchod; neu

- Cwblhau copi electronig o'r ffurflen ymateb hon drwy ([www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BLA016](http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BLA016)).

**Please note that a consultation response will not be counted as a formal objection.**  
**Sylwer na fydd ymateb i'r ymgynghoriad yn cael ei gyfrif fel gwrthwynebiad ffurfiol.**

All response forms must be submitted before the consultation closes on 10 May 2018.  
Rhaid cyflwyno pob ffurflen ymateb cyn i'r ymgynghoriad gau ar 10 Mai 2018.



## Brynford and Lixwm Area School Review - Formal Consultation Response Form Adolygiad Ysgol Ardal Brynffordd a Licswm - Ffurflen Ymateb i'r Ymgynghoriad

1. Do you agree with the proposal to amalgamate Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary School, by 1 September 2019?  
A ydych chi'n cytuno â'r cynnig i uno Ysgol Gynradd Gymunedol Brynffordd ac Ysgol Gynradd Gymunedol Licswm erbyn 1 Medi 2019?

Yes  
Ydw

No  
Nac ydw

2. Please let us know which factors have influenced your decision:  
Dywedwch wrthym ni pa ffactorau a ddylanwadodd ar eich penderfyniad:

Impact on Education Standards  
Effaith ar safonau addysg

Impact on Community  
Effaith ar y gymuned

Other (please specify)  
Arall (nodwch)

3. Why have the factors in Question 2 influenced your decision?  
Pam y mae'r ffactorau yng Nghwestiwn 2 wedi dylanwadu ar eich penderfyniad?

4. Please select one of the following to indicate if you are responding as (if more than one apply please select the most appropriate):

Dewiswch un o'r canlynol i ddangos fel pw y rydych yn ymateb (Os oes mwy nag un yn berthnasol, dewiswch yn un mwyaf priodol):

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A pupil of Brynford CP School<br>Disgybl yn Ysgol Brynffordd  | <input type="checkbox"/> A pupil of Lixwm CP School<br>Disgybl yn Ysgol Licswm  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A parent/carer of a pupil at Brynford CP School<br>Rhiant / gwarchodwr i ddisgybl yn Ysgol Brynffordd | <input type="checkbox"/> A parent/carer of a pupil at Lixwm CP School<br>Rhiant / gwarchodwr i ddisgybl yn Ysgol Licswm |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A governor of Brynford CP School<br>Llywodraethwr yn Ysgol Brynffordd                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> A governor of Lixwm CP School<br>Llywodraethwr yn Ysgol Licswm                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A teacher of Brynford CP School<br>Athro/athrawes yn Ysgol Brynffordd                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> A teacher of Lixwm CP School<br>Athro/athrawes yn Ysgol Licswm                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A member of support staff of Brynford CP School<br>Aelod o staff cefnogi yn Ysgol Brynffordd          | <input type="checkbox"/> A member of support staff of Lixwm CP School<br>Aelod o staff cefnogi yn Ysgol Licswm          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A Brynford community member<br>Aelod o gymuned Brynffordd   | <input type="checkbox"/> A Lixwm community member<br>Aelod o gymuned Licswm   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)<br>Arall (nodwch fanylion)   |   |

5. If the proposal is implemented, it is assumed that all pupils on roll at both schools will transfer to the new area school at the appropriate time.

Would you transfer your child/children to the new area school or would you express a preference for an alternative school?

Os yw'r cynnig yn cael ei weithredu, cymerir y bydd yr holl ddisgyblion ar y gofrestr yn symud i'r ysgol ardal newydd ar yr adeg briodol.

A fydddech chi'n trosglwyddo eich plentyn/plant i'r ysgol ardal newydd neu a fydddech yn dewis ysgol arall?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I would transfer my child/children to the new area school<br>Byddwn yn trosglwyddo fy mhentyn/mhlant i'r ysgol ardal newydd  | <input type="checkbox"/> I would express a preference for an alternative school<br>Byddwn yn dewis ysgol arall |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I will not have a child attending either Brynford CP School or Lixwm CP School when the proposal is due to be implemented<br>Ni fydd gennyf blentyn sy'n mynd i Ysgol Brynffordd nac Ysgol Licswm pan mae disgwyl i'r cynnig gael ei weithredu |  |

If you would express a preference for an alternative school please explain which school you are most likely to choose and why.

