

Wrexham County Borough Council

Post Consultation Document

**Proposal to reduce the Published Admission  
Number (PAN) at Penygelli School with effect from  
September 2027**

Penygelli School

Heol Glyndwr

Coedpoeth

Wrexham

LL11 3HA

This document is available in Welsh.



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## **Introduction**

Wrexham County Borough Council has recently completed a period of public consultation in relation to the proposal to reduce the Published Admission Number (PAN) at Penygelli School from 45 to 30 with effect from September 2027.

The public consultation period began on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2025 and ended on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2026.

The consultation has been carried out in accordance with the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 which requires the School Organisation Code 2018 to be adhered to and gives guidance to relevant bodies (Local Authorities, Governing Bodies).

This document will set out the steps taken during the formal consultation period; refer to findings obtained during the consultation and aim to answer queries that have been put to the Local Authority.

## **Publication of Consultation**

The consultation began with the bilingual publication of the Consultation Document on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2025 on the Council's website. Links to the documents were emailed to the full list of consultees. The detail below sets out the list of recipients, as guided by the School Organisation Code (2018), who received a copy of, or were directed to the Consultation Document during the consultation period. The consultation period finished on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2026.

## **List of Consultees**

A range of individuals were asked for their views about the proposal including:

- Elected Members of Wrexham County Borough Council
- The Church in Wales and Catholic Dioceses
- Other Local Authorities: Flintshire County Council, Shropshire County Council, Denbighshire County Council, Powys County Council, Cheshire West and Chester Council
- The Governing Body at Penygelli School
- All Wrexham School Governing Bodies, including Welsh medium schools, English medium schools, Faith schools and Special schools.
- All Wrexham Primary and Secondary Schools, including Welsh medium schools, English medium schools, Faith schools and Special schools.
- Parents/Carers/Guardians (and prospective parents/carers/guardians) of Penygelli School.
- Staff members at Penygelli School
- Coedpoeth Community Council
- The Welsh in Education Forum, including Menter Iaith Fflint a Wrecsam, RhAG and Mudiad Meithrin
- Welsh Ministers and Senedd Members: Lesley Griffiths MS, Ken Skates MS, Llyr Gruffydd MS, Mark Isherwood MS, Carolyn Thomas MS, Sam Rowlands MS
- Local Members of Parliament: Andrew Ranger MP, Gill German MP, Becky Gittins MP, Steve Witherden MP

- Estyn
- Trade Unions representing teachers and staff at Penygelli School
- Wrexham Council's School Transport Department
- The Police and Crime Commissioner
- Local Communities First Partnerships
- Local Independent Nursery Providers, Playgroups, Childminders and Flying Start Providers
- The Children and Young People's Partnership
- The Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership

The above list is not exhaustive, and the consultation was open to all who wished to take part.

In undertaking the consultation, we used a range of methods to engage with people. We collected both quantitative and qualitative data. Consultees were invited to respond to the consultation by completing an online survey, by completing a hard copy consultation form or by emailing or writing to the Education and Early Intervention Department. Responses could be submitted electronically or in hard copy paper format.

The consultation document was available in languages other than Welsh or English upon request. It was also available in accessible formats such as large print, Braille, BSL DVD and audio-CD upon request.

### **Communications Campaign**

The consultation was widely promoted throughout the consultation period using a variety of methods which included:

- A 'Your Voice' banner on the WCBC website.
- QR codes provided to access the survey.
- Information circulated via WCBC's social media platforms.
- Information circulated via Wrexham Council News blog.
- Information circulated via WCBC's Involvement Bulletin.
- A local area poster campaign.
- Distribution of Consultation Booklets.

### **Consultation Sessions**

As part of the public consultation process, two face-to-face engagement sessions were held by Education Officers at Penygelli School and in the community. Stakeholders including parents were invited to attend the sessions. Any attendees would have received information and been asked to provide feedback to the consultation. There were several ways in which this communication could be made. Education Officers would provide QR codes and would explain that any handwritten feedback could be return to the address indicated. The consultation document included a hard copy proforma which could be completed and returned to the address indicated and links to the survey. Contact could also be made via email. There was no attendance at the drop-in sessions. During the consultation period 0 booklets were requested. A virtual drop-in session was also offered by officers, however the link to this session was not requested by any consultees.

