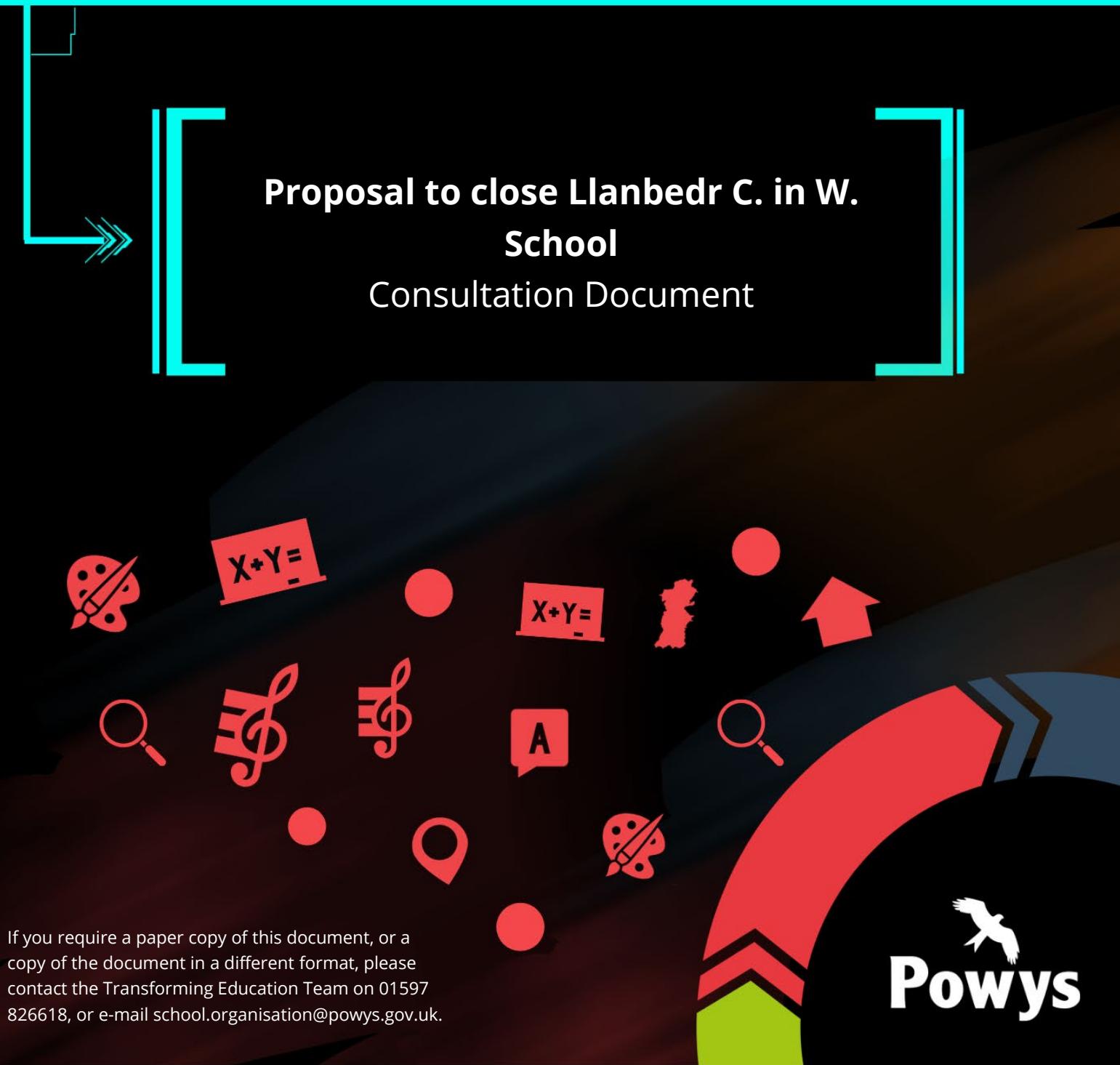




## **Proposal to close Llanbedr C. in W. School**

### Consultation Document



If you require a paper copy of this document, or a copy of the document in a different format, please contact the Transforming Education Team on 01597 826618, or e-mail [school.organisation@powys.gov.uk](mailto:school.organisation@powys.gov.uk).

# **Consultation on the closure of Llanbedr C. in W. School**

## **Contents**

<b>OVERVIEW .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>PART A – THE CASE FOR CHANGE.....</b>	<b>5</b>
1. BACKGROUND.....	5
2. WHY CHANGE IS NEEDED IN POWYS.....	7
3. THE STRATEGIC CONTEXT.....	9
4. WHY CHANGE IS NEEDED IN LLANBEDR .....	10
5. OPTIONS CONSIDERED .....	11
6. PREFERRED OPTION.....	12
<b>PART B – THE PROPOSAL.....</b>	<b>13</b>
7. OVERVIEW.....	13
8. REASONS FOR THE PROPOSAL.....	13
9. ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES .....	13
10. RISKS.....	14
11. POTENTIAL IMPLEMENTATION TIMESCALE .....	14
<b>PART C – LIKELY IMPACT OF THE PROPOSAL.....</b>	<b>15</b>
12. IMPACT ON PUPILS .....	15
13. IMPACT ON STAFF.....	16
14. IMPACT ON NURSERY / EARLY YEARS PROVISION .....	16
15. IMPACT ON GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS .....	17
16. IMPACT ON QUALITY AND STANDARDS IN EDUCATION .....	17
17. NEED FOR PLACES AND IMPACT ON AVAILABILITY OF PLACES AND ACCESSIBILITY OF SCHOOLS .....	23
18. RESOURCING OF EDUCATION AND OTHER FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS.....	25
19. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS .....	27
20. SPECIFIC FACTORS IN THE CONSIDERATION OF SCHOOL CLOSURES .....	29
21. EQUALITY AND COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENTS .....	30
<b>PART D – CONSULTATION DETAILS .....</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>APPENDIX A – KEY DATA.....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>APPENDIX B – SWOT AND CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTOR ANALYSIS.....</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>APPENDIX C – IMPACT OF EACH OPTION ON RURAL SCHOOLS CRITERIA .....</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>APPENDIX D – REASONS WHY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS HAVE NOT BEEN TAKEN FORWARD .....</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>APPENDIX E – RESPONSE FORM .....</b>	<b>70</b>

If you require a paper copy of this document, or a copy of the document in a different format,  
please contact the Transforming Education Team on 01597 826618, or e-mail  
[school.organisation@powys.gov.uk](mailto:school.organisation@powys.gov.uk).

