

Dear parents/carers,

The potential re-organisation of post-16 provision across Bridgend County Borough Council – consideration of concepts

A major consultation over the future of post-16 education in Bridgend County Borough (BCBC) is underway. The consultation document and an opportunity to respond online can be found at <https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/my-council/equalities-and-engagement/consultations/current-consultations/the-potential-re-organisation-of-post-16-provision/>

Bridgend County Borough Council is reviewing whether the current provision should be altered to ensure that young learners have the best possible opportunities to excel, and is inviting the public to have their say.

There are currently sixth forms in every secondary school in Bridgend County Borough, varying in size from 76 to 347 pupils.

Around 80 pupils also attend the sixth-form provision at each of the county borough's two special schools, while Bridgend College provides a range of vocational pathways for approximately 2,000 learners aged 16 to 18.

In the new public consultation, which is open until 01 March 2019, parents, pupils, teachers and other interested parties will be asked to say whether they would prefer to retain and improve the current sixth-form system, or choose an alternative.

The options include: closing all school sixth forms and instead developing a state-of-the-art sixth-form centre which could be governed either by the local authority or a further education college; having a mixture of school sixth forms with some mergers to create a new sixth-form centre run by either the local authority or a further education college; or having a full tertiary model governed by the further education sector.

Separate arrangements are being proposed for Welsh-medium and faith education. It is suggested that the collaboration between Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd with Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llanhari in Rhondda Cynon Taf should continue to develop, with Archbishop McGrath Catholic School continuing to form close relationships with other sixth forms and Bridgend College.

All the County secondary schools have been asked by BCBC to invite parents and carers to a consultation workshop during January and February 2019, the workshop will be facilitated by officers from BCBC. The parents and carers consultation workshop at Pencoed Comprehensive School will be held on **Monday the 21st of January 2019 at 5pm**, in Canteen 5. It is envisaged that the meeting will run for around an hour. If you would like to attend the consultation workshop please indicate your interest by e-mailing admin.pencoedcomp@bridgend.gov.uk by the 18th of January 2019.

Yours faithfully



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Headteacher

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