## Timetable of Drop-In Sessions

Nature of Session	Date	Time	Venue
Drop-In Session	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	9.30am-12.30pm	Plas Pentwyn Community Resource Centre
Drop-In Session	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	2.45pm-3.45pm	Penygelli School
Virtual Session	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	By appointment	Online link

## Consultation Feedback

During the public consultation period Wrexham County Borough Council received the following responses:

Format of Response	Number of Responses Received
Online Responses (Adult Survey)	4
Online Responses (Children and Young People Survey)	0
Penygelli School Council	6
Emails from Groups	1 (Estyn)
Hard Copy Proforma	0
<b>Total Responses Received</b>	<b>11</b>

## Respondents

A breakdown of respondents to the adult online survey is set out below:

Who Responded	Number of Respondents
Member of Staff	0
Member of the Wider Community	0
Parent/Carer/Guardian	1
Relative of Pupil	2

Member of the Local Community	0
Prospective Parent/Carer/Guardian	0
Prospective Relative of Pupil	0
Governor	1
No Association	0
Other/Organisation	0
No Answer	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

### **Quantitative Analysis-Online Survey Responses from Adults**

In response to the question 'Do you support the proposal to change the published admission number at Penygelli with effect from September 2027' 2 out of 4 (50%) respondents to the adult survey supported the proposal and 2 out of 4 (50%) respondents to the adult survey did not support the proposal.

### **Qualitative Analysis-Online Survey Responses from Adults**

We also asked people to provide comments if they wished to do so. The following comments were made:

- "It will support the headteacher and governing body better manage the school's finances and other resources".
- "classes are too big at the moment, this might be the opportunity for the classes go back to pure classes instead of mixing the years. this would be better for the children and teaching staff".
- "With new housing estates being built in Wrexham, I think it is likely that in the future there will be the same number or more children attending the school. The school should remain as it is so that it can continue to provide enough places".
- "The school has the facilities to take more pupils. It would be an absolute waste for the school to have fewer pupils. The school needs support to have more of an intake in pupils, the staff and governing bodies work so hard to see their pupils thrive and the support they give their children go above most!"

### **School Council**

A bilingual children's version of the Consultation Document was published on Wrexham Council's website alongside the full Consultation Document. A bilingual children's online survey was also made available.

During the consultation Local Authority Officers met with the School Council to discuss the proposals.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Type of Session</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>No. of Consultees</b>
15 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	School Council	Penygelli School	6 children

During the School Council meeting, the children were handed hard copies of the children and young people's consultation document and officers explained what the consultation was about. The children were encouraged to ask any questions and share ideas that they may have.

### **Feedback from Penygelli School Council-15th January 2026**

In response to the question 'Do you understand our idea?' 4 out of 6 pupils (66%) on the School Council said they did understand, 1 out of 6 pupils (17%) on the School Council said they were not sure if they understand and 1 out of 6 pupils (17%) on the School Council said they did not understand.

In response to the question 'How do you feel about our idea?' 2 out of 6 pupils (33%) on the School Council said they liked the idea and 4 out of 6 pupils (67%) on the School Council said they were not sure if they liked the idea.

### **Comments from the School Council**

- "I like it".
- "I think I would like it".

### **Estyn Feedback**

#### **Proposal to reduce the Published Admission Number (PAN) at Penygelli School with effect from September 2027.**

This report has been prepared by His Majesty's Inspectors of Education and Training in Wales.

Under the terms of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and its associated Code, proposers are required to send consultation documents to Estyn. However, Estyn is not a body which is required to act in accordance with the Code and the Act places no statutory requirements on Estyn in respect of school organisation matters. Therefore, as a body being consulted, Estyn will provide their opinion only on the overall merits of school organisation proposals.

Estyn has considered the educational aspects of the proposal and has produced the following response to the information provided by the proposer.

### **Summary/Conclusion**

The proposals are likely to maintain the current standard of education provision.

### **Description and Benefits**

The local authority has given a clear rationale for the proposal to reduce the Published Admission Number (PAN) at Penygelli Primary School with effect from September 2027. They have provided a detailed description and project timetable and seem to have set out clearly and fairly the expected benefits and disadvantages compared with the status quo.

The local authority has identified the risks associated with these changes and seem to have mitigated against them appropriately. They have laid out alternative options and explained why these have been discounted.

The consultation considers accessibility of provision and travel arrangement for pupils suitably. The local authority has effectively shown how surplus places will be decreased at the school as a result of the proposed changes.

The local authority appears to have considered appropriately the impact of the proposed changes on Welsh medium provision within the local area and the extent to which the proposal would support the targets in the local authority's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP). The local authority has provided a Welsh Language Impact Assessment as part of this proposal.

The consultation outlines that potential savings can be made if the proposal goes ahead. However, it does not provide detail on how much will be saved.

