

Schools
for the Future

Ysgol Bro Gwaun

a school for all
the community

Ysgolion
i'r Dyfodol

In addition to the basic Schools for the Future Plan we propose the following additions and amendments with respect to Ysgol Bro Gwaun and its community.

1. A sustainable school

Rather than a formally established all-through school we propose to strengthen community ties and create a flow of learning from 3 – 16 by building on our already excellent transitional provision and working even more closely with our existing feeder schools to ensure that their pupils share in the advantages of an all-through education.

We will adapt and further develop the Bwrlwm model of transitional learning (through the medium of Welsh) where pupils from the feeder schools attend regular classes at Ysgol Bro Gwaun and apply it to other subjects.

Ysgol Bro Gwaun will extend its existing transitional provision of science to the teaching of specialist STEM Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths from 3 – 16.

We will also use the transitional process together with the local feeder schools to extend the increased use of the web and online learning provision from ages 3 – 16 in the Ysgol Bro Gwaun area.

2. A transformational strategy to raise standards

Ysgol Bro Gwaun strongly supports the Schools for the Future proposal to improve standards and outcomes by making interactive and web-based learning, and integrated community involvement the foundation for excellent teaching and inspired learning.

Web-based learning

In rural communities the internet is the key to sustainable economic growth, and in education it is the route to giving our children equal access to educational resources and opportunities. Next generation Broadband is due in Fishguard later this year, and the availability of this technology for the school and area enables this strategy to be implemented immediately.

Working in partnership with other local schools to provide a full range of academic and vocational learning options, combined with online learning and the use of IT, could transform the opportunities for our children and ensure that many of them can access a greater choice and breadth of subjects without having to leave Ysgol Bro Gwaun.

Integrated Community Development

Online distance learning and the use of IT, combined with opening up new and improved facilities at Ysgol Bro Gwaun School to the local community, could address community problems that are specific to the Fishguard area and help provide a solution to current and future educational requirements here in North Pembrokeshire.

Increased participation both by pupils and by the local community in the life of Ysgol Bro Gwaun will enable the school to become a dynamic focus and a multi-purpose resource for the larger community. Ysgol Bro Gwaun proposes to do this by:

- Allowing community groups to access the school facilities, providing facilities for adult learning, co-working areas and increased support for business start-ups in the area
- Working with existing local businesses to create job opportunities including apprenticeships. Fishguard is now part of the Haven Waterway Enterprise Zone and this will help generate sustainable growth for the community. Ysgol Bro Gwaun working together with Pembrokeshire College could help provide the skilled workforce required to achieve this.
- Becoming a centre for rural excellence focusing on land studies, agriculture, countryside management and working with local organisations like the NFU, Green Links, Pembrokeshire Coast National Park, the Wildlife Trust and the Welsh Agricultural College at Aberystwyth to provide bilingual and vocational training for the needs of the local community
- Building on the current excellent Design Technology facilities to offer courses in rural crafts both to pupils and adult learners.

- Working with the local Tourist industry to offer courses in hospitality and catering.
- Using its coastal position to link the proposed STEM provision to marine biology
- Working with existing initiatives like SNAP and FRESHSTART to support young families. Provision of facilities outside of normal school hours and extension of the school day will free up parents and enable them to better seek and secure work.

Bilingual Provision

Our unique asset here at Ysgol Bro Gwaun is the bilingual provision currently delivered, which not only allows pupils to be taught through the medium of Welsh, but also allows others, not accessing Welsh medium provision, to share and fully appreciate the Welsh culture, language and traditions, on a daily basis.

Ysgol Bro Gwaun will build on its existing bilingual provision and develop a centre for excellence for Bilingual teaching both for children and lifelong learners.

ALN provision

We support the Council proposal to provide specialist ALN provision at Ysgol Bro Gwaun and especially the bilingual provision of ALN, but we note that the Council proposal doesn't address bilingual provision of ALN through the Welsh medium for ages 3-11 within the County. This means that ALN children from Welsh speaking families currently have no primary provision.

We believe that provision of Welsh medium ALN from ages 3 - 19 could be delivered locally through the transitional process working together with local primary schools to extend this much needed service in the Ysgol Bro Gwaun area.

For Welsh speaking families elsewhere a Learning Resource Centre here at Ysgol Bro Gwaun, with Welsh speaking staff, would provide a learning

environment that is inclusive, and would inspire all learners to achieve the best outcomes.

This provision to include support outside the normal school day using services like SNAP to provide a support network for young families.

We also believe that this extension of bilingual provision and the current efforts and commitment to bringing about a long term improvement in educational standards will increase the number of Welsh speaking pupils who choose to stay in the area and will ease the current pressures on Ysgol Preseli.

Bilingual Vocational Learning

With the proposed opening of the new Pembrokeshire College campus in Pembroke vocational learning provision will move to South Pembrokeshire and this may adversely affect pupils in the North. Ysgol Bro Gwaun has a large site that can accommodate a number of different users and would seek to work with Pembrokeshire College to enable them to offer vocational courses on the Ysgol Bro Gwaun site, geared to the needs of North Pembrokeshire and where appropriate, delivered through the medium of Welsh.