Os byddech chi'n rhoi dewis am ysgol arall, eglurwch pa ysgol rydych fwyaf tebygol o'i dewis a pham

6. Do you have any alternative suggestions for sustainable education provision in the Brynford and Lixwm area?

A oes gennych chi unrhyw awgrymiadau eraill ar gyfer darpariaeth addysg gynaliadwy yn ardal Brynffordd a Licswm?

7. Please let us know if you have any additional comments you would like to make:

Nodwch unrhyw sylwadau eraill yr hoffech chi eu gwneud:

8. Would you like to receive an email link to the formal consultation report when it is published on the Flintshire County Council website?

A fydddech yn hoffi derbyn dolen mewn e-bost i'r adroddiad ymgynghori ffurfiol pan gaiff ei gyhoeddi ar wefan Cyngor Sir y Fflint?

Yes  
Byddwn

No  
Nac ydw

9. Please provide the following contact information:  
(a valid email address must be provided if you have answered "Yes" to Question 8)  
Darparwch y wybodaeth gyswllt ganlynol, os gwelwch yn dda:  
(rhaid darparu cyfeiriad e-bost dilys os ydych wedi ateb 'Byddwn' yng Nghwestiwn 8)

Name

Enw

Email Address

Cyfeiriad e-bost

10. Responses will be reproduced in reports within the Council and on the Council website in order to help decision makers.  
Bydd ymatebion yn cael eu hatgynhyrchu mewn adroddiadau o fewn y Cyngor ac ar wefan y Cyngor er mwyn helpu rhai sy'n penderfynu.

All personal information such as names and contact details will be removed before being included in any report.

Bydd yr holl wybodaeth bersonol fel enwau a manylion cyswllt yn cael eu tynnu cyn cynnwys ymatebion mewn unrhyw adroddiad.

**Do you consent to your response being used in this way?**

**A ydych chi'n rhoi caniatâd i ni ddefnyddio eich ymateb fel hyn?**

Yes

Byddwn

No

Nac ydw



## Brynford and Lixwm Area School Review - Formal Consultation Response Form Adolygiad Ysgol Ardal Brynffordd a Licswm - Ffurflen Ymateb i'r Ymgynghoriad

11. Please read the following:

Darllenwch y canlynol, os gwelwch yn dda:

### **PRIVACY NOTICE**

### **HYSBYSIAD PREIFATRWYDD**

Flintshire County Council is seeking your views to help inform the decision on the proposal to amalgamate Brynford Community Primary School and Lixwm Community Primary as of 1 September 2019.

Mae Cyngor Sir y Fflint yn gofyn am eich barn chi i helpu wrth benderfynu ar y cynnig i uno Ysgol Gynradd Gymunedol Brynffordd ac Ysgol Gynradd Gymunedol Licswm o 1 Medi 2019.

The information you have provided will only be used for this purpose. The information may be shared with Council Officers and Members who are involved with the Formal Consultation in order to inform the decision makers of your views and allow any issues you may have raised to be addressed.

At y diben hwn yn unig fydd y wybodaeth rydych wedi'i darparu'n cael ei defnyddio. Gall y wybodaeth gael ei rhannu â Swyddogion ac Aelodau'r Cyngor sydd ynghlwm â'r Ymgynghoriad Ffurfiol er mwyn darparu gwybodaeth i rai sy'n penderfynu am eich barn chi a chaniatáu i unrhyw faterion rydych wedi'u codi gael eu datrys.

Collection of this information is in accordance with Article 6.1. (e) of the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The Article states that "processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller;"

Cesglir y wybodaeth hon yn unol ag Erthygl 6.1. (e) o Reoliad Diogelu Data Cyffredinol yr UE (GDPR). Mae'r erthygl yn dweud bod 'prosesu'n angenrheidiol i berfformio tasg sy'n cael ei gwneud er lles y cyhoedd neu i arfer awdurdod swyddogol sydd wedi'i roi i'r rheolydd."

The information will be collected via Survey Monkey, who provide web-based survey solutions. Once the consultation has closed the information will be downloaded and stored within the Council's Data Centre before being deleted from Survey Monkey. Information will be securely retained for three years, plus the current year of collection.