# **Consultation on the closure of Llanbedr C. in W. School**

## **OVERVIEW**

### **1. The Proposal**

Powys County Council is consulting on a proposal to close Llanbedr C. in W. School. The proposal is as follows:

- To close Llanbedr C. in W. School from the 31st August 2022, with pupils to transfer to their nearest alternative schools

### **2. How to respond to the consultation**

You can respond to this consultation by completing the online questionnaire which is available on our website:

<https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/10568/Llanbedr-Church-in-Wales-School>

A paper copy of the questionnaire is also available at the back of this document. Alternatively, you can respond in writing using the contact details below.

All responses must be received by the **23<sup>rd</sup> June 2021**.

### **3. Contact details**

All responses should be sent to the following address:

Transforming Education Team  
Powys County Council  
County Hall  
Llandrindod Wells  
Powys  
LD1 5LG

E-mail: [school.consultation@powys.gov.uk](mailto:school.consultation@powys.gov.uk)

Phone: 01597 826618

### **4. What will happen next**

Once the consultation period has ended, a consultation report will be produced which will outline the feedback received. The Council's Cabinet will consider the consultation report and will consider whether or not they wish to proceed with the proposals outlined in the consultation document. This is expected to happen in the spring/summer of 2021.

If the Cabinet decide to proceed with the proposals, a statutory notice would be published, and there would be a period of 28 days for people to submit objections. The Cabinet would then need to consider another report summarising any objections received and decide whether or not to proceed with implementation.

## PART A – THE CASE FOR CHANGE

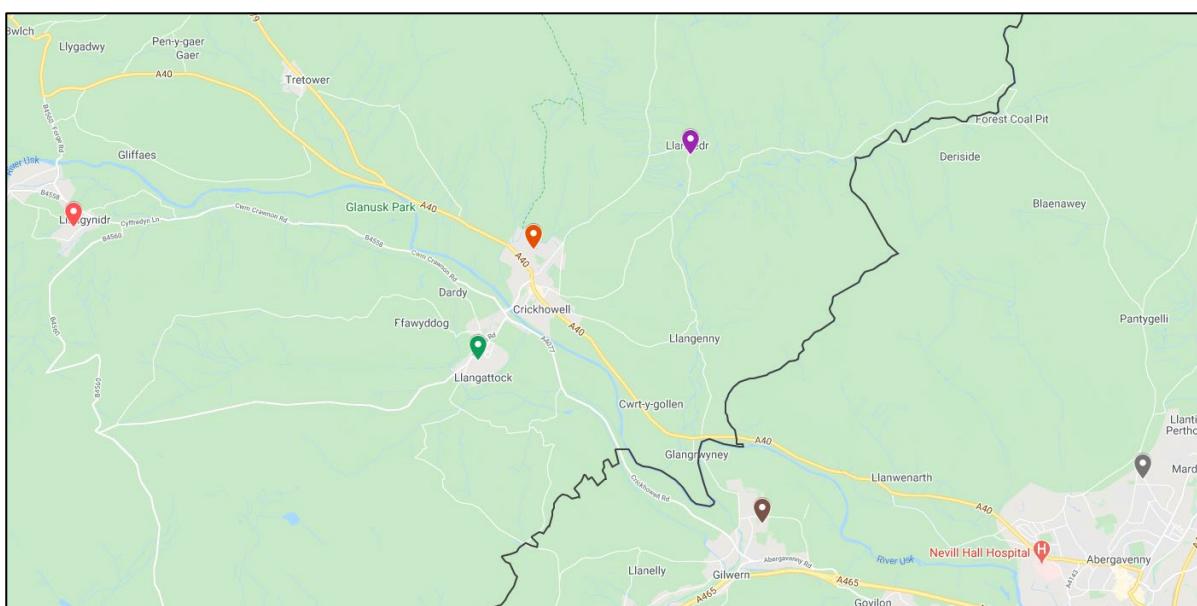
**Powys County Council is consulting on a proposal to close Llanbedr C. in W. School. The proposal is as follows:**

- To close Llanbedr C. in W. School from the 31st August 2022, with pupils to transfer to their nearest alternative schools**

### 1. BACKGROUND

Llanbedr C. in W. School is an English-medium Church in Wales Voluntary Aided primary school located in the village of Llanbedr in the Crickhowell catchment area in South Powys. The school primarily serves the village of Llanbedr and the surrounding area.

The following map shows the location of schools in the area:



**Key:** Purple – Llanbedr C. in W. School, Orange – Crickhowell C.P. School, Green – Llangattock C. in W. School, Red – Llangynidr C.P. School, Brown – Gilwern Primary School, Grey – Deri View Primary School

The following is a summary of key data relating to the school:

	School Type	Language Category	Admission Number	Rural School <sup>1</sup>
<b>Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School, Llanbedr,</b>	Voluntary Aided Church in Wales	English-medium	5	Yes

<sup>1</sup> Annex F of the Welsh Government's School Organisation Code (2018)

(<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-10/school-organisation-code-second-edition.pdf>)

<b>Crickhowell, NP8 1SR</b>	School building owned by the Diocese			
---------------------------------	--	--	--	--

Current pupil numbers<sup>2</sup> at the school are as follows:

	<b>N1</b>	<b>N2</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Total N-Yr 6</b>	<b>Total R-Yr 6</b>
<b>Llanbedr C in W. School</b>	1	4	5	2	11	7	4	7	4	45	40

*(As a Voluntary Aided School, Llanbedr C. in W. School is responsible for its own admissions arrangements and admits nursery aged pupils to the school, however these pupils are not funded by the Council. Information about nursery aged pupil numbers is provided here for information)*

In April 2020, the Council approved a new Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys, which sets out a number of aims and objectives to transform the Powys education system over the next few years, in order to provide the best possible opportunities to Powys learners now and in the future. One of these aims is to 'improve learner entitlement and experience' and includes an objective to 'rationalise primary provision'.

The Council has carried out an options appraisal exercise to identify a preferred option for Llanbedr C. in W. School.

The following steps have been undertaken:

- Options appraisal exercise
- Recommendation considered and agreed by the Transforming Education Programme Board

On the 9<sup>th</sup> February 2021, the Council's Cabinet considered a report in respect of Llanbedr C. in W. School, and agreed to commence consultation on the following:

*'To close Llanbedr C. in W. School from the 31st August 2022, with pupils to transfer to their nearest alternative schools'.*

---

<sup>2</sup> Finance NOR – 2020 Pupil Count Day (6<sup>th</sup> November 2020)

## **2. WHY CHANGE IS NEEDED IN POWYS**

Powys is a large, rural authority. Covering a quarter of the landmass of Wales, it contains only 4.2% of the population, making it the most sparsely populated county in Wales. Delivering services across such a large, sparsely populated area is challenging and expensive.