Ysgol Bro Gwaun could become a centre for rural excellence focusing on land studies, agriculture, countryside management and working with local organizations like the NFU, Green Links, Pembrokeshire Coast National Park, the Wildlife Trust and the Welsh Agricultural College at Aberystwyth to provide bilingual and vocational training for the needs of our local industries and the wider community.

3. A Building based on educationally led design

Ysgol Bro Gwaun support the Schools for the Future proposal to embed this transformational educational strategy and greater community involvement into the physical design and structure of our schools. In line with this concept we support Pembrokeshire County Council's commitment to using an educationally-led approach to ensure that new buildings will not simply duplicate the old, but will enhance and transform the learning environment and opportunities for learners, and the staff that support them.

We aim to achieve this by using 21st Century schools funding to redevelop the current Ysgol Bro Gwaun school site where there is a solid infrastructure of facilities and resources already in place, such as:

- A transport network with good road network linking the school to the north of the county, safe routes to walk and cycle to school, pick up and drop off zones for buses and cars, school crossing points within the 30mph zone, reducing the potential for accidents.
- The school is an integral part of the community with the ability and scope to expand and redevelop the present school site into a multi-purpose resource for the larger community.
- The existing school hall is one of the largest in the County and could be developed as a venue for future functions. It is already being used for community, regional, national and international events. With this in mind the Hall and School catering facilities to be designed/zoned to enable their continued use outside of school hours.
- Additional accommodation could be provided in this zone to house community interest groups, providing facilities for adult learning, co-working areas and increased support for business start-ups in the area.
- The Ysgol Bro Gwaun site is a large one and could hold many other Local Authority or Community Interest group facilities sharing reception and catering facilities with Ysgol Bro Gwaun.
- Along with increased community use of the Hall and other facilities on-site, Ysgol Bro Gwaun could offer a residential facility, working in partnership with other local accommodation providers. This would enable groups from across the UK to stay on or near the site and maximise the use of its teaching facilities during non-term time. Organisations like the Prince's Trust could use these facilities to provide summer schools, field study trips and training provision for outside organisations. This facility would have financial benefits for the school and community, encourage return trips to the area and support our local tourism industry.
- With its on-site Leisure Centre Ysgol Bro Gwaun has strong existing links with excellent sport and leisure facilities, the Fishguard and

Goodwick sports teams, local rowing, cycling and running clubs which could enable Ysgol Bro Gwaun to offer vocational training in sports science and further encourage pupil participation in school and community sporting activities.

In providing these new facilities Ysgol Bro Gwaun would become a school with a low carbon footprint and current surplus places and associated costs tied up in the present buildings would no longer be an issue.

P6 – a sixth form college for the 21st century

The excellent teaching and learning of academic subjects throughout the school has historically attracted a high percentage of Year 11 pupils back to Ysgol Bro Gwaun for their sixth form education.

We do not want to lose our sixth form here at Ysgol Bro Gwaun but we understand that neither Ysgol Bro Gwaun or Ysgol Dewi Sant are large enough on their own to sustain an effective sixth form, with a wide choice of subjects, that would be supported by the Welsh Government.

We support the Schools for the Future plan to create a new, independent, centrally funded and administered, split-site 6th Form College for Pembrokeshire with community campuses in Haverfordwest, St Davids and Fishguard. Making intelligent use of interactive and web-based learning, producing considerable economies of scale as an A-level provider for over 500 learners, and working in an integrated partnership with Pembrokeshire College this would provide a full range of academic and vocational learning options for post-16 learners.

Working together we can ensure that local schools in North Pembrokeshire achieve higher standards, meet the needs of learners and the community and keep a 6th form identity in each individual school.

We envisage a thriving progressive and stimulating environment for 21st Century learning at Ysgol Bro Gwaun following the proposed restructure of secondary and primary provision in Pembrokeshire where all pupils reach their full potential and are proud of being part of a dynamic new Ysgol Bro Gwaun.

Ysgol Bro Gwaun – a School for All the Community

Please support the

Schools for the Future Fishguard community plan

If you believe that this plan forms the sound basis for a high quality education for our children and communities in the 21st Century, the only way is to lend your support and make your voice heard is to write to, or email the Council directly. A petition will not help. **Only by writing personally can you make a difference.**

Whether you are aged 9 or 99 you have a voice that the Council must listen to. If the communities of Mid and Northwest Pembrokeshire speak with one voice it will carry huge weight.

You do not have to agree with all of the plan to support it. You could write:

As part of the statutory consultation on the future of secondary education in mid and northwest Pembrokeshire I would like to state my support for the **Schools for the Future Community plan** but.....

.....I prefer this bit to that

.....I feel that this part is particularly important

.....I think it would be improved by the following ideas

Your letter or email can be as short or as long as you want. But whatever you do, please give the Council your view.

You must write by Tuesday May 5th

email: educationconsultations@pembrokeshire.gov.uk

write to: Director for Children and Schools, Pembrokeshire, County Council, County Hall, Haverfordwest SA61 1TP

orwe'll send it for you if you drop your letter off at Ysgol Bro Gwaun

and on behalf of future generations in Pembrokeshire

Diolch yn fawr!

read more at www.schoolsfuture.co.uk