



monmouthshire
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CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Review of Primary School places in Caldicot
Town

Consultation period:

12th January to 22nd February 2021

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1. Introduction

This document represents the Council's responsibilities as part of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 to consult with appropriate stakeholders when giving consideration to any significant school reorganisation proposals.

This consultation document is an opportunity for consultees and other interested parties to learn about some changes that we propose to the organisation of school places in Caldicot Town.

The consultation provides you with an opportunity to ask questions, make comments, and share your views on the proposals being put forward. Your input into this consultation will be considered carefully when the Council considers whether the proposals should be taken forward to implementation.

2. Your views matter

Your views on the proposals to increase the number of Primary School places in Caldicot Town are important to us. We really do want you to engage in this consultation and tell us what you think of the proposals, particularly if they may affect you or your children.

You can tell us what you think by completing the consultation questionnaire, available via our website of www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/schoolorganisation. Completion of the questionnaire will enable us to undertake detailed analysis of the feedback we receive from consultees.

Important: This consultation will not make any assumptions, so whether you are for or against the proposed changes, please take this opportunity to have your say.

If you have any questions on the proposals please contact the Access Unit on 01633 644508 or by emailing acesstolearning@monmouthshire.gov.uk.

3. Current provision in Monmouthshire

The Council's school estate is geographically comprised of four distinct clusters hosting 30 Primary Schools and 4 Secondary Schools. As per the latest census return (January 2020), the numbers on roll within our schools total 11,010, 6250 of Primary age and 4760 of Secondary age.

The School clusters are formed around our 4 main towns:

Caldicot

The Caldicot cluster hosts 8 Primary Schools serving 1711 children and 1 secondary school serving 1295 children.

Chepstow

The Chepstow cluster hosts 5 Primary Schools serving 1208 and 1 Secondary school serving 817 children.

Abergavenny

The Abergavenny cluster hosts 8 Primary Schools serving 1776 primary aged children, and 1 secondary school serving 998 children.

Monmouth

The Monmouth Cluster hosts 8 Primary Schools serving 1570 primary aged children, and 1 secondary school serving 1650 children.

In addition to the above, the council has primary and secondary provision in the North and South of the county for children and young people whose needs cannot be met in mainstream education.

The above numbers on roll are quoted as at the January 2020 census return. A full list of schools can be found under appendix 1

4. Background to our review

Monmouthshire County Council has a statutory duty to secure sufficient and suitable school places for children within its County, and in doing so ensure that resources and facilities are efficiently utilised to deliver the education opportunities that our children deserve.

This review focusses on the provision of school places in the Caldicot cluster, more specifically, on the provision of Primary school places in the Caldicot town area of the cluster.

The review of school places across Caldicot town has been instigated through concerns that the provision of primary school places in the town area is insufficient to support the forecasted demand.

4.1 Current provision in Caldicot

The provision of school places for children young people residing in the Caldicot cluster of the county is delivered through the following provision:

Community English Medium Primary Schools:

School	Admission Number (per year group)	Total Capacity
Castle Park Primary School	30	210
Dewstow Primary School	30	210
Durand Primary School	30	210
Rogiet Primary School	30	210
Undy Primary School	51	359

Community Welsh Medium Primary Schools:

School	Admission Number (per year group)	Total Capacity
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin	25	180

Voluntary Aided Primary Schools:

School	Admission Number (per year group)	Total Capacity
Archbishop Rowan Williams VA Church in Wales Primary	30	210
Magor VA Church in Wales Primary	55	388

Total capacity across Caldicot:

Total year group capacity	Total overall capacity
281	1977

Whilst the Council is responsible for the school organisational arrangements across the county, the responsibility for the admission arrangements of Voluntary Aided Schools rests with the School governing bodies.

5. The Proposal

The Council is seeking your views on proposals to increase the number of school places that are available within the town area of the Caldicot cluster.

The Council proposes to deliver the additional school places by:

1. **Increasing the capacity of Dewstow Primary school from its current provision for 210 school places, to provision for 280 school places, an overall increase of 70 school places.** This would result in the school's admission number increasing from 30 per year group to 40 per year group.

Dewstow Primary school is situated at Woodland View, Caldicot, NP26 4HD which is relatively central to the Caldicot town.

2. **Increasing the capacity of Archbishop Rowan Williams Church in Wales (CIW) Primary School from its current provision for 210 school places, to provision for 280 school places, an overall increase of 70 school places.** This would result in the school's admission number increasing from 30 per year group to 40 per year group.

Archbishop Rowan Williams CIW Primary is situated at Crick Road, Portskewett, NP26 5UL. Archbishop Rowan Williams CIW Primary is Voluntary Aided, with the governing body responsible for the admission arrangements at the school. This proposal is therefore brought forward for consultation through a partnership arrangement between the Council, the Governing Body and the Diocese.

The delivery of both proposal 1 and 2 would see the number of school places increase by 140 across the town. However, as both schools in their current form have sufficient capacity for 210 school places each, the increase in capacity would be delivered through onsite building works. To enable these works to take place, it is proposed that the implementation of the new school capacity would be phased, with the final implementation date to be **September 2022**.

6. Consultation arrangements

The Council proposes to *increase the number of primary school places in Caldicot Town*.

The council is now engaging in statutory consultation processes with all interested parties to ensure that any decision taken by the Council is one that is informed.