Bydd y wybodaeth yn cael ei chasglu drwy Survey Monkey, sy'n darparu adnoddau arolygon ar-lein. Pan fydd yr ymgynghoriad wedi dod i ben, bydd y wybodaeth yn cael ei lawrlwytho a'i chadw yng Nghanolfan Ddata'r Cyngor cyn cael ei dileu o Survey Monkey. Bydd gwybodaeth yn cael ei chadw'n ddiogel am dair blynedd, a'r flwyddyn gasglu bresennol

Further information about how the Council processes personal data, your rights and contact details for the Data Protection Team can be found via the following link:

<http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Data-Protection-and-Freedom-of-Information/Privacy-Notice.aspx>

Mae mwy o wybodaeth ynglŷn â sut mae'r Cyngor yn prosesu data personol, eich hawliau a manylion cyswllt y Tîm Diogelu Data i'w gweld drwy ddilyn y ddolen ganlynol:

<http://www.siryfflint.gov.uk/cy/Resident/Data-Protection-and-FOI/Hysbysiad-Preifatrwydd.aspx>

- I confirm that I have read the above Privacy Notice**  
**Rwy'n cadarnhau fy mod wedi darllen yr Hysbysiad Preifatrwydd uchod**



## Brynford and Lixwm Area School Review - Formal Consultation Response Form Adolygiad Ysgol Ardal Brynffordd a Licswm - Ffurflen Ymateb i'r Ymgynghoriad

In order to monitor the inclusiveness of our engagement, we would appreciate your co-operation in providing the information requested below. The information is confidential and anonymous, and will be used solely for statistical monitoring purposes. It will be securely destroyed after we have captured the information.

Er mwyn monitro pa mor gynhwysol ydym wrth ymgysylltu, byddem yn gwerthfawrogi eich cydweithrediad wrth ddarparu'r wybodaeth y gofynnir amdani isod. Mae'r wybodaeth yn gyfrinachol ac yn ddiennw, a bydd yn cael ei defnyddio at ddibenion monitro ystadegol yn unig. Bydd yn cael ei dinistrio'n ddiogel ar ôl i ni gasglu'r wybodaeth.

**Providing this information is entirely voluntary.**

**Mae darparu'r wybodaeth hon yn ddewis cwbl wirfoddol.**

12. Please provide your date of birth (DD/MM/YYYY):  
Oedran: Nodwch eich dyddiad geni (DD/MM/BBBB):

13. Sex:  
Rhyw:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Male<br>Gwryw                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Female<br>Benyw |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer Not to Say<br>Gwell gennyf beidio â dweud | <input type="checkbox"/> Other<br>Arall  |

14. How would you describe your national identity?  
Sut fydddech chi'n disgrifio eich hunaniaeth genedlaethol?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Welsh<br>Cymro / Cymraes                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> English<br>Sais / Saesnes            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scottish<br>Albanwr / Albanes                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Irish<br>Gwyddelig                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Irish<br>Gwyddel / Gwyddeles o Ogledd<br>Iwerddon | <input type="checkbox"/> British<br>Prydeiniwr / Prydeinwraig |

Prefer Not to Say  
Gwell gennyf beidio â dweud

Other  
Arall

15. What is your ethnic group? Choose one option that best describes your ethnic group or background.

Beth yw eich grŵp ethnig? Dewiswch un opsiwn sy'n disgrifio eich grŵp neu gefndir ethnig orau.

White – British  
Gwyn - Prydeinig

White - Northern Irish  
Gwyn - Gwyddelig Gogledd Iwerddon

White - Welsh  
Gwyn - Cymreig

White - Gypsy or Irish Traveller  
Gwyn - Sipsi neu Deithiwr Gwyddelig

Mixed British - White / Black Caribbean  
Prydeinig Cymysg - Gwyn / Du Caribïaidd

Mixed British - White / Asian  
Prydeinig Cymysg - Gwyn / Asiaidd

Black British - Caribbean  
Du Prydeinig - Caribïaidd

Black British - Any other Black Background  
Du Prydeinig - Unrhyw gefndir Du arall

Asian - Bangladeshi  
Asiaidd Prydeinig - Bangladeshaidd

Asian - Chinese  
Asiaidd Prydeinig - Tsieineaidd

Other British - Arab  
Prydeinig Arall - Arabaidd

Other (state if required)  
Arall (nodwch os oes angen)

White - English  
Gwyn - Seisnig

White - Scottish  
Gwyn - Albanaidd

White - Irish  
Gwyn - Gwyddelig

White - Other  
Gwyn - Arall

Mixed British - White / Black African  
Prydeinig Cymysg - Gwyn / Du Affricanaidd

