

Monday, 19th May 2014 – Consultation with Teachers/Support Staff/Governors of St David’s High School

Time: 4.00 p.m. Attendees: 51 approx.

					Once this was done then there was a different bidding criteria. Holywell, Connah’s Quay areas had significant surplus places and the condition of the building at John Summers and we knew that we had to establish a new 6 th form centre. Flint and Saltney were left out of that bidding process for 21 C Schools at this stage due to the change in the focus of the funding which was then focused on those three areas.
			<p>Mavis Croft, Governor at St. David’s High School and Saltney Ferry Primary School If we don’t have a 3-16 school what will happen to Saltney Ferry Primary School?</p>	CH	We already have two very successful schools and the relationship with St David’s and Saltney Ferry is very strong. We are seeing this as an opportunity to create the second proposal and to do things in a different way to bring the expertise of the two schools and staff together as it raises the bar for everything. We need to get your opinions. There is a need to provide high quality provision in this area to help learners achieve their true potential.
			<p>Tony Davidson, Headteacher St. David’s High School 2016 is fast approaching. £300,000 is generated for post-16 learners. How would we do this without this sum of money? If we need to revise our</p>	TD	If the 2 nd option went ahead it would cause the closure of the 6 th form in 2016. In 2015 the final staffing compliment would have to be put together for the new Hub at Connah’s Quay. Appointments for the Hub would be made within a ringfence and

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		<p>staffing then staff would want to know 1) when would they be needed for the new Hub and 2) what the recruitment process would be.</p> <p>If we are looking at 2015 I would have thought you would have to get something down at the beginning of that year.</p>	<p>IB</p> <p>KG</p>	<p>that would be with schools that have been involved with this particular process and St David’s High would be involved within this ringfenced proposal.</p> <p>Curriculum planning is underway.</p> <p>Radical meetings have commenced already. We have already approached the consortium re: curriculum provision and to look at unnecessary duplication. This is one of the drivers for post-16 education. St David’s High will be involved to contribute to this.</p>
		<p>Question In respect of students currently entering 6th form, what transition arrangements will there be for those half way through a course?</p>	<p>KG</p>	<p>It has been taken in to account the different exam awarding bodies to Year 12/13 and the planning has commenced to ensure we coordinate the teaching and learning. We would like to see continuity of staffing provision as much as possible for the learners.</p>
			<p>TDN</p>	<p>For the first year of the operation it may be not that efficient but we have to do the best.</p>
		<p>Sally Dardis, 6th Form St David’s High School We commence marketing the 6th form</p>	<p>TD</p>	<p>At the end of 2016 students at St David’s High School will be able to access the whole of the curriculum at the new Hub at</p>

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			at St David’s High in October each year by talking to Yr.11 pupils. Will there be any input from the Panel as to how we approach this with students and parents as I am concerned that students will go over the boarder.		that time. One of the main things is that there is a briefing on progress that we can share with colleagues.
			<p>Question Is the Hub still viable in terms of numbers? Would there be free transport for our students to attend there?</p>	<p>TD</p> <p>CB</p>	<p>We have looked at projections at Flint – 70/80 students which is slightly up but we are looking at substantial numbers of learners who go to Coleg Cambria and those accessing courses at Yale in Wrexham. The Hub will be at least 80% full at this start. If necessary, the Hub can be expanded in the future to take on additional student numbers.</p> <p>Post-16 students can choose where they want to attend. At the new Hub we have children coming from Holywell and Connah’s Quay. Flint pupils can also make a choice.</p> <p>In respect of transport to the Hub, There is free transport to students for those living over 3 miles to the Hub. There is transport provided to St Richard Gwyn if they are of Catholic religion.</p>

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					express a preference for early retirement. Staff need to make sure that they have the correct information and are able to express their preference early.
			<p>Steve Richardson, Head of Humanities and Union Rep, St. David’s High School Can you ensure that members of staff will not be looking at compulsory redundancies?</p>	IB	No, as we have not come to that step yet. The funding for buildings is capital funding and it is completely separate of revenue funding for the school. Post-16 funding comes through a separate grant from central government. The amount of funding going in to Post-16 schools is getting tighter. In 2016 we are anticipating it to be a hard time in respect of the level of funding.
			<p>John Ashford, Senior Teacher, St. David’s High School How would it improve outcomes for learners from 11-16?</p>	IB	We are looking at the sharing of resources and learning, inclusion and ALN support. We are interested in this community and its ideas.
			<p>Question Is there dedicated revenue funding? Will it attract any extra funding during the amalgamation to ease the process for the two schools coming together?</p>	TD	<p>No, over the next few years funding will get more difficult to fund processes.</p> <p>The funding is driven by the formula and pupil numbers. If that option was adopted then we have procedures to release funding to run the school on a split site.</p>

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			<p>Mavis Croft, Governor St. David’s High School and Saltney Ferry Primary School</p> <p>As a governor at both schools I am a little apprehensive of the split site and there will be more of a workload on the Headteacher. Will there be a Senior Manager on the other site?</p>	<p>IB</p>	<p>In reality people do interact over a broad age-range. There will be a need for a Senior Manager on the other site but it will be a decision for the Governors to make. There will be one Executive Headteacher but on the Primary school side you need a Senior Primary person to have the skills to deal with the day-to-day tasks.</p> <p>One of the examples is that the transition arrangements between St. David’s High School and Saltney Ferry Primary school are very strong. There are strengths which we need to tease out of this process which would benefit bringing the two schools together e.g. development of the curriculum and the sharing of teacher expertise.</p>
			<p>Michelle Ford, Assistant Headteacher, St. David’s High School</p> <p>We work in consortium and I expect their concerns would be that there would be many advantages and how would these been seen by the consortium?</p>	<p>IB</p> <p>CH</p>	<p>The relationships in the consortium are deepening. There is a lot of work around devolution and ALN resources to meet the needs of pupils.</p> <p>At the moment, our priority is the needs of Saltney Ferry Primary School to see where the quality of provision is needed at that school.</p>

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			<p>No Name Provided I think the whole consultation process has not been handled well as we have been left till last. We will not secure funding. There are so many things that have been missed.</p>	IB	<p>In terms timing for the consultation, back in 2010 all school communities were involved. We check with communities as to when we commence the process of individual school consultation.</p> <p>Schools will evolve over time. Queensferry Primary School and John Summers High School have been on the same campus for some time and have been used to sharing resources. In Holywell during the consultation period there was support for colocation on campus but having separate playgrounds and entrances.</p>
				BW	<p>In terms of the consultation process, we have been seeking this consultation for sometime. The Governing Body at St David’s High have been pushing to be involved for two years now.</p>
				TD	<p>In 2010 the agenda was to consult with those schools north of the A55. As there was a change in funding from Welsh Government then it meant that the consultation process had to be redefined to look at those three communities first (Holywell, Connah’s Quay and Queensferry). The Authority had a timetable to meet with these three areas</p>

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					and it was agreed by Members of Flintshire County Council.
			<p>Councillor Veronica Gay Saltney is quite a community but I think we should take a step back and look at the future of the township and residents going forward. The message doesn’t seem to have gone out to residents regarding the two options. To look at: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Education provision – should Wood Memorial be part of the formal arrangements? 2. The relationships with other communities e.g. libraries etc. 		
			<p>Governor of Saltney Ferry Primary School Would like to make it known that the consultation has not been launched due to the school being in special measures.</p>	IB	It has taken a while to reach this stage and we are looking at the best option for this vicinity.
			<p>BW – Brian Weston, Chair of Governors asked that FCC advises the source of future pupil numbers given in the documents and that these took into account the population increase which will occur with all the new houses being built in Saltney and Broughton.</p>		Figures come from FCC Statistics Department and include estimates of likely population changes.

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Key:

Councillor Christopher Bithell (CB), Cabinet Member of Education & Youth, Flintshire County Council

Ian Budd (IB), Director of Lifelong Learning, Flintshire County Council

Tom Davies (TD), Head of Development & Resources, Flintshire County Council

Tony Davidson (TDN), Headteacher, St David’s High School

Kevin Grandfield (KG), Secondary Schools Officer, Flintshire County Council

Claire Homard (CH), Primary Schools Officer, Flintshire County Council