The timescales for the formal consultation aspects of these statutory proposals are:

Statutory Consultation Period commences	Statutory Consultation Period concludes	Period of consultation
11 th January 2021	22 nd February 2021	6 weeks (including 20 school days)

6.1 Consultation requirements

Monmouthshire County Council has a responsibility as part of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 to consult with appropriate stakeholders when giving consideration to any significant school reorganisation proposals.

Where changes to existing arrangements are proposed, including proposals to amend the capacity of a school by more than 25%, consultation must be undertaken with those likely to be affected by the proposals.

6.2 Formal consultation process

The formal consultation process will operate for 6 weeks (including 20 schools days) and represents an opportunity for people to learn about the proposal. There will be opportunities to ask questions and make comments that will be recorded and considered when the Council determines whether or not proposals are to be implemented.

Throughout the consultation, the Council seeks to engage with a wide range of stakeholders on the proposals outlined in this consultation document. A full list of the consultees can be found under Appendix 2.

Unfortunately, due to the current public health situation, and to help limit the spread of the Coronavirus, the Council is not proposing any public drop-in events during this consultation. Instead, questions can be submitted by e-mail to strategicreview@monmouthshire.gov.uk and Council officers will generally provide a response within 7 days.

A list of Frequently Asked Questions and answers will also be published on the Council's webpages at www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation. This should then enable stakeholders to submit their informed responses to the consultation prior to the closing date.

Please remember to submit your formal response to this consultation by completing the consultation questionnaire, available via the above link to our website. Comments must be submitted to the Authority by midnight on the **22nd February 2021**. Any responses received by the local authority after this closing date will not be considered as part of this consultation.

Important: At this stage of the consultation, we are seeking your views to help us determine whether or not to proceed to the next stage of the statutory process. It's important to note that any unfavourable comments made during the consultation period will not be counted as statutory objections to the proposal, however, they will

be recorded as adverse comments. There will be an opportunity for Objections to be submitted at a later stage in the process called the objection period, should proposals proceed to that stage. If you wish to object, you will need to do so in writing during the statutory objection period. However, if consultees submit a request during the objection period, asking for a response submitted at the consultation stage to be treated as an objection this will be accepted.

6.3 Consultation with Children and Young People

The views of children and young people are extremely important to the Council and therefore children and young people will be provided with opportunities to contribute to this consultation process. The Council has produced a summary version of this consultation document which will be made accessible for all children and young people affected by this proposal.

The Council also intends to hold sessions with the relevant School Councils and individual learners where this is felt to be appropriate and practicable. Our consultation with children and young people will be delivered through the support of our schools and key partners and their views captured and considered in any reports that determine our way forward.

6.4 Conclusion of the Formal Consultation process

The opportunity to respond to the proposals outlined within this consultation document will conclude **midnight on 22nd February 2021**. The Council's Cabinet will then be provided with a consultation report analysing the views shared by consultees during the formal consultation process and determine whether or not they wish to proceed with the proposal. A copy of the consultation report will also be made available to consultees prior to the Cabinet taking their decision on next steps.

If the decision is taken by the Council's Cabinet to proceed with the proposals, a statutory notice will be published. The Council will allow for a statutory notice period lasting 28 days from the date of publication to enable consultees to express their views in the form of supporting or objecting to the proposals.

The Council's Cabinet will then consider the responses received during the statutory notice period in the form of an objection report, and make the final decision as to whether to proceed with the proposal.

The proposed timetable for decision making following the formal consultation process is:

Stage of process	Key date
Cabinet consider the results of the consultation and determines whether to proceed with proposals	7 th April 2021
Council publish statutory notice and enter into objection period (if applicable)	19 th April 2021
Cabinet consider the objection report and determine whether or not to implement the proposals	7 th July 2021

6.5 Implementation of the Proposals

Should the outcome of the statutory consultation process determine that the Council are to proceed with the proposals outlined in this consultation document, the Council will take a phased approach to implementing proposals, with the final implementation date being **September 2022**.

6.6 Consultation process timeline

Process	Key dates
Publication of formal consultation document	11 th January 2021
Deadline for responses to consultation proposals	22 nd February 2021
Consultation report to be presented to Cabinet Publication of consultation report <i>Cabinet consider consultation report and determine whether to proceed with proposals</i> If agreed - Proceed to next stage If not agreed - Proposals will end	7 th April 2021
Publication of Statutory Notices and enter into objection period <i>If approved, the Statutory Notice will be published on the County Council's and any other proposer's websites and posted in the named schools and other conspicuous places within the community. Copies of the notice will be made available to the relevant schools to distribute to pupils, parents/carers and members of staff.</i> <i>Opportunity to formally object to the proposals.</i>	19 th April 2021
Deadline for submitting objections to proposals <i>28 days from date of publishing statutory notices</i>	18 th May 2021
Objection report presented to Cabinet <i>Cabinet Consider objection report and determine whether to implement proposals in light of any objections received</i>	7 th July 2021
Council publish Cabinet decision	July 2021
Implementation of proposals <i>Staggered implementation – please see appendix 4</i>	September 2021 – September 2022

7. Reasons for the Proposal

The Council in partnership with the Diocese is considering an increase to the capacity of Dewstow Primary and Archbishop Rowan Williams CIW Primary Schools, as there is a need to ensure that the provision of school places in the town area of the cluster is sufficient to accommodate the forecasted demand.