The local authority has not provided a Community Impact Assessment as part of this proposal.

### **Educational Aspects of the Proposal**

The local authority has considered, in part, the impact the proposal will have on the quality and standards in education. They identify that this proposal will enable them to maintain current educational standards for pupils. However, they have not considered well the likely impact of the proposals to ensure delivery of the full curriculum at each stage.

The impact on vulnerable groups, including pupils with additional learning needs has not been considered as part of this proposal, other than the existing transport arrangements. It is unclear from the proposal what disruption there may be to these pupils and how the local authority will minimise this.

The proposal considers recent Estyn reports for the school, nearby schools, and the local authority appropriately.

### **Treating Everybody Fairly**

In addition to asking whether people supported or did not support the proposal, we asked questions about how fair people thought the proposal was. Not all respondents chose to answer the 'treating everybody fairly' section in the survey.

4 respondents chose to answer this question.

<b>Do you think this strategy or proposal could disadvantage or make things unfair for any groups of people or individuals?</b>	<b>Number of Respondents (who answered this question)</b>
Yes	1
No	2
Not sure/don't know	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

1 respondent chose to answer the free text question 'If you think this strategy or proposal could disadvantage or make things unfair for any groups of people or individuals, which groups or individuals do you think may be disadvantaged and why?'. The following comment was received:

- "It would be unfair on the staff at Ysgol Penygelli. They work so hard for the school to be the best it is. Their hard work would be wasted just because there is fewer birth rates".

2 respondents chose to answer the free text question 'Do you think there is any potential in the way we deliver the strategy or proposal under consideration to make things fairer for the groups or individuals you have identified?'. The following comments were received:

- "Given the ability to plan the use of finance and resource with greater certainty will make things fairer for all pupils, staff and stakeholders. Also, it will free up resources within the school to potentially provide Resource Provision to children from across the county".
- "Providing the school with support, more funding per child. The staff at schools will end up being minimum and overworked. They will end up ill and stressed and the children will suffer if the staff aren't there to support them".

## **Welsh Language**

We also asked people for their ideas to promote the use of the Welsh language and ensure it is treated no less favourably than the English language in the delivery of the proposal. Not all respondents chose to answer the Welsh Language section in the survey.

2 respondents chose to answer the free text question 'In your opinion, what positive effects would the policy decision under consideration have on opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language. The following comments were received:

- "Given the commitment of the school's management team to increase the use of Welsh within this school; I believe that a more efficient, balanced use of the school's resources will enhance the Welsh language".
- "None".

2 respondents chose to answer the free text question 'In your opinion, what negative effects would the policy decision under consideration have on opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language. The following comments were received:

- "N/A".
- "None".

1 respondent chose to answer the free text question 'How do you think the policy under consideration could be formulated or revised so that it would have positive effects, or more positive effects on opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language. The following comment was received:

- “N/A”

1 respondent chose to answer the free text question ‘How do you think the policy under consideration could be formulated or revised so that it would not have negative effects, or less negative effects on opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language’. The following comment was received:

- “N/A”

## Carbon

We asked people whether they thought the proposal would have any long lasting positive or negative impacts on reducing carbon in our environment. Not all respondents chose to answer the carbon section in the survey. 3 respondents chose to answer this question.

<b>Do you think the strategy or proposal under consideration will have any long lasting positive or negative impacts on reducing carbon in our environment?</b>	<b>Number of Respondents (who answered this question)</b>
Long lasting positive impact	0
Long lasting negative impact	0
Both long lasting positive and negative impacts	0
No impact	3
Don't know/not sure	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>

No respondents chose to answer the free text question ‘If you have identified any long-lasting negative impacts, please describe these below, along with any ideas to reduce them.’

## Equality Monitoring Data-‘About You’

We asked a number of equality monitoring questions in the survey under the heading ‘About You’. Not all respondents chose to answer the ‘about you’ section of the survey. Protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 are:

- Age
- Sex
- Gender Reassignment
- Race-including ethnic or national origin, colour or nationality
- Disability
- Pregnancy and Maternity
- Sexual Orientation
- Religion or Belief-including lack of belief
- Marriage and Civil Partnership

In addition, the socio-economic duty requires Local Authorities in Wales when taking strategic decisions, to have due regard to the need to reduce the inequalities outcome resulting from socio-economic disadvantage.

### Age

4 respondents chose to answer this question.

