

SUBJECT:	Agree the name of the Welsh Medium Seedling Primary School in Monmouth
MEETING:	Council
DATE:	29th February 2024
DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED:	All

1. PURPOSE:

The purpose of the report is for Council to agree the name of the new Welsh Medium Seedling Primary School in Monmouth which is due to open in September 2024.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that Members:

- 2.1 Agree that the school should be named Ysgol Gymraeg Trefynwy, translated as Monmouth Welsh Primary School.

3. KEY ISSUES:

- 3.1 Cabinet agreed at their meeting held on the 6th September 2023 to formally approve the proposal to establish a new seedling Welsh Medium Primary School in Monmouth. This decision followed a robust statutory consultation process and the publication of statutory notices, all conducted in accordance with statutory guidance contained in the Welsh Government School Organisation Code.
- 3.2 The new Welsh Medium Primary School will provide education for children and young people from the ages of 3-11 via a seedling / growth model.
- 3.3 A seedling school is a growth model which enables the facilities and staff to be used efficiently while the school grows to its full potential. In its first year the school will have pupils in nursery, reception and potentially year 1, a year group will be added each academic year until the reception / year 1 cohort reaches year 6.
- 3.4 A new catchment area for the school has been agreed as part of the statutory consultation process and will be implemented with effect from 1st September 2024.
- 3.5 There are currently two Welsh Medium primary schools in Monmouthshire, Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni (translated as Abergavenny Welsh Primary School) located in the north of the county in Abergavenny and Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin (translated as The Border Welsh Primary School) located in the south of the county in Caldicot.

- 3.6** Whilst the name of a new school is a decision for the County Council, the Temporary Governing Body would always be consulted.
- 3.7** As part of the formal process to create the new school, the temporary governing body has been established, they have been consulted, and agree with the proposal to name the school Ysgol Gymraeg Trefynwy.
- 3.8** It is the role of the temporary governing body to appoint a headteacher and all other staff. Once a headteacher has been appointed part of their role in establishing a new school is to prepare the documentation and policies for the school. As part of this remit, work to develop the “branding” of the new school is vitally important, including the designing of school signage and logos, school uniforms etc. Evidently this work is dependent on the determination of the new school’s name.

4. OPTIONS APPRAISAL:

- 4.1** In determining the name of the new school, the following options were proposed for consideration.

Option 1: Ysgol Gymraeg Trefynwy (translated as Monmouth Welsh Primary School)

Option 2: Ysgol Bro Mynwy (translated as Monnow Vale Welsh Primary School)

Option 3: Ysgol Glannau'r Gwy (translated as Banks of the River Wye Welsh Primary School)

- 4.2** The preferred option is Ysgol Gymraeg Trefynwy, the main reason for this is because the school is to serve Monmouth town and the wider community which includes Usk and Raglan. Consideration was given to the fact that the school is already known unofficially as Ysgol Gymraeg Trefynwy and this name was used for the purposes of the school admission round.

5. REASONS:

It is the responsibility of County Council to agree the name of the new school. The agreement of the new name is an important part in establishing the culture of the new school. When Council makes its decision, this will allow the next stage of planning for the new school to begin in earnest.

6. RESOURCE IMPLCATIONS:

There are no resource implications in relation to this decision.

7. EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING):

As the report deals solely with agreeing a school name, a Future Generations and Equality Impact Assessment is not considered appropriate in this instance.

8. CONSULTEES:

SLT
Cabinet

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Cabinet Report 6th September 2023

10. AUTHOR:

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