Welsh Government recommend that the planning of school places and associated management of surplus places are measured against the following model, and appropriate actions undertaken through means of school organisation proposals in circumstances where concerns are identified

We will therefore commitment to ensuring that our individual schools and clusters have an appropriate number of surplus places in line with the below model:

Level of surplus	Colour code	Action
0 – 10 %	Green	An appropriate number of surplus places with close monitoring to ensure surplus places are no lower than 10%
10 – 15 %	Yellow	A reasonable number of surplus places with close monitoring to ensure they remain within this category
15 – 24%	Orange	High levels of surplus places where close monitoring and opportunities for review should be considered
25% and over	Red	Significant level of surplus places with appropriate action to be taken through reorganisation proposals

7.1 The Status Quo

The provision for Primary education in Caldicot is currently supported through 8 Primary Schools across the cluster. Details of these schools and their current numbers on roll (September 2020) are detailed overleaf:

Current numbers on roll across Caldicot Cluster:

School	Year Group							Total
	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Archbishop Rowan Williams	36	44	29	30	29	28	29	225
Castle Park Primary School	23	23	29	30	27	30	27	189
Durand Primary School	31	30	30	30	29	30	29	209
Dewstow Primary School	30	32	31	30	32	29	29	213
Magor CIW Primary School	32	26	43	39	30	47	42	259
Rogiet Primary School	23	28	29	29	29	24	29	191
Undy Primary School	46	59	47	39	45	36	39	311
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin	18	13	8	12	7	12	14	84
Total	239	255	246	239	228	236	238	1681

The below table confirms the current position (September 2020) with regards to the availability of school places / surplus places across the cluster as a whole:

School	Number on roll	School Capacity	Available Capacity	% surplus places
Archbishop Rowan Williams	225	210	-15	0
Castle Park Primary	189	210	21	10
Durand Primary	209	210	1	0.47
Dewstow Primary	213	210	-3	0
Magor CIW Primary	259	388	129	33.2
Rogiet Primary	191	210	19	9
Undy Primary	311	359	48	13.3
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin	84	180	96	53.3
Total	1681	1977	314	15.8
Total English Medium	1597	1797	218	12.1

The status quo would suggest that the provision of school places in the Caldicot cluster is sufficient, given that 10% is considered to be an ideal position of surplus places to hold with a specified area.

However, the concerns rest within the availability of school places for young people residing within the Caldicot Town area. Whilst Parents / Guardians have an opportunity to express a preference for their child's school, each of our schools have designated catchment areas. The table overleaf shows the schools that are largely considered to serve those residing within the town area of Caldicot, together with their current (September 2020) numbers on roll:

Current numbers on roll across Caldicot Town Schools:

SCHOOL	YEAR GROUP							
	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
Archbishop Rowan Williams CIW Primary School	36	44	29	30	29	28	29	225
Castle Park Primary School	23	23	29	30	27	30	27	189
Durand Primary School	31	30	30	30	29	30	29	209
Dewstow Primary School	30	32	31	30	32	29	29	213
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin	18	13	8	12	7	12	14	84
Total	138	142	127	132	124	129	128	920

The below table confirms the current position (September 2020) with regards to the availability of school places / surplus places across the Caldicot town schools:

School	Number on roll	School capacity	Surplus Capacity	% surplus places
Archbishop Rowan Williams	225	210	-15	0
Durand Primary School	209	210	1	0.47
Dewstow Primary School	213	210	-3	0
Castle Park Primary	189	210	21	10
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin	84	180	96	53.3
Total	920	1020	118	11.5
Total English Medium	836	840	22	2.6

Whilst the overall town assessment would show that there are currently 11.5% surplus places, the status quo highlights the shortfall in English Medium school places (2.6%) for those residing within the town.

As a result of the above, and for those children and young people whose preference is not to be educated through the medium of Welsh, it is often the case that children and young people are travelling to alternative schools within the cluster, but outside of the town community. The travelling distance to these alternative schools exceeds the reasonable walking distance guideline as they are often in excess of 4 miles from the family homes. The Council is currently supporting such families through means of free home to school transport assistance for their children in cases where we are unable to accommodate admission into a more local school.

7.2 The Forecasted Demand

In addition to the current pressures that are on the school places within Caldicot town, the Council is anticipating further pressures over forthcoming years through anticipation of a large number of new housing developments within the vicinity of Caldicot town. Planning permission has been granted for the building of a number of housing developments totalling 673 dwellings.

Due to the forecasted shortfall of school places within the town, the Council has been successful in securing Section 106 Education contributions from the developers to the value of £1,595,504. The purpose of this funding is to ensure that the provision of school places within the area is sufficient to accommodate the number of additional children and young people that will arise through the completion of the housing developments. Details of the planned housing developments can be found overleaf:

known housing developments between now and 2024/25 (based on predicted build rate):

Development	Catchment School	No of Dwellings
Sudbrook Shipyard	Archbishop Rowan Williams CIW Primary	46
Sudbrook Papermill	Archbishop Rowan Williams CIW Primary	212
Crick Road	Archbishop Rowan Williams CIW Primary	285
Church Road	Castle Park Primary	130
Total Town		673

It is anticipated that 134 primary aged pupils will be generated from the developments and will therefore require education between the academic years 2020/21 and 2024/25. The Council's proposals to increase the capacity of Dewstow Primary and Archbishop Rowan Williams CIW Primary will ensure that there is sufficient local primary provision for these families.