Mixed British - Any other Mixed Background  
Prydeinig Cymysg - Unrhyw gefndir Cymysg arall

Black British - African  
Du Prydeinig - Affricanaidd

Asian - Indian  
Asiaidd Prydeinig - Indiaidd

Asian - Pakistani  
Asiaidd Prydeinig - Pacistanaidd

Asian - Asian other  
Asiaidd Prydeinig - Arall

Prefer Not to Say  
Gwell gennyf beidio â dweud

16. Sexual Orientation: Which of the following options best describes how you think of yourself? (Note this questions should only be asked of people age over 16.)  
Tueddfryd Rhywiol: Pa un o'r opsiynau canlynol sy'n disgrifio orau'r ffordd rydych yn meddwl amdanoch chi eich hun? (Nodwch y dylid gofyn y cwestiwn hwn i bobl dros 16 oed yn unig)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heterosexual / Straight<br>Heterorywiol / Strêt  | <input type="checkbox"/> Gay Man<br>Dyn Hoyw   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gay Woman / Lesbian<br>Merch Hoyw / Lesbiad      | <input type="checkbox"/> Bisexual<br>Deurywiol |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer Not to Say<br>Gwell gennyf beidio â dweud | <input type="checkbox"/> Other<br>Arall        |

17. What is your religion?  
Beth yw eich crefydd?

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christian (all denominations)<br>Cristion (pob enwad) | <input type="checkbox"/> Buddhist<br>Bwdhydd                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hindu<br>Hindŵ  | <input type="checkbox"/> Muslim<br>Mwslim   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sikh<br>Sikh  | <input type="checkbox"/> Jewish<br>Iddew  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Atheist<br>Anffyddiwr                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> No religion<br>Dim crefydd                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer Not to Say<br>Gwell gennyf beidio â dweud      | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (state if required)<br>Arall (nodwch os oes angen) |

18. Are you married or in a same-sex civil partnership?  
Ydych chi'n briod neu mewn partneriaeth sifil o'r un rhyw?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes<br>Ydw                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> No<br>Mac Ydw |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer Not to Say<br>Gwell gennyf beidio â dweud | <input type="checkbox"/>               |

19. Disability: Section 6(1) of the Equality Act 2010 states that a person has a disability if:  
(a) That person has a physical or mental impairment, and  
(b) The impairment has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on that person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. Using this definition do you consider yourself to be disabled?

Anabledd: Mae Adran 6(1) o Ddeddf Cydraddoldeb 2010 yn datgan bod anabledd gan unigolyn os:

(a) Oes gan yr unigolyn hwnnw nam corfforol neu feddyliol, a

(b) Bod gan y nam effaith andwyol sylweddol a hirdymor ar allu'r unigolyn hwnnw i gyflawni gweithgareddau arferol o ddydd i ddydd. Gan ddefnyddio'r diffiniad hwn, a ydych chi'n ystyried eich hun yn anabl?

Yes  
Ydw

No  
Mac Ydw

Prefer Not to Say  
Gwell gennyf beidio â dweud

20. Caring Responsibilities: Do you look after or give help or support to family members, friends, neighbours or others because of long term physical or mental ill-health/disability or problems related to old age?

Cyfrifoldebau Gofalu: Ydych chi'n gofalu am rywun neu'n darparu cymorth neu gefnogaeth i aelodau'r teulu, ffrindiau, cymdogion neu eraill oherwydd: • Cyflwr iechyd / anabledd corfforol neu feddyliol hirdymor; neu • Problemau yn ymwneud â henaint

Yes  
Ydw

No  
Mac Ydw

Prefer Not to Say  
Gwell gennyf beidio â dweud

21. What is your preferred language?

Beth yw eich dewis iaith?

English  
Saesneg

Welsh  
Cymraeg

Prefer Not to Say  
Gwell gennyf beidio â dweud

Other (including British Sign Language)  
Arall (yn cynnwys iaith Arwyddion Prydain)

22. What impacts would the proposal, should it be implemented, have on the opportunities for people to use Welsh?

Pe bai'n cael ei weithredu, pa effeithiau fyddai'r cynnig yn eu cael ar y cyfleoedd i bobl ddefnyddio'r Gymraeg?

23. What impacts would the proposal, should it be implemented, have on the Welsh language, specifically ensuring it is treated no less favourably than the English language?

