

## EDUCATION & YOUTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> January 2017
<b>Report Subject</b>	School Modernisation Update
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Cabinet Member for Education and Youth
<b>Report Author</b>	Chief Officer (Education and Youth)
<b>Type of Report</b>	Operational

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To inform Education and Youth Overview and Scrutiny Committee of progress of the School Modernisation Programme.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1	The Education and Youth Overview and Scrutiny Committee is requested to note progress of the school Modernisation Programme.
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### REPORT DETAILS

<b>1.00</b>	<b>BACKGROUND AND CONSIDERATIONS</b>
1.01	Recommendations for the initial phase of the School Modernisation Implementation Plan were presented to Education and Youth Overview and Scrutiny Committee 15 <sup>th</sup> June 2015 and to Cabinet 16 <sup>th</sup> June 2015, who approved the onward programme.
1.02	Cabinet agreed to complete an area review of the following schools: Area 1 - Brynford CP School, Lixwm CP School and Ysgol Rhos Helyg, Rhosesmor.

1.03	The schools in the area met a number of triggers for review in accordance with the Council's School Modernisation strategy.
1.04	<p>Initial informal consultation opened on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016 and closed on 26<sup>th</sup> August 2016 with consultation events for parents/carers/staff and governors taking place on the 4<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at Ysgol Rhos Helyg, Rhosesmor, 7<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at Lixwm C.P. and 11<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at Brynford C.P. School. (Consultation report appendix 1).</p> <p>Additionally, children and young people's consultation events were conducted with School Councils on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at Ysgol Rhos Helyg, Rhosesmor and Lixwm C.P. School and 14<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at Brynford C.P. School and their views were captured in the consultation documents. Both adult and children and young people's versions of consultation documentation were produced and available either online or hard copy by request.</p>
1.05	Local Member Responses are included as Appendix 2, Governor responses as Appendix 3, Consultation timeline as Appendix 4, and Cabinet report as Appendix 5.
1.06	<p>On 13<sup>th</sup> December 2016 Cabinet determined that consultation on statutory proposals for school organisation change for September 2017 be based on Option B – area school on two sites as the preferred option.</p> <p>Ysgol Rhos Helyg, Rhosesmor would remain as it is, retain its name, category, budget, governors and staff and would remain in its community.</p> <p>Brynford CP and Lixwm CP would amalgamate onto one site. The amalgamated school would retain its category but would have a new name, governing body, head teacher and budget and would remain in one of the communities, either Brynford or Lixwm; and</p> <p>That if proposals for a federation between Brynford CP or Lixwm CP were to be submitted from both governing bodies prior to consultation on statutory proposals commencing in September 2017, these would be considered by Cabinet.</p>
1.07	Members of the Committee will by now be familiar with the statutory consultation process. There will be opportunity for both Education and Youth Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet to review information at defined stages of the process (see appendix 4) in accordance with local policy and practice.

<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	There are sufficient staff resource in which to implement the revised programme within programme constraints and timelines.

<b>3.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT</b>
3.01	Consultations will be carried out in accordance with the School Organisation Code and The Federation of Maintained schools (Wales) Regulations 2014.

<b>4.00</b>	<b>RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
4.01	A Programme Board is set up to oversee the implementation business plans and manage risks in close detail. High level risks will be reported to Programme Board, operational risks will be managed by the project team in accordance with agreed tolerances.

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	Appendix 1 – Informal Consultation Report Appendix 2 – Local Member Responses Appendix 3 – Governor responses Appendix 4 – Anticipated Consultation Timeline Appendix 5 – Cabinet Report 13 <sup>th</sup> December 2016

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	None.  Contact Officer: Damian Hughes, Senior Manager, School Planning and Provision Telephone: 01352 704135 E-mail: <a href="mailto:Damian.hughes@flintshire.gov.uk">Damian.hughes@flintshire.gov.uk</a>

<b>7.00</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
7.01	(1) School Organisation Code – The new School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 makes Local Authorities responsible (rather than the Welsh Ministers prior to October 2013) for the determination of most statutory school organisation proposals that receive objections. Such provisions apply to any proposals published on or after 1 <sup>st</sup> October 2013 that consider the establishment, discontinuance or otherwise significantly alter schools.  The Council does this in line with the Welsh Government's statutory School Organisation Code

<http://wales.gov.uk/docs/dcells/publications/130719-school-organisation-codes-en.pdf>

(2) Federation and Collaboration - The federation of schools is a legal process which enables schools to work together through a formal structured process by sharing a governing body that will make decisions in the best interest of all the schools, staff and pupils in that federation.

The term federation is often used to describe many forms of collaboration between schools. The Statutory process of Federation is often referred to as "Hard Federation" An informal, non-statutory arrangement between schools is often called "soft federation" or collaboration, where schools have made a commitment to work together through some form of joint governance.

<http://gov.wales/docs/dcells/publications/140522-guidance-on-federation-of-schools-en.pdf>