8. What options have been considered?

The Council has undertaken a full options appraisal prior to forming these proposals for consultation. Details of this options appraisal can be found under appendix 3.

The preferred option is option 5b – to increase the capacity of Dewstow Primary School and Archbishop Rowan Williams CIW Primary schools from 210 school places to 280 school places.

The reasons for the preferred option are:

1. Increasing the capacity of two schools to 280 places (an overall increase of 140 school places) is sufficient to meet demand without increasing the number of surplus places to an unacceptable level
2. Increasing the capacity of two schools increases parental choice and places additional provision in the centre of the town as well the area subject to significant housing developments
3. A desire to invest in two schools means that the proposal is the only one that is financially viable

9. Schools affected by the Proposals

The Schools directly affected by these proposals are **Dewstow Primary School** and **Archbishop Rowan Williams CIW Primary School** as these are the schools that are subject to the proposals.

However, we have included details of all of the schools within the Caldicot cluster in the below table as schools that could potentially be affected by these proposals:

School Name	Language Category	School Type	Capacity & Admission Number	Age Range	Pupil Numbers PLASC 2020
Archbishop Rowan Williams	EM	Voluntary Aided CIW	210 / 30	4-11	218
Castle Park	EM	Community	210 / 30	4-11	196
Dewstow	EM	Community	210 / 30	3-11	209
Durand	EM	Community	210 / 30	3-11	209
Rogiet	EM	Community	210 / 30	4-11	200
Magor CIW	EM	Voluntary Aided CIW	388 / 55	3-11	270
Undy Primary	EM	Community	359 / 51	3-11	308
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin	WM	Community	180 / 25	3-11	101

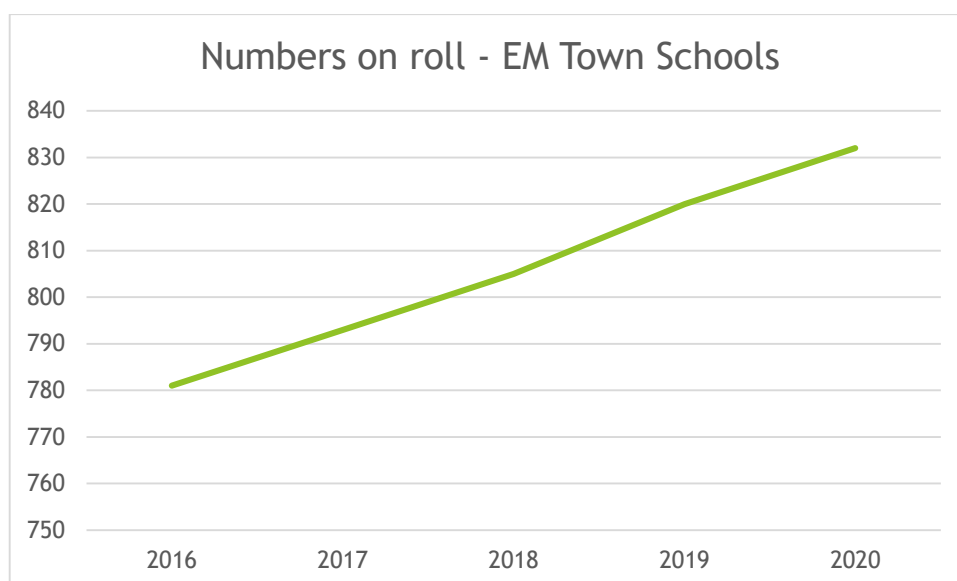
The Council is confident that the forecasted numbers within the town are sufficient to ensure these proposals do not bring a negative impact on neighbouring schools.

9.1 Analysis of NOR at schools affected by the proposals

The following table shows the number of reception to year 6 pupils that have been attending schools within the cluster since January 2016, based on the Council's annual census (PLASC) returns.

School Name	January 2020	January 2019	January 2018	January 2017	January 2016
Archbishop Rowan Williams	218	202	202	199	187
Castle Park	196	198	189	192	194
Dewstow	209	211	206	194	194
Durand	209	209	208	208	206
Rogiet	200	200	210	210	206
Magor CIW	270	292	292	297	324
Undy Primary	308	298	284	278	267
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin	101	108	127	136	137
TOTAL	1711	1718	1718	1714	1715

As you can see from the above, the numbers on roll across the cluster has been relatively consistent over the last 5 academic years. However, the demand for English Medium provision at schools within the town is increasing:



9.2 Projected Need

The Council utilises a range of data to analyse the forecasted demand on school places across the County. Information supplied by Aneurin Bevan Health Board (ABHB) relating to newborn children within the County enables us to review the demand levels and ensure appropriate provision is in place for those children entering into the Primary School system.

The latest information supplied by ABHB is supplied in the table below for those children that will be entering into the Reception cohort in Caldicot Town over the next 4 years:

School	Academic Year			
	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Archbishop Rowan Williams	17	24	15	21
Durand Primary School	15	15	16	17
Dewstow Primary School	52	49	46	47
Castle Park Primary School	28	27	29	27
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total cohort	112	115	106	112

In addition to the above, the Council anticipates that 134 pupils will enter into the Primary school sector within Caldicot town over the next 5 years due to expected housing developments. The table overleaf shows the anticipated additional number of pupils expected per academic year, based on predicted build rates which could be subject to change.