Pe bai'n cael ei weithredu, pa effeithiau fyddai'r cynnig yn eu cael ar y Gymraeg - yn benodol, ar sicrhau nad yw'n cael ei thrin yn llai ffafriol na'r Saesneg?

Please submit your form below or returning hard copies as detailed on page 1.  
Cyflwynwch eich ffurflen isod wrth ddychwelyd copïau caled, fel y manylir ar dudalen 1.

Thank you for taking time to provide your views on the proposal.  
Diolch am gymryd yr amser i roi eich barn ar y cynnig.

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## K. APPENDIX 1

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### Estyn report on Brynford Community Primary School January 2014

#### Summary

<b>The school's current performance</b>	Good
<b>The school's prospects for improvement</b>	Good

#### Current performance

The current performance of the school is good because:

- most pupils show consistent and sound progress during their time at the school;
- the majority of pupils make good progress in their literacy and numeracy skills;
- behaviour is consistently very good and nearly all pupils show respect, care and concern for others;
- most pupils display a positive attitude towards school life and show pride and confidence in their work;
- learning experiences are stimulating and engage pupils well in most classes; and
- in general, the standard of teaching is good.

#### Prospects for improvement

The prospects for improvement are good because:

- the headteacher provides clear, positive and well-organised leadership for the school;
- governors know and understand the school well, monitor the progress of the school against its priorities effectively and challenge the school appropriately;
- the school has a well-established culture of self-improvement and a good track record of working to raise standards and to improve provision; and
- the self-evaluation process is robust and successfully identifies strengths and appropriate areas for further development.

#### Recommendations

A1	Improve attendance
A2	Provide more opportunities for extended writing across the curriculum
A3	Strengthen aspects of assessment for learning, in particular the effective use of success criteria

#### What happens next?

The school will draw up an action plan, which shows how it is going to address the recommendations. The local authority will monitor the school's progress.

**Estyn report on Lixwm Community Primary School**  
**December 2016**

## Summary

<b>The school's current performance</b>	Good
<b>The school's prospects for improvement</b>	Adequate

## Current performance

The current performance of the school is good because:

- most pupils make good progress
- almost all pupils develop their speaking and listening skills well
- most pupils develop their reading skills effectively and use them successfully in their work
- many older pupils write fluently and confidently and use vocabulary well to suit the context of their writing
- across the school, most pupils develop their numeracy skills well
- many pupils make good progress in developing and applying their information and communication technology (ICT) skills
- almost all pupils have positive attitudes towards healthy eating and drinking and understand the importance of regular exercise
- Behaviour in the playground, the classrooms and around the school is good
- The school provides a wide range of learning experiences that meet the needs and interests of most pupils successfully
- Teachers' planning for the development of literacy, numeracy and ICT skills is thorough and provides worthwhile opportunities for pupils to develop their skills across the curriculum
- The provision for spiritual, moral and social development in the school is good
- The school provides an inclusive and welcoming environment, and ensures that all pupils have equal access to all aspects of the school curriculum

## Prospects for improvement

The prospects for improvement are adequate because:

- the headteacher ensures that teachers understand their roles and responsibilities well
- There are high expectations of pupils' behaviour and a strong emphasis on developing positive attitudes to learning
- The school makes good progress in implementing national and local priorities such as the literacy and numeracy framework
- Governors use their individual skills well to support the school
- Self-evaluation processes take good account of school performance data and results from pupil tests
- Leaders base school development planning processes appropriately on self-evaluation activity and national priorities
- The school has a suitable range of partnerships that benefit its pupils

However:

- Performance management arrangements for teaching staff do not meet all requirements
- Leaders' evaluations of the quality of teaching and learning lack focus and this makes it difficult for the school to identify strengths and areas for improvement effectively
- Plans and targets are not precise enough for the school to evaluate the impact of improvements on raising standards for pupils
- Opportunities for staff to observe the practice of others to support their own professional development are underdeveloped
- Leaders and governors do not use resources as effectively as they could

## Recommendations

R1	Raise the standards achieved by more able pupils, including their ability to apply their skills independently
R2	Improve attendance
R3	Improve the quality of the Foundation Phase provision, particularly in outdoor learning
R4	Ensure effective performance management arrangements for all staff
R5	Improve self-evaluation and school improvement processes

## What happens next?

The school will draw up an action plan, which shows how it is going to address the recommendations. Estyn will review the school's progress.