Whilst there has been some school reorganisation activity in Powys over recent years, the county's schools' infrastructure largely remains similar to that which was in place 20 years ago.

The Council's new Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys outlines a number of challenges facing education in Powys, which were identified following engagement with key stakeholders during the autumn term 2019 and spring term 2020.

The following is a summary of the main challenges facing the Council:

**i) High proportion of small schools**

Based on PLASC 2019 figures, there were 33 small primary schools in Powys – this is approximately 40% of the primary provision in the county. 21 schools had fewer than 50 pupils, and for those schools the budget share per pupil is generally higher than the Powys average for primary schools.

**ii) Decreasing pupil numbers**

Pupil numbers have decreased over the past decade, and are expected to decrease further over the next five years. Pupil numbers in the primary sector in Powys are expected to decrease by approximately 4% by 2025.

**iii) High number of surplus places**

Based on PLASC 2019 figures, there was 18% surplus capacity in Powys primary schools. With pupil numbers across Powys projected to decrease overall over the coming years, the proportion of surplus places across the county will continue to increase.

**iv) Building condition**

Whilst the Council has invested in its school's estate through the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Programme and the Asset Management Plan, building condition remains an issue across Powys, with associated maintenance costs.

**v) Financial pressures**

The Council is currently facing significant financial pressures in general. This is affecting all service areas, including the schools' sector. There are significant variations in the budget share per pupil across Powys schools, ranging from £3,127 to £7,877 in the primary sector.

**vi) Inequality in access to Welsh-medium education**

In contrast to other areas of Wales, there has been no growth in Welsh-medium pupil numbers in Powys over recent years. Significant changes are needed to the Welsh-medium offer in Powys to reverse the trend of the last few years and ensure that all Powys learners can access comprehensive Welsh-medium provision throughout their educational careers.

**vii) Limited post-14 and post-16 offer**

In September 2019, the Council's Cabinet considered a report on post-16 provision, which outlined a number of challenges facing the sector, including decreasing learner numbers, financial challenges and sustainability of the curriculum offer, including Welsh-medium provision.

**viii) Inequality in access to SEN provision**

Within Powys, pupils with special education needs (SEN) attend a range of settings, including special schools, specialist centres, the pupil referral unit (PRU) as well as mainstream schools.

Currently, not all pupils are educated in the setting that meets their needs best, and depending on where pupils live, they have access to a different quality and type of provision.

**ix) Historical lack of political decision making**

Although there have been some developments in terms of the schools' infrastructure over recent years, the Council's failure to implement a number of high-profile proposals in the last few years has left a legacy in Powys, and there has been a reluctance to embark on large scale reorganisation of education provision since then.

### **3. THE STRATEGIC CONTEXT**

In the summer of 2019, Powys Education Services were inspected by Estyn. The report published by Estyn following the inspection outlined significant concerns regarding the Council's progress on school reorganisation, and includes a recommendation to 'Ensure that the organisation of provision for non-maintained, post-16, Welsh-medium education and secondary education meets the needs of children and young people of Powys.'

Following the publication of the inspection report, the Council carried out a strategic review of schools during 2019-20, which led to the development of a new Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys. The strategy, which was developed following engagement with a wide range of stakeholders, was approved in April 2020.

The strategy sets out a Vision Statement and Guiding Principles which will underpin the Council's work to transform the Powys education system over the coming years.

The Vision Statement is as follows:

***All children and young people in Powys will experience a high-quality, inspiring education to help develop the knowledge, skills and attributes that will enable them to become healthy, personally fulfilled, economically productive, socially responsible and globally engaged citizens of 21st century Wales.***

In order to achieve the vision and guiding principles, the strategy outlines a number of aims and objectives to transform the Powys education system over the next few years, in order to provide the best possible opportunities to Powys learners now and in the future. One of these aims is to 'improve learner entitlement and experience' and this aim includes an objective to 'rationalise primary provision'.

The current proposal in respect of Llanbedr C. in W. School is in line with these priorities.

#### **4. WHY CHANGE IS NEEDED IN LLANBEDR**

The following is a summary of the main challenges facing Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School:

##### **i) Low pupil numbers**

Current pupil numbers<sup>3</sup> at Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School are as follows:

	N1	N2	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total N-Yr 6	Total R-Yr 6
<b>Llanbedr C in W. Primary School</b>	1	4	5	2	11	7	4	7	4	45	40

*(As a Voluntary Aided School, Llanbedr C. in W. School is responsible for its own admissions arrangements and admits nursery aged pupils to the school, however these pupils are not funded by the Council. Information about nursery aged pupil numbers is provided here for information)*

The Welsh Government defines a ‘small school’ as a school with less than 91 pupils. Pupil numbers are significantly lower than this, and the latest projected pupil numbers suggest that pupil numbers are not expected to increase significantly over the coming years.

##### **ii) High budget share per pupil**

Based on the Council’s Section 52 Budget Statement for 2020-21, the school’s budget share per pupil during 2020-21 was £5,948. This is higher than the Powys average of £4,264. Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School is ranked the 10<sup>th</sup> highest school in Powys by budget share per pupil.<sup>4</sup>

##### **iii) Combined age classes**

The small pupil numbers at the school mean that pupils are taught in whole key stage classes, with Key Stage 2 in one class and Foundation Phase in another class. Because pupil numbers in each year group are small, it is more difficult to ensure all pupils are appropriately challenged.

##### **iv) Leadership**

Whilst there is permanent leadership in place in Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School, the headteacher has a significant teaching commitment, which limits the time available to focus on leadership of the school.

<sup>3</sup> Finance NOR – 2020 Pupil Count Day (6<sup>th</sup> November 2020)

<sup>4</sup> Section 52 Budget Statement 2020/2021

## 5. OPTIONS CONSIDERED

The following options have been identified which could potentially provide a solution.