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Expected housing developments and number of pupils (**across all year groups**) anticipated per academic year:

Development Name	Expected Pupils per academic year					Total
	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	
Crick Road	6	13	13	12	19	63
Sudbrook Shipyard	2	6	0	0	0	8
Sudbrook papermill	8	8	8	8	0	32
Church Road	6	9	9	4	0	28
Former White Hart Inn	1	0	0	0	0	1
Green Farm	1	1	0	0	0	2
Total	24	37	30	24	19	134
Total over 5 year period	134 pupils					

Caldicot town 5-year projection factoring in current numbers, information from ABHB and the potential number of children that could arise from new housing developments:

Academic Year	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total	Potential Housing impact	Grand Total
2020/21	138	142	127	132	124	129	128	920	24	944
2021/22	112	138	142	127	132	124	129	904	37	965
2022/23	115	112	138	142	127	132	124	890	30	981
2023/24	106	115	112	138	142	127	132	872	24	987
2024/25	112	106	115	112	138	142	127	852	19	986

The above projection makes assumptions on the number of children arising from the development based on predicted build rates, which, as a result of the current pandemic, could alter. As we are unable to predict age groups of the children generated from housing and the year groups that they will enter, the projection works off a “worst case” scenario assuming that all children will remain of primary age during the 5-year period. This ensures that we would not have a shortfall in provision.

9.3 Impact of proposals

The most significant impact of these proposals is that the Council would be providing a suitable number of school places within the Caldicot Town area of the cluster to meet future demand.

Surplus places

The below table provides information on the projected surplus places position across the town schools, making comparisons against the current capacity of schools verses the capacity increase outlined in these proposals:

Academic Year	Total expected NOR	STATUS QUO			NEW PROPOSAL		
		N0 of primary school places	Total surplus places	%	N0 of primary school places	Total surplus places	%
2020/21	944	1020	76	7.5	1160	216	18.6
2021/22	965	1020	55	5.4	1160	195	16.8
2022/23	981	1020	39	3.8	1160	179	15.4
2023/24	987	1020	33	3.2	1160	173	14.9
2024/25	986	1020	34	3.3	1160	174	15.0

As shown above, the current provision would not be suitable to accommodate future demand in the town, with surplus places reducing down to 3.2% including the capacity available at our Welsh Medium provision, Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin.

The proposed increase in school capacity shows that surplus places within the town exceed our preferred target of 10% surplus places, however, the capacity provision at our Welsh Medium School, Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin has been included in this assessment. This enables us to meet our aspirations to increase the number of children and young people being educated through the medium of Welsh.

The current numbers on roll at Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin currently represents in the region of 9% of the total numbers on roll within the town schools, however, in line with the Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan, we would expect this to increase as we deliver on our commitment to increasing the number of young people being educated through the medium of Welsh.

On the basis of the status quo, we would estimate that the surplus places position to be in the region of 10% across the English Medium schools in the town as a result of these proposals.

Home to School Transport

The Council's current home to school transport policy confirms that free home to school transport will be provided to the nearest or catchment school if it is more than 1.5 miles (primary) or 2 miles (secondary) from the home address.

Through increasing the capacity of school provision within the town area of Caldicot, it is anticipated that the Council would not inherit home to school transport costs associated with not having sufficient capacity at the nearest / catchment school for the children and young people arising from the new housing developments.

10. Quality and Standards in Education

Estyn and the Local Authority (LA) monitor the quality and standards in schools in Monmouthshire regularly. Estyn is the office of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education and Training in Wales. Estyn inspects quality and standards in education and training providers in Wales. The most recent inspection results of each school directly affected by this proposal are in the table below. However, it should be noted; inspections for both schools took place three or more years ago and in both cases, the judgements reflect the previous inspection framework. This means that the outcomes below are not necessarily an accurate reflection of the quality of standards, teaching, or leadership at this time.

Table Estyn Inspections

School	Inspection Date	Inspection Area				
		How good are outcomes?	How good is provision?	How good is leadership and management?	Current Performance	Prospects for improvement
Dewstow Primary School	October 2013	Adequate	Adequate	Adequate	Adequate	Adequate
Archbishop Rowan Williams Church in Wales Primary School	March 2017	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good

The proposal is not expected to have a negative impact on the quality and standards in teaching in any of the wider cluster primary schools or in the

cluster secondary school. Consideration is given below, to the potential impact of the proposal on quality and standards at each school at the time of the report.

Dewstow Primary School

Standards –

During their time in the school, pupils make good progress from their initial starting points and as a result, standards overall are good. The school environment is modern, spacious and supports learning well. The proposal will enable the school to extend its Early Years provision to deliver a wider range of early interventions through high quality learning experiences.

Wellbeing and attitudes to learning –

Wellbeing and attitudes to learning in Dewstow are good. The school makes effective use of resources to support children and their families to engage positively in learning. Staff and learner wellbeing is good and a high priority for the school. The expansion and reorganisation of space in the school is expected to have a positive impact on pupil independence and resilience and in doing so, support the school's vision for the delivery of the new curriculum. Wellbeing and attitudes to learning at the six cluster primary schools of the secondary school is not expected to be adversely affected by this proposal.