<b>What is your age?</b>	<b>Number of Respondents (who answered this question)</b>
Under 11	0
11-15 years	0
16-24 years	0
25-34 years	1
35-44 years	0
45-54 years	2
55-64 years	1
65-74 years	0
75 and above	0
Prefer not to say	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

### Sex

4 respondents chose to answer this question

<b>What is your sex?</b>	<b>Number of Respondents (who answered this question)</b>
Male	1
Female	3
Other	0

Prefer not to say	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

### Gender Reassignment

4 respondents chose to answer this question.

Has your gender identity changed from that assigned at birth?	Number of Respondents (who answered this question)
Yes	0
No	4
Prefer not to say	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

### Race-National Identity

4 respondents chose to answer this question.

How would you describe your national identity?	Number of Respondents (who answered this question)
Welsh	2
English	1
Scottish	0
Northern Irish	0
British	1
Other	0
Prefer not to say	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

### Race-Ethnicity

4 respondents chose to answer this question.

What is your ethnic group?	Number of Respondents (who answered this question)
White (Welsh, English, Scottish, Northern Irish or British)	4
Irish	0
Gypsy or Irish Traveller	0
Roma	0
Any other White background	0
Asian-Indian	0
Asian-Pakistani	0
Asian-Bangladeshi	0

Asian-Chinese	0
Asian-any other Asian background	0
Black-Caribbean	0
Black-African	0
Black-Any Other Black, Black British, or Caribbean Background	0
Mixed-White and Black Caribbean	0
Mixed-White and Black African	0
Mixed-White and Asian	0
Any Other Mixed or Multiple Ethnic Background	0
Arab	0
Any Other Ethnicity	0
Prefer Not to Say	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

### Disability

4 respondents chose to answer this question.

<b>Are your day-to-day activities limited because of a health problem or disability which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months?</b>	<b>Number of Respondents (who answered this question)</b>
Yes, limited a lot	1
Yes, limited a little	0
No	3
Prefer not to say	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

### Carer

4 respondents chose to answer this question.

<b>Do you look after, or give help or support to family members, friends, neighbours or other because of long-term physical or mental ill health/disability or problems related to old age</b>	<b>Number of Respondents (who answered this question)</b>
Yes	2
No	2
Prefer not to say	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

## Pregnancy and Maternity

4 respondents chose to answer this question

<b>Are you currently pregnant or have you been pregnant, or taken maternity leave in the last year?</b>	<b>Number of Respondents (who answered this question)</b>
Yes	0
No	4
Prefer not to say	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

## Sexual Orientation

4 respondents chose to answer this question.

<b>Which of the following best describes how you think of yourself?</b>	<b>Number of Respondents (who answered this question)</b>
Heterosexual or straight	4
Gay man	0
Gay woman/Lesbian	0
Bisexual	0
Other	0
Prefer not to say	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

## Religion or Belief (including lack of belief)

4 respondents chose to answer this question.

<b>What is your religion or belief?</b>	<b>Number of Respondents (who answered this question)</b>
No religion	0
Christian (all denominations)	2
Muslim	0
Buddhist	0
Hindu	0
Jewish	0
Sikh	0
Atheist	1
Other	1 (Pagan)
Prefer not to say	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

## Marriage and Civil Partnership

4 respondents chose to answer this question.

<b>Are you married or in a civil partnership?</b>	<b>Number of Respondents (who answered this question)</b>
Yes	3
No	1
I am a young person aged under 18	0
I am a widow/widower	0
Prefer not to say	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

## Socio-Economic Deprivation-Means Tested Benefits

4 respondents chose to answer this question.

<b>Do you or your household receive any means tested benefits (For example: Universal Credit, Pension Credit, Job Seekers Allowance, Tax Credits, Carers Allowance, Council Tax Reduction Scheme)?</b>	<b>Number of Respondents (who answered this question)</b>
Yes	1
No	3
Prefer not to say	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

## Socio-Economic Deprivation-Disability Benefits

4 respondents chose to answer this question.

<b>Do you or anyone living in your household receive disability benefits (For example: Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance, Personal Independence Payment, Armed Forces Independence Payment, Constant Attendance Allowance, War Pension Mobility Supplement)?</b>	<b>Number of Respondents (who answered this question)</b>
Yes	2
No	2
Prefer not to say	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

## Electoral Ward

4 respondents chose to answer this question.

<b>Electoral Ward</b>	<b>Number of Respondents (who answered this question)</b>
Acrefair North	0
Acton and Maesydre	0
Bangor-is-y-Coed	0
Borras Park	0
Bronington and Hanmer	0
Brymbo	0
Bryn Cefn	0
Brynffynnon	0
Cartrefle	0
Cefn East	0
Cefn West	0
Ceiriog Valley	0
Chirk North	0
Chirk South	0
Coedpoeth	3
Erddig	0
Esclusham	0
Garden Village	0
Gresford East/West	0
Grosvenor	0
Gwenfro	0
Gwersyllt East	0
Gwersyllt North	0
Gwersyllt South	0
Gwersyllt West	0
Hermitage	0
Holt	0
Little Acton	0
Llangollen Rural	0
Llay	0
Marchwiel	0
Marford and Hoseley	0
Minera	0
New Broughton	0
Offa	0
Overton and Maelor South	0
Pant and Johnstown	0
Pen-y-cae	0
Pen-y-cae and Ruabon South	0

Ponciau	0
Queensway	0
Rhos	0
Rhosnesni	0
Rossett	0
Ruabon	0
Smithfield	0
Stansty	0
Whitegate	0
Wynnstay	0
I do not live in Wrexham	0
Prefer not to say	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

### Language

4 respondents chose to answer this question.

<b>What is your preferred language?</b>	<b>Number of Respondents (who answered this question)</b>
English	4
Welsh	0
Other	0
Prefer not to say	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

### Survey Quality Monitoring Questions

At the end of the survey, we asked three questions about people's experiences of completing the survey. Not all people chose to answer the survey quality monitoring questions.

In response to the question 'How easy did you find this survey to complete?' 4 respondents chose to answer.

<b>How easy did you find this survey to complete?</b>	<b>Number of Respondents (who answered this question)</b>
Very easy	1
Quite easy	3
Quite difficult	0
Very difficult	0
Don't know/Not sure	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

In response to the question 'In your view did we ask the right questions about the subject of this survey?' 4 respondents chose to answer.

<b>In your view did we ask the right questions about the subject of this survey?</b>	<b>Number of Respondents (who answered this question)</b>
Yes	1
No	1
Not sure	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

Where consultees answered 'No' or 'Not sure' for the last question, they were asked if they think there is anything we should have asked. No comments were received in response to this question.

In response to the question 'When we asked a question was it clear what we were asking?' 4 respondents chose to answer.

<b>When we asked a question was it clear what we were asking?</b>	<b>Number of Respondents (who answered this question)</b>
Yes	1
No	1
Not sure	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

Where consultees answered 'No' or 'Not sure' for the last question, they were asked if they think there is anything we should have asked. No comments were received in response to this question.

## **Welsh Language Impact Assessment**

The Welsh Language Impact Assessment was available to view / download from the link [Consultation on the proposal to reduce the published admission number at Penygelli Community Primary School | Wrexham County Borough Council](#). Hard copies were made available on request.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

Frequently asked questions were captured during the public consultation. A designated 'Frequently Asked Questions' section with responses could be found on the council's involvement platform Your Voice [Frequently Asked Questions - Consultation on the proposal to reduce the published admission number at Penygelli Community Primary School | Wrexham County Borough Council](#)

## **Overall Summary of Findings**

### **In support of the proposal:**

- 2 out of 4 responses to the adult survey were in support of the proposal.
- 2 out of 6 responses from the School Council were in support of the proposal.

### **Not in support of the proposal:**

- 2 out of 4 responses to the adult survey did not support the proposal.
- 0 out of 6 responses from the School Council did not support the proposal.

### **Unsure**

- 0 out of 4 responses to the adult survey said they were not sure if they liked the idea.
- 4 out of 6 of the School Council said they were not sure if they liked the idea.

Estyn's overall conclusion was that the proposal is likely to maintain the current standard of education provision.

## **Conclusion**

If a decision is taken not to proceed with the current proposal and the status-quo is maintained, it is likely that we may increase the likelihood of the school becoming unviable due to a consistent reduction in the number of pupils on roll over a sustained period and projected pupil intake at Penygelli Primary School. The Local Authority believes that despite some concerns raised the proposal to reduce the published admission number at Penygelli School is the most effective use of resources available.

## **Executive Board Decision**

Wrexham County Borough Council Executive Board will meet on 14 April 2026 to discuss the consultation in relation to the proposal to reduce the PAN at Penygelli. The Executive Board will be asked for approval to continue to the Statutory Notice stage in determining the reduction in pupil capacity at Penygelli. This consists of a 28-day formal Objection Period whereby any objections to the proposal must be made in writing. Following this the Local Authority will return to the Executive Board to determine the final decision.

We would like to thank everyone who responded to the consultation and to those who helped us to arrange and promote engagement with the community and the school.