<b>Option</b>	<b>Description</b>
1	Status quo – continue as a standalone school
2	Federation with Crickhowell C.P. School  This is not a viable option as it is not possible to federate a C. in W. school with a C.P. school, therefore this option is <b>DISCOUNTED</b>
3	Federation with Llangattock C. in W. School
4	Merge with Crickhowell C.P. School to establish a new school on two sites
5	Merge with Llangattock C. in W. School to establish a new school on two sites
6	Close Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School, retain the site as part of Crickhowell C.P. School
7	Close Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School, retain the site as part of Llangattock C. in W. School
8	Merge with Crickhowell C.P. School to establish a new school on the Crickhowell site
9	Merge with Crickhowell C.P. School to establish a new school on the Llanbedr site
10	Merge with Llangattock C. in W. School to establish a new school on the Llangattock site
11	Merge with Llangattock C. in W. School to establish a new school on the Llanbedr site
12	Close Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School, pupils to attend nearest alternative schools

SWOT analyses have been carried out for each of these options. In addition, the options have been assessed against a number of Critical Success Factors, and the likely impact of each option on quality and standards, the community and travelling arrangements was also considered. These can be found in Appendix B and Appendix C of this document.

## **6. PREFERRED OPTION**

Based on the SWOT analyses, the assessment against the Critical Success Factors and the consideration of the likely impact of each option on quality and standards, the community and travelling arrangements, the preferred option is as follows:

### **Close Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School, pupils to attend nearest alternative schools**

The reasons for this are:

- Would address the issue of low pupil numbers at Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School
- Would reduce the Council's overall surplus capacity in primary schools
- Revenue saving to the Council
- Pupils would attend larger schools, which would be better equipped to meet the requirements of the new curriculum
- Pupils would attend larger schools, which could provide a wider range of educational and extra-curricular opportunities
- Would reduce the Council's surplus places in primary schools
- Would lead to rationalisation of the primary school estate
- Financial saving to the Council
- Meets all the Critical Success Factors

This is the basis for the current proposal on which the Council is consulting.

The proposal is further explored in the following section. The reasons why the other options considered have not been taken forward are summarised in Appendix D of this document.

## PART B – THE PROPOSAL

### 7. OVERVIEW

Powys County Council is consulting on a proposal to close Llanbedr C. in W. School. The proposal is as follows:

- To close Llanbedr C. in W. School from the 31st August 2022, with pupils to transfer to their nearest alternative schools

### 8. REASONS FOR THE PROPOSAL

The Council is proposing to close Llanbedr C. in W. School for the following reasons:

- Would address the issue of low pupil numbers at Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School
- Would reduce the Council's overall surplus capacity in primary schools
- Revenue saving to the Council
- Pupils would attend larger schools, which would be better equipped to meet the requirements of the new curriculum
- Pupils would attend larger schools, which could provide a wider range of educational and extra-curricular opportunities
- Would reduce the Council's surplus places in primary schools
- Would lead to rationalisation of the primary school estate
- Financial saving to the Council
- Meets all of the Critical Success Factors

### 9. ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES

The advantages and disadvantages of the current proposal to close Llanbedr C. in W. School are summarised below:

Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Would address the issue of low pupil numbers at Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School</li><li>- Would reduce the Council's overall surplus capacity in primary schools</li><li>- Revenue saving to the Council</li><li>- Pupils would attend larger schools, which would be better equipped to meet the requirements of the new curriculum</li><li>- Pupils would attend larger schools, which could provide a wider range of educational and extra-curricular opportunities</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Additional travel for those pupils for whom Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School is currently the closest school</li><li>- Additional travel costs</li><li>- Pupils currently attending Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School would have to transfer to alternative provision</li><li>- Loss of provision from Llanbedr, including nursery provision</li><li>- Impact on the current staff of Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School</li><li>- Impact on the Llanbedr community</li><li>- Loss of C. in W. provision from Llanbedr</li></ul>

- Alternative Church in Wales provision is available in the catchment at Llangattock C. in W. School	
--	--

## 10. RISKS

As with all school reorganisation proposals, there are some risks associated with the proposal to close Llanbedr C. in W. School.

These are outlined below, along with suggested mitigating actions:

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating Actions
Period of uncertainty for Llanbedr C. in W. School if a statutory process is carried out and implemented which might have a negative effect on standards at the school	Medium	Medium	The Council to provide advice and support to the school and governing body to ensure that standards and performance do not deteriorate during the transition period
Uncertainty for staff whilst the process is ongoing	Medium	Medium	Engagement with staff to take place throughout the process and staff to be kept informed of developments

## 11. POTENTIAL IMPLEMENTATION TIMESCALE

Should Cabinet decide to proceed with the proposals, potential implementation timescales are as follows:

Formal Consultation	21 <sup>st</sup> April 2021 to 23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2021
Consultation Report to be published, and considered by Cabinet	September 2021

**If Cabinet decide to proceed:**

Publish Statutory Notice (28 days objection period)	October 2021
Objection Report to be published and considered by Cabinet	December 2021

**If Cabinet approves implementation:**

School closes	31 <sup>st</sup> August 2022
---------------	------------------------------

## **PART C – LIKELY IMPACT OF THE PROPOSAL**

### **12. IMPACT ON PUPILS**

#### **i) Pupils currently attending Llanbedr C. in W. School**

Should the Council proceed with implementation of the proposal, Llanbedr C. in W. School would close and pupils would transfer to their nearest alternative schools. It is acknowledged that this would have an impact on pupils currently attending Llanbedr C. in W. School, as they would need to transfer to an alternative school. Should the proposal be implemented, the Council would work closely with the current school and the alternative schools to ensure a smooth transition.

As Llanbedr C. in W. School would close and pupils would transfer to their nearest alternative provision, additional transport would be required for pupils for whom Llanbedr C. in W. School is currently the closest school. Whilst free home to school transport would be provided to eligible pupils in accordance with Council's home to school transport policy, it is acknowledged that there could be an impact on pupils' ability to access after-school activities, and that there could be increased travelling times to school for some pupils.

#### **ii) Pupils attending other schools in the Crickhowell catchment**

Should the Council proceed with implementation of the proposal, Llanbedr C. in W. School would close and pupils currently attending the school would transfer to their nearest alternative schools. This would mean that pupils would transfer to other schools in the Crickhowell catchment.

As Llanbedr C. in W. School would close and pupils would transfer to their nearest alternative provision, the proposal could impact on pupils at the nearest alternative schools as the school would receive additional pupils. However, the total number of pupils attending Llanbedr C. in W. School is relatively small, therefore it is not anticipated that this would have a significant impact on pupils attending other schools in the Crickhowell catchment. The numbers admitted to each school would be in line with the admissions number for each school.