Teaching and learning experiences –

Teaching and Learning experiences in Dewstow are good. Under this proposal, the enhanced facilities in Early Years will have a significant impact on the delivery across all areas of learning experience. As such, it is expected that the proposal will have a positive impact on teaching and learning experiences.

Care support and guidance –

Dewstow Primary School is a very inclusive school, with the child being at the centre of the schools' vision, aims, and values. Care, support, and guidance at the school is very good and this proposal will continue to support this important area of work. Care support and guidance at the six cluster primary schools and secondary school will not be affected by this proposal.

Leadership and management –

The school has a well-established and effective leadership team in place. There are no changes to leadership and management at the school expected at this time. The proposed works to facilitate the increase in overall capacity will enable the leadership team to continue to enhance teaching and learning provision to support the delivery of the curriculum and support learners to achieve their full potential.

Archbishop Rowan Williams Church in Wales Primary School

Standards –

Pupils make good progress from their initial starting points during their time at the school and as a result, standards overall are good. The school environment is relatively compact for the number of pupils and as such, supports learning appropriately. The proposal will increase teaching and learning facilities in the school, which will support teachers in the delivery of the new curriculum. As such, the proposal is expected to have a positive effect on standards at the school.

Wellbeing and attitudes to learning –

Wellbeing and attitudes to learning are good at Archbishop Rowan Williams Church in Wales Primary School. The school has a strong focus on wellbeing and 'values for life'. The development of new teaching facilities, with input from the school, will ensure they have a positive impact on pupil wellbeing and attitudes to learning, in line with the school's vision for the delivery of the new curriculum and with the ethos of the school.

Wellbeing and attitudes to learning at the six cluster primary schools and the secondary school will not be adversely affected by this proposal.

Teaching and learning experiences –

Teaching and learning experiences are developing appropriately at Archbishop Rowan Williams Church in Wales Primary School, despite the challenges currently presented by the limited accommodation. Under this proposal, new and improved teaching facilities will support the delivery of the new curriculum. As such, the proposal is expected to have a positive impact on teaching and learning experiences.

Care support and guidance –

Archbishop Rowan Williams Church in Wales Primary School is an inclusive school. It places children at the centre of its work and as a result, care, support, and guidance is good and will be further enhanced through this proposal. This proposal is not expected to affect care support and guidance at the six cluster primary schools and the secondary school by this proposal.

Leadership and management –

The school welcomed a new Headteacher to the school in January 2020 to join a team of established staff. The proposed works to facilitate the increase in overall capacity will enable the leadership team to enhance teaching and learning provision to support the delivery of the curriculum and support learners to achieve their full potential.

School Categorisation

Until recently, the National School Categorisation system has provided a clear and fair picture of how well a school is performing compared with other schools across Wales. However, recent changes to reporting and accountability measures have changed to enable schools to develop innovative approaches to the delivery of the new curriculum. This means that there is no published categorisation category for schools in Wales at this time.

However, both Dewstow Primary School and Archbishop Rowan Williams Church in Wales Primary School are improving schools requiring limited support from external agencies.

11. Building Conditions

The conditions of school buildings affected by these proposals are assessed on a scale of A-D as follows:

School Name	Condition Rating
Primary Provision	
Archbishop Rowan Williams Primary	A
Durand Primary School	B
Dewstow Primary School	A
Castle Park Primary School	C
Magor CIW Primary School	B
Rogiet Primary School	A
Undy Primary School	B
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin	C

12. Cost of the Proposal

The proposals are largely formed through concerns that the provision of school places in Caldicot Town are not sufficient to support the increase in school places expected as a result of approved housing developments.

As such, the Council has been successful in securing section 106 education contributions to invest in the supply of school places within the town, ensuring our future provision is sufficient to meet demand.

The table below details the funding that has been secured by the Council to support these proposals:

Development name	No of Dwellings	Secured S106 Claim
Sudbrook Shipyard	46	0
Sudbrook Papermill	212	439,286
Crick Road	285	811,078
Church Road	130	345,140
Total	673	1,595,504

The costs associated with the extension of Archbishop Rowan Williams CIW Primary and Dewstow Primary Schools is estimated to be in the region of £1,150,500 (build costs), allowing a contingency of approximately £445,004 to invest in the external areas of the school sites, which will be required to support an increase in School capacity.

13. School Organisation Arrangements

13.1 School catchment areas

There are no changes proposed to the Primary or Secondary School catchment areas as a result of this proposal.

13.2 School Admissions

The Council is the admission authority for the community schools within the County, including Dewstow Primary School. Application requests for admission into this school will continue to be assessed in line with the Council's agreed School Admissions Policy, which is not expected to change as a result of this proposal.

Further information on the Council's agreed school admissions policy can be found by visiting <https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/applying-for-a-school-place>

The Governing Body of Archbishop Rowan Williams Church In Wales Primary School is the admission authority for admission requests into the school. Again, all

requests will be considered and assessed in line with the School's published School Admissions Policy.

Further information on the School's agreed school admissions policy can be found by visiting <https://www.arwprimaryschool.co.uk/>

13.3 Home to School Transport

Under the Council's agreed policy, free home to school transport is provided to all primary aged children whose nearest / catchment school is in excess of 1.5 miles. The proposal will not impact on this policy position.

13.4 Governance

There will be no changes to the school governance arrangements under this proposal.

13.5 Staffing

The proposed capacity increase at Archbishop Rowan Williams and Dewstow Primary Schools may provide job opportunities as it is possible that more teaching staff will be required. The necessary staff will be recruited by the Headteacher and governing body of the schools, with support from the local authority and the Diocese.

14. Impact on Welsh Medium Education

The proposal has no bearing on the Council's plans to develop and promote Welsh language provision. It is therefore acknowledged that this proposal will make no contribution to the Council's targets in relation to Cymraeg 2050.

The Council remains committed through its Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP), to increasing its provision of Welsh Medium education across the county which will be brought forward through separate proposals.

Appendix 1 - List of Primary Schools

CLUSTER	SCHOOL
Caldicot	Archbishop Rowan Williams CIW Primary
Caldicot	Castle Park Primary
Abergavenny	Cantref Primary
Monmouth	Cross Ash Primary
Abergavenny	Deri View Primary
Caldicot	Dewstow Primary
Caldicot	Durand Primary
Abergavenny	Gilwern Primary
Abergavenny	Goytre Fawr Primary
Monmouth	Kymin View Primary
Monmouth	Llandogo Primary
Abergavenny	Llanfoist Fawr Primary
Abergavenny	Llantilio Pertholey CIW Primary
Abergavenny	Llanvihangel Crucorney Primary
Caldicot	Magor CIW Primary
Monmouth	Osbaston CIW School
Abergavenny	Our Lady & St Michaels RC Primary
Monmouth	Overmonnow Primary
Chepstow	Pembroke Primary
Monmouth	Raglan CIW VC Primary
Caldicot	Rogiet Primary
Chepstow	Shirenewton Primary
Chepstow	St Mary's RC Primary
Chepstow	The Dell Primary
Chepstow	Thornwell Primary
Monmouth	Trellech Primary
Caldicot	Undy Primary
Monmouth	Usk CIW Primary
Abergavenny	Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni
Caldicot	Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin

Appendix 2 - List of Consultees

- Parents, Guardians and carers of all pupils of schools directly affected by the proposal
- Headteacher, staff and governors of schools directly affected by the proposal.
- Out of county Schools affected by the proposal.
- Pupils/Pupil Councils of schools directly affected by the proposal
- Monmouthshire Headteachers
- All MCC Members
- Welsh Ministers
- Town and Community Councils within the affected area
- All MCC Assembly Members representing the area served by the school
- All Members of Parliament representing MCC area
- All MCC Libraries
- Directors of Education of all bordering LAs
- Principals of Coleg Gwent
- MCC Youth Service
- GAVO
- Monmouthshire Governors Association
- Teaching Associations
- Support Staff Associations
- Policy Officer (Equalities & Welsh Language)
- Welsh Government
- ESTYN
- Church in Wales Diocesan Trust, Director of Education
- Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust, Director of Education
- South East Wales Education Achievement Service
- Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner
- SNAP Cymru Parent Partnership Service
- Local Health Board

Appendix 3 - Options appraisal

Option 1 – Do nothing			
Strengths	Weaknesses	Impact on surplus places	Financial impact
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is expected that there will be an insufficient number of English Medium school places, however, this may increase the numbers of children and young people entering into Welsh Medium Education. - No disruption caused by extending schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Insufficient number of English medium primary places within the cluster - We would like to see an increase in those attending Welsh Medium Education through preference rather than a lack of options. - Children would need to travel to schools outside of the town if they wanted English Medium provision - Increase in appeals against admissions decisions - Reduction in ability to comply with parental preference 	<p>Insufficient number of school places across the town.</p> <p>Forecasted numbers on roll could result in only 3.2% surplus places (combined English and Welsh Medium provision) across the town</p>	<p>Increase in transport costs</p> <p>Return of capital S106 monies received</p>

Option 2 – Increase capacity of 1 School within the town to 315 (105 places across the town). Either Archbishop Rowan Williams, Castle Park, Dewstow or Durand Primary Schools

	Strengths	Weaknesses	Impact on surplus places	Financial impact
Applicable to all 4 Schools:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increases English Medium provision across the town to accommodate existing and forecasted demands - Helps to address shortfall in surplus places - Reduction in transport to schools outside of the town - Increase in compliance with parental preference 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Risk as to whether 105 places is sufficient (142 additional children expected over 6 year period) - Increase in English medium provision so may not impact positively on those choosing WM education 	Forecasted 12.3% surplus (combined EM and WM provision)	<p>Not all of the S106 funding would be spent if investing in one school.</p> <p>Home to school transport costs could reduce</p>
2A) Archbishop Rowan Williams CIW Primary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Site is suitable for extension - Increase in capacity would be in the area where majority of developments are - Financially viable to extend 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Limits options for the community as investment would be made solely at one school, which is also a Church in Wales School - Children may need to travel outside of the town for English Medium non-denominational provision - May receive resistance from village community re increasing size of school 	As above	Investment of £523,000 to be funded from capital S106 contributions (build costs only)

2B) Durand Primary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Site is suitable for extension - Would address current building condition survey of C rating - Location of the new capacity would be at a school more central in the town 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More expensive than other schools, although still within budget - Increase in capacity would not be in the area of increased housing, meaning families from Portskewett may need to travel 	As above	Investment of £1,142,000 to be funded from capital S106 contributions (build costs only)
2C) Dewstow Primary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Site is suitable for extension - Location of the increased capacity more central in the town - Financially viable to extend 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase in capacity would not be in the area of increased housing, meaning families from Portskewett may need to travel 	As above	Investment of £627,500 to be funded from capital S106 contributions (build costs only)
2D) Castle Park Primary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Location of the increased capacity more central in the town 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Site would require significant investment to address access issues which would leave little funds available to increase capacity at the school 	As above	<u>N/A</u>

Option 3 – Increase the capacity of two schools in the town to 315 (210 places across the town)

Strengths		Weaknesses	Impact on surplus places	Financial impact
3A) ARW and Durand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase in capacity to our EM provision will meet current and projected demand - Increasing capacity at two schools widens parental choice as to whether they would like community or denominational education - Capacity would be increased in areas of demand - Increasing the capacity at two schools widens parental choice - Both sites suitable for extension - An increase of 210 places across the town would be more than suitable for expected demand - Increase in compliance with parental preference 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase of 210 places across the town could be too many and increase surplus places to an unacceptable level - Scheme is not financially viable to do both schools - Increase in EM provision to this extent may impact negatively on welsh medium education 	<p>Surplus places would be too high</p> <p>Forecasted 19.8% surplus places across the town including WM provision.</p>	<p>Cost for scheme of both schools is £1,665,000 (build cost) with £1,595,104 capital s106 monies available. Shortfall of £69,000 excluding investment in external areas of the sites</p>

<p>3B) ARW and Dewstow</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase in capacity to our EM provision will meet current and projected demand - Increasing capacity at two schools widens parental choice as to whether they would like community or denominational education - Capacity would be increased in areas of demand - Both sites suitable for extension - An increase of 210 places across the town would be more than suitable for expected demand - Scheme for these two schools is financially viable - Increase in compliance with parental preference 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase of 210 places across the town could be too many and increase surplus places to an unacceptable level - Increase in EM provision may impact negatively on welsh medium education 	<p>Surplus places would be too high</p> <p>Forecasted 19.8% surplus places across the town including WM provision.</p>	<p>Cost for scheme of both schools is £1,150,500 (build costs) with capital s106 monies available of £1,595,504 leaving £445,004 available for furniture and outdoor area investment</p>
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Option 4 – Increase the capacity of 1 school to 420 places

Strengths		Weaknesses	Impact on surplus places	Financial impact
4A) ARW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - N/A not appropriate (see weaknesses) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Site not big enough - Level of available funds insufficient 		<u>n/a</u>
4B) Durand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Site suitable for 420 places - Provision would be available at 1 school in a more central location - Would offer two forms of entry rather than mixed aged classes - More financially viable operating structures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Level of available funds is insufficient - Increase in capacity would not be in the area where majority of developments are - Increase of 210 places across the town could be too many and increase surplus places to an unacceptable level - Scheme is not financially viable to do both schools - Increase in EM provision to this extent may impact negatively on welsh medium education 	Forecasted 19.8% surplus places across the town including WM provision.	Cost of scheme would be £4,600,000 against £1,595,104 budget leaving shortfall of £3,004,896
4C) Dewstow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - N/A not appropriate (see weaknesses) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Site not big enough - Level of available funds insufficient - Increase in capacity would not be in the area where majority of developments are 		<u>n/a</u>
4D) Castle Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - N/A not appropriate (see weaknesses) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Site not big enough - Level of available funds insufficient 		<u>n/a</u>

		- Increase in capacity would not be in the area where majority of developments are		
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Option 5 – Increase two Primary Schools to a capacity for 280 pupils (140 place increase across the town)

Strengths		Weaknesses		Impact on surplus places	Financial impact
5A) ARW and Durand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase in capacity to our EM provision will meet current and projected demand - Increasing capacity at two schools widens parental choice as to whether they would like community or denominational education - Both sites suitable for extension - Increase of 140 places is more attractive in terms of expected surplus places 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Level of available funds is insufficient - Increasing EM education may impact on WM education 	Forecasted 15% surplus across town schools	Cost for scheme of both schools is £1,665,000 (build cost) with £1,595,104 capital s106 monies available. Shortfall of £69,000 excluding investment in external areas i.e. car parks	
5B) ARW and Dewstow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase in capacity to our EM provision will meet current and projected demand 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increasing EM education may impact on WM education 	Forecasted 15% surplus across town schools	Cost for scheme of both schools is £1,150,500 (build costs) with capital	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increasing capacity at two schools widens parental choice as to whether they would like community or denominational education - Both sites suitable for extension - Increase of 140 places is more attractive in terms of expected surplus places 		(reliant upon live birth data trends falling)	s106 monies available of £1,595,504 leaving £445,004 available for furniture and outdoor area investment
5C) Durand and Dewstow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase in capacity to our EM provision will meet current and projected demand - Both sites suitable for extension - Increase of 140 places is more attractive in terms of expected surplus places 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Level of available funds is insufficient - Increase in capacity would not be in the area where majority of developments are - Increasing EM education may impact on WM education 	<p>Forecasted 15% surplus across EM town schools</p> <p>(reliant upon live birth data trends falling)</p>	<p>Cost for scheme for both schools is £1,769,500 against S106 available monies of £1,595,504 leaving £173,996 shortfall</p>