#### **iii) Pupils attending other schools not in the Crickhowell catchment**

Should the Council proceed with implementation of the proposal, Llanbedr C. in W. School would close and pupils currently attending the school would transfer to their nearest alternative schools. Some of the pupils currently attending Llanbedr C. in W. School live in Monmouthshire, therefore it is possible that they would transfer to alternative schools in Monmouthshire.

As Llanbedr C. in W. School would close and pupils would transfer to their nearest alternative provision, the proposal could impact on pupils at nearby

schools located in Monmouthshire as the schools could receive additional pupils. However, the total number of pupils attending Llanbedr C. in W School is relatively small, therefore it is not anticipated that this would have a significant impact on pupils attending nearby schools in Monmouthshire. Pupils would need to apply to Monmouthshire for a place at schools in Monmouthshire, and pupils would be admitted in line with the admissions number for each school.

## **13. IMPACT ON STAFF**

Should the proposal be implemented, Llanbedr C. in W. School would close. A staff redundancy process would be necessary for staff currently employed at Llanbedr C. in W. School. This would be conducted in line with the relevant HR policies for teaching and support staff. All cleaning and catering staff that are currently employed centrally by the Council would be supported by the relevant HR policies for Council employees.

## **14. IMPACT ON NURSERY / EARLY YEARS PROVISION**

In September 2017, the Council changed the age of admission to primary schools in Powys from “at the start of the term in which they attain their fourth birthday” to “at the start of the school year following his/her fourth birthday”. However, Llanbedr C. in W. School is a Voluntary Aided School which is responsible for its own admissions arrangements and has continued to admit nursery aged pupils to the school.

Full nursery provision is available at Llanbedr C. in W. School. Information about this provision is provided below:

### **Llanbedr C. in W. School**

Llanbedr C. in W. School is a Voluntary Aided Church in Wales school and as such is responsible for its own admission arrangements and has continued to admit nursery aged pupils to the school since the Council changed the age of admission to primary schools in Powys in September 2017. Standards of nursery education and sufficiency of accommodation are good. Good use is made of the outdoor learning area and supports pupils’ learning effectively.

Implementation of the current proposal would result in the closure of Llanbedr C. in W. School, and would therefore mean that the provision for nursery aged pupils which is currently available at Llanbedr C. in W. School would no longer be available in Llanbedr. Similarly to other families across Powys, families currently accessing nursery provision at Llanbedr C. in W. School would be able to access funded early years provision, which is available at the following providers in the Llanbedr area<sup>5</sup>:

---

<sup>5</sup> All information correct as of Summer Term 2021/22

## **Allsorts Nursery**

Allsorts Nursery is a non-maintained community run setting which operates from the site of Crickhowell C.P. School. They also provide the Childcare Offer for Wales. Standards of nursery education and sufficiency of accommodation at this provider are good. The setting operates from an annex within the school and has access to an indoor and outdoor area.

There are 30 ten hours early years education places available at this provider which are currently sufficient to meet the need for early years education in the area.

## **Llangattock Little Sparks**

Llangattock Little Sparks is a non-maintained school run setting, which operates from the site of Llangattock C. in W. School. They also provide the Childcare Offer for Wales. Standards of nursery education and sufficiency of accommodation at this provider are good. The setting has good facilities with direct access to a good sized outdoor area.

There are 16 ten hours early years education places available at this provider which currently meet the need for early years education in the area.

Should the Council proceed with the proposal to close Llanbedr C. in W. School, early years education provision would be available at the alternative providers listed above. Whilst there is currently some pressure on the availability of early years education places at Allsorts Community Playgroup in Crickhowell, the funded places could be increased to accommodate any additional demand, if needed.

There are early years education places available at Llangattock Little Sparks, which would also provide access to early years provision within a Church in Wales school.

It is acknowledged that the ten hours early years education available at these alternative providers is not the same full nursery provision available at Llanbedr C. in W. School, however the alternative provision which is available is in line with the provision available to other parents across Powys. It is also acknowledged that implementation of the proposal would mean that parents currently accessing nursery provision at Llanbedr C. in W. School would need to travel further to access alternative provision.

## **15. IMPACT ON GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS**

Implementation of the proposal would result in the closure of Llanbedr C. in W. School and the Governing Body of Llanbedr C. in W. School would be dissolved.

## **16. IMPACT ON QUALITY AND STANDARDS IN EDUCATION**

### **i) Standards, wellbeing and attitudes to learning**

## **Standards and progress overall, of specific groups and in skills**

Should the Council proceed with implementation of the preferred option, Llanbedr C. in W. School would close, and pupils would transfer to alternative schools. For the majority of pupils, the closest alternative school would be Crickhowell C. P. School, however some pupils may wish to transfer to Llangattock C. in W. School as the nearest alternative Church in Wales school. Some pupils may also live closer to Llangynidr C.P. School. A number of pupils from outside Powys also attend Llanbedr C. in W. School, should the proposal be implemented, these pupils could either transfer to alternative provision in Powys, or could attend provision nearer their homes.

The Council's view is that all three Powys schools would provide education for pupils which is of at least equivalent quality as that provided at Llanbedr C. in W. School, therefore it is not anticipated that implementation of the preferred option would have a negative impact on standards and progress overall.

This would also apply in respect of pupils belonging to specific groups, such as pupils eligible for Free School Meals, pupils for whom English is an Additional Language, Looked after Children and pupils with Additional Learning Needs. Based on PLASC 2020 information, there are no Looked after Children or pupils for whom English is an Additional Language at Llanbedr C. in W. School. There are a number of pupils eligible for Free School Meals and a number of pupils with Additional Learning Needs, however the number of pupils belonging to these groups are small. It is not anticipated that implementation of the preferred option would have a negative impact on the standards and progress of these pupils.

This is also the case in respect of the impact on the skills of all pupils, including literacy, numeracy and ICT. Pupils would transfer to larger schools, which would provide improved opportunities to share staff expertise and resources, and which have an improved ability to monitor pupil progress in these aspects.

## **Wellbeing and attitudes to learning**

In the short term, it is possible that there would be an impact on pupils wellbeing, as they would need to transfer from Llanbedr C. in W. School to alternative schools. It is possible that pupils could choose to transfer to different schools, which could have a further impact on their wellbeing. However, the receiving school(s) would provide full support to the pupils during the transition period, to minimise any negative impact on them.

For some pupils, implementation of the preferred option could result in additional travel, which could have an impact on pupil well-being. However, alternative primary provision would be available at other schools located

within a few miles of Llanbedr C. in W. School. It is not considered that the additional travel time required to alternative provision would be excessive.

In the longer term, the intention is that implementation of the preferred option would have a positive impact on pupil wellbeing and attitudes to learning as they would transfer to larger schools with larger cohorts of pupils, providing improved social and extra-curricular opportunities.

## **ii) Teaching and learning experiences**

### **Quality of teaching**

Should the Council proceed with implementation of the preferred option, Llanbedr C. in W. School would close, and pupils would transfer to alternative schools. For the majority of pupils, the closest alternative school would be Crickhowell C. P. School, however some pupils may wish to transfer to Llangattock C. in W. School as the nearest alternative Church in Wales school. Some pupils may also live closer to Llangynidr C.P. School. A number of pupils from outside Powys also attend Llanbedr C. in W. School, should the proposal be implemented, these pupils could either transfer to alternative provision in Powys, or could attend provision nearer their homes.

The Council has no concerns about the quality of teaching at any of the schools located in Powys, therefore it is not anticipated that implementation of the preferred option would have a negative impact on the quality of teaching experienced by pupils currently attending Llanbedr C. in W. School.

### **The breadth, balance and appropriateness of the curriculum**

Should the Council proceed with implementation of the preferred option, Llanbedr C. in W. School would close, and pupils would transfer to alternative schools. For the majority of pupils, the closest alternative school would be Crickhowell C. P. School, however some pupils may wish to transfer to Llangattock C. in W. School as the nearest alternative Church in Wales school. Some pupils may also live closer to Llangynidr C.P. School. A number of pupils from outside Powys also attend Llanbedr C. in W. School, should the proposal be implemented, these pupils could either transfer to alternative provision in Powys, or could attend provision nearer their homes.

The Council's view is that all three Powys schools would provide a curriculum which is at least equivalent to that currently provided at Llanbedr C. in W. School. It is likely that pupils would transfer to larger schools, therefore the expectation would be that there would be an improvement in the breadth, balance and appropriateness of the curriculum provided to pupils within single year groups or dual year group class.

Llanbedr C. in W. School is a Church in Wales school, which impacts on some aspects of the curriculum. Alternative Church in Wales provision is

available at Llangattock C. in W. School, ensuring that denominational provision would continue to be available to those pupils who wished to access it.

### **The provision of skills**

Should the Council proceed with implementation of the preferred option, Llanbedr C. in W. School would close, and pupils would transfer to alternative schools. For the majority of pupils, the closest alternative school would be Crickhowell C. P. School, however some pupils may wish to transfer to Llangattock C. in W. School as the nearest alternative Church in Wales school. Some pupils may also live closer to Llangynidr C.P. School. A number of pupils from outside Powys also attend Llanbedr C. in W. School, should the proposal be implemented, these pupils could either transfer to alternative provision in Powys, or could attend provision nearer their homes.

The Council has no concerns about the provision of skills at the three schools located in Powys, therefore it is not anticipated that implementation of the preferred option would have a negative impact on the provision of skills for pupils currently attending Llanbedr C. in W. School.

### **iii) Care support and guidance**

#### **Tracking, monitoring and the provision of learning support, personal development and safeguarding**

Should the Council proceed with implementation of the preferred option, Llanbedr C. in W. School would close, and pupils would transfer to alternative schools. For the majority of pupils, the closest alternative school would be Crickhowell C. P. School, however some pupils may wish to transfer to Llangattock C. in W. School as the nearest alternative Church in Wales school. Some pupils may also live closer to Llangynidr C.P. School. A number of pupils from outside Powys also attend Llanbedr C. in W. School, should the proposal be implemented, these pupils could either transfer to alternative provision in Powys, or could attend provision nearer their homes.

It is not anticipated that implementation of the preferred option would have a negative impact on tracking, monitoring and the provision of learning support, personal development and safeguarding for pupils currently attending Llanbedr C. in W. School.

### **iv) Leadership and management**

#### **Quality and effectiveness of leaders and managers, self-evaluation processes and improvement planning**

Should the Council proceed with implementation of the preferred option, Llanbedr C. in W. School would close, and pupils would transfer to

alternative schools. For the majority of pupils, the closest alternative school would be Crickhowell C. P. School, however some pupils may wish to transfer to Llangattock C. in W. School as the nearest alternative Church in Wales school. Some pupils may also live closer to Llangynidr C.P. School. A number of pupils from outside Powys also attend Llanbedr C. in W. School, should the proposal be implemented, these pupils could either transfer to alternative provision in Powys, or could attend provision nearer their homes.

There are permanent leadership arrangements in place at Llanbedr C. in W. School, Crickhowell C.P. School, Llangattock C. in W. School and Llangynidr C.P. School, therefore the Council's view is that leadership and management at the alternative schools would be at least as good as the current arrangements at Llanbedr.

The alternative schools to which pupils might transfer are all larger than Llanbedr C. in W. School, therefore the headteachers of these schools would have more time available to focus on leadership and management.

### **Professional learning**

It is not anticipated that implementation of the preferred option would impact on professional learning opportunities. Staff currently employed at Llanbedr C. in W. School would be subject to a management of change process.

### **Use of resources**

Llanbedr C. in W. School is projecting to be in a cumulative surplus budget position over the coming years. Whilst there are no concerns about the use of resources within the school, there are concerns about the use of resources overall within the Powys schools infrastructure. As indicated on page 5 above, one of the main challenges facing the Powys schools infrastructure is the high proportion of small schools in the county. Llanbedr C. in W. School is among the smallest schools in the county, and the budget share per pupil at the school is higher than the Powys average for primary schools.

Closure of the school would reduce the number of schools in Powys, and would enable the Council to use its resources more effectively for the benefit of all Powys learners.

Should the preferred option be implemented pupils would transfer to larger schools, ensuring more effective use of the Council's resources.

### **v) Impact on vulnerable groups, including children with Special Educational Needs (SEN)**

Implementation of the preferred option would impact on any vulnerable pupils currently attending Llanbedr C. in W. School, including any pupils with SEN.

Based on January 2020 PLASC information, 6.5% of pupils at Llanbedr C. in W. School were on School Action, 2.2% of pupils were on School Action Plus, and there were 2.2% statemented pupils.

Whilst the preferred option would impact on these pupils, as they would be required to move to alternative schools, there is no reason to believe that the schools to which they might transfer would not be able to meet their needs.

Should the option be implemented, the Council would work with Llanbedr C. in W. School and the receiving schools to ensure an effective transition for any vulnerable children, including children with SEN, and their families.

**vi) Impact on the schools' ability to deliver the full curriculum in the foundation stage and each key stage, including the quality of curriculum delivery and the extent to which the structure or size of the school is impacting on this**

Should the emerging preferred option be implemented, Llanbedr C. in W. School would close and pupils would transfer to alternative schools, therefore Llanbedr C. in W. School would no longer need to deliver the curriculum to any key stages.

Should Llanbedr school close, pupils would transfer to alternative schools. This would lead to an increase in pupil numbers at the schools to which the pupils wish to transfer. However current pupil numbers at Llanbedr School are small, and therefore the number of pupils likely to transfer to each year group is low, therefore the impact on alternative schools is not likely to have a significant impact on their ability to deliver the full curriculum at the foundation phase and in each key stage of education.

In some schools, it is possible that an increase in pupil numbers would improve their ability to deliver the curriculum, however depending on the class structure and current breakdown of pupils, it's likely that some schools would need to make adjustments to their class structure in the short term to accommodate any additional pupils.

**vii) Impact on other schools**

Should the Council proceed with implementation of the preferred option, Llanbedr C. in W. School would close, and pupils would transfer to alternative schools. For the majority of pupils, the closest alternative school would be Crickhowell C. P. School, however some pupils may wish to transfer to Llangattock C. in W. School as the nearest alternative Church in Wales school. Some pupils may also live closer to Llangynidr C.P. School. A number of pupils from outside Powys also attend Llanbedr C. in W. School, should the proposal be implemented, these pupils could either transfer to alternative provision in Powys, or could attend provision nearer their homes.

Whilst it is possible that this could have some impact on the schools pupils may wish to transfer to, particularly in the short term when they receive additional pupils, the total number of pupils at Llanbedr C. in W. School is relatively small, therefore it is not anticipated that this would have a negative impact on the quality and standards in education (to include standards; wellbeing and attitudes to learning; teaching and learning experiences; care support and guidance and leadership and management) at each of the schools pupils may transfer to. In some cases, it is possible that implementation of the proposal would have a positive impact on quality and standards in education at the alternative schools, as it would lead to an increase in pupil numbers and the opportunity to provide enhanced opportunities to pupils.

## **17. NEED FOR PLACES AND IMPACT ON AVAILABILITY OF PLACES AND ACCESSIBILITY OF SCHOOLS**

- i) **Will the alternative provision have sufficient capacity and provide accommodation of at least equivalent quality for existing and projected pupil numbers?**

The following table shows the number of spaces available and the building condition of Powys schools providing English-medium education located within 10 miles of Llanbedr C. in W. School:

School	Capacity <sup>6</sup>	Current pupil numbers <sup>7</sup>	Available spaces	Available capacity	Building Condition	Building Suitability
Crickhowell C.P. School	230	184	46	20.0%	C	B/C
Llangattock C. in W. School	121	101	20	16.5%	B	A/B
Llangynidr C.P. School	147	102	45	30.6%	B	B/C

This suggests that there are sufficient places at Crickhowell C.P. School and Llangattock C. in W. School to accommodate all pupils currently attending Llanbedr C. in W. School. There are also places available at Llangynidr C.P. School.

---

<sup>6</sup> Welsh Government School Places Return – August 2020

<sup>7</sup> Finance NOR – 2020 Pupil Count Day (6<sup>th</sup> November 2020)

In addition, there are a number of schools within the county of Monmouthshire which are within 10 miles of Llanbedr C. in W. School. The following table provides information about the number of places available in these schools:

School	Capacity <sup>8</sup>	Current pupil numbers <sup>9</sup>	Available spaces	Available capacity	Building Condition	Building Suitability
Deri View Primary School	330	276	54	17.4%	C	N/A
Gilwern Primary School	210	215	-5	-2.4%	C	N/A
Cantref Primary School	210	209	-30	-14.2%	C	N/A
Llanvihangel Crucorney C.P. School	77	68	9	11.7%	B	N/A
St Mary's RC Primary School	210	153	57	27.1%	C	N/A

This suggests that there are limited places available at the nearby schools located in Monmouthshire.

- ii) **Is the alternative provision sufficient to meet existing and projected demand for schools of the same language category and designated religious character?**

As indicated in the table in section (i) above, there is sufficient English-medium capacity within 10 miles of Llanbedr C. in W. School to accommodate the school's current and projected pupil numbers.

Llanbedr C. in W. School is a Church in Wales school. Alternative C. in W. provision is available at Llangattock C. in W. School, which would enable pupils to access a school of the same religious character, should they wish to continue to attend a Church in Wales school.

- iii) **What will be the nature of journeys to alternative provision and resulting journey times for pupils including SEN pupils?**

---

<sup>8</sup> Information received from Monmouthshire County Council March 2021

<sup>9</sup> Information received from Monmouthshire County Council March 2021

As indicated in the table in section (i) above, there are alternative primary places available at other schools within 10 miles of Llanbedr C. in W. School. Should Llanbedr C. in W. School close, it is not considered that the length and nature of journeys for pupils to alternative provision would be excessive. This includes journeys for SEN pupils. One-way journeys to alternative provision would not be in excess of 45 minutes.

**iv) Is there evidence of current or future need/demand in the area for additional places?**

The latest pupil projection figures for the area suggests that total pupil numbers at Crickhowell C.P. School, Llangynidr C.P. School and Llangattock C. in W. School are not expected to increase over the coming years.

**v) Will the proposals improve access for disabled pupils in accordance with requirements under the Equality Act 2010?**

Implementation of the proposal would mean that pupil would attend their nearest alternative school.

The latest Welsh Government School Premises Return 2020, indicates that these schools are either compliant, or partially compliant with the Equality Act 2010 with all of the schools having statutory Accessibility Plans in place.

## **18. RESOURCING OF EDUCATION AND OTHER FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

**i) What effect will the proposals have on surplus places in the area?**

Implementation of the preferred option would lead to an overall reduction in surplus places in the area.

**ii) Do the proposals form part of the local authority's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Investment Programme and contribute to the delivery of sustainable schools for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and to the better strategic management of the school estate?**

The review of Llanbedr C. in W. School does not form part of the local authority's 21st Century Schools Investment Programme.

However, the Council's Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys identifies a number of issues relating to the overall Powys schools' estate, including a high proportion of small schools, a high number of surplus places and issues with building condition. The Strategy includes a strategic objective to 'Reconfigure and rationalise primary provision', which aims to address these issues, to ensure better strategic management of the Powys school estate. The review of Llanbedr C. in W. School is being carried out in order to meet this objective.

**iii) What are the recurrent costs of proposals over a period of at least 3 years and is the necessary recurrent funding available?**

The recurrent costs of this proposal would be the increased transport costs which are currently estimated to be an additional £43,700 per annum as detailed in section (iv) below. This has been included in the delegated revenue costing and is funded through savings in other areas of the formula in relation to this proposal.

**iv) Will additional transport costs be incurred as a result of the proposal?**

It is estimated there would be additional transport costs of £43,700 per annum, this is based on pupil's current location and assuming the pupils will go to the next nearest school.

**v) What are the capital costs of the proposal and is the necessary capital funding is available?**

It is not anticipated that capital funding would be required in order to implement the emerging preferred option. As indicated in the table in section 17 (i) above, there are sufficient places at schools located within 10 miles of Llanbedr C. in W. School to accommodate all current and projected pupils.

**vi) What is the scale of any projected net savings (taking into account school revenue, transport and capital costs)**

It is estimated that this would result in annual revenue savings to the Council of around £101,100. This overall figure comprises a potential saving on Schools' delegated funding of over £153,500, estimated additional transport costs of £43,700, potential loss of funding for pupils that may move out of county of £17,700 and savings on catering costs of around £9,000.

**vii) Without the proposals, would the schools affected face budget deficits?**

Llanbedr C. in W. School is not currently forecasting a cumulative deficit budget.

**viii) Will any savings in recurrent costs be retained in the local authority's local schools budget?**

Any savings would be reinvested in the Council's corporate budget and any reinvestment in the schools' system would be agreed as part of the annual budget planning cycle.

**ix) Will the proceeds of sales (capital receipts) of redundant sites be made available to meet the costs of the proposal or contribute to the costs of**

**future proposals which will promote effective management of school places?**

Llanbedr C. in W. School is not owned by the Council, therefore the Council would not receive any capital receipts following any sale of the site.

## **19. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

### **i) Impact on educational attainment among children from economically deprived backgrounds**

Implementation of the preferred option would impact on any pupils from economically deprived backgrounds currently attending Llanbedr C. in W. School. All pupils currently attending the school, including any from economically deprived backgrounds, would need to transfer to alternative schools. Free home to school transport would be provided to eligible pupils in accordance with Council's home to school transport policy, however it is acknowledged that there would be an impact on families due to the requirement to travel to school events, which could have a greater impact on children from economically deprived backgrounds.

Based on PLASC figures from January 2020, 6.5% of pupils attending Llanbedr C. in W. School were eligible for free school meals, therefore it is likely that implementation of the proposal would impact on some pupils from economically deprived backgrounds, however the number of pupils is likely to be small.

As indicated in section 16 above, the Council's view is that all three Powys schools would provide education for pupils which is of at least equivalent quality as that provided at Llanbedr C. in W. School, therefore it is not anticipated that implementation of the preferred option would have a negative impact on educational attainment, including for any children from economically deprived backgrounds.

### **ii) Land and Buildings**

#### **Comparison of the quality of accommodation at the school from which pupils would be transferred**

Information about the quality of accommodation at Llanbedr C. in W. School and other schools to which pupils may transfer is provided in Appendix A.

#### **Information on any building works necessary to ensure that transferred children can be accommodated**

No building works are necessary as there is sufficient capacity at nearby schools to accommodate all pupils currently attending Llanbedr C. in W. School.

**Details of any potential transfer or disposal of land or buildings that may need to occur as a result of the proposals**

Llanbedr C. in W. School is a Church in Wales school and the building is owned by the Diocese of Swansea and Brecon. Should the Council proceed with the proposal to close the school, the buildings / land currently used by the school would be transferred back to the Diocese of Swansea and Brecon who would need to determine their future use.

**Is the school / schools involved subject to any trust or charitable interests which might be affected by the proposals, for example in relation to the use or disposal of land?**

Llanbedr C. in W. School is not subject to any trust which may be affected in relation to the use or disposal of land.

**iii) Walking routes to school**

Should the proposal be implemented, walking routes which are currently established for Llanbedr C. in W. School would no longer be required.

For those pupils for whom Llanbedr C. in W. School is currently the closest school, additional travel would be required to access alternative provision. For these pupils, it is unlikely that walking or cycling to the alternative school would be possible. However, many of the pupils that currently attend Llanbedr C. in W. School live closer to other schools. Should they transfer to their closest school, it is possible that they would be able to walk or cycle to school.

**iv) School Admissions**

Should the proposal be implemented, admissions to nearest alternative schools in Powys would continue to be administered by the Council in accordance with the Council's Admissions Policy, which is available on-line at: <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/1158/Applying-for-a-School-Place>.

For pupils wishing to transfer to schools in Monmouthshire, this would be administered by Monmouthshire County Council in accordance with their Admissions Policy, which is available at:

<https://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/applying-for-a-school-place/>

**v) Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP)**

The proposal is to close an English-medium school. The proposal is not linked to the targets in the Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan.

The proposal would not expand or reduce the availability of Welsh language provision.

## 20. SPECIFIC FACTORS IN THE CONSIDERATION OF SCHOOL CLOSURES

- i) **Whether the establishment of multi-site schools might be considered as a means of retaining buildings, or the reasons for not pursuing this option**

A range of options have been considered in respect of Llanbedr C. in W. School, these are outlined in Appendix C of this document, as well as an assessment of each option which includes a summary of the weaknesses / threats associated with each.

Pupil numbers at Llanbedr C. in W. School are low, and are not projected to increase above 40 over the coming years. Establishing a multi-site school would not address this issue.

- ii) **Whether alternatives to closure, such as clustering, collaboration or federation with other schools, might be considered or the reasons for not pursuing these as an alternative**

Federation of Llanbedr C. in W. School with Llangattock C. in W. School is one of the options considered in Appendix C of this document. An assessment of this option has been carried out, which includes a summary of the weaknesses / threats associated with this option.

Pupil numbers at Llanbedr C. in W. School are very low, and are not projected to increase significantly over the coming years. Becoming part of a federation with another school would not address this issue.

- iii) **Whether the possibility of making fuller use of the existing buildings as a community or educational resource could be explored**

The Council's view is that making more use of the existing building as a community or educational resource would not address the issues identified in respect of Llanbedr C. in W. School.

Pupil numbers at the school are low, and are not projected to increase significantly over the coming years.

- iv) **The overall effect of closure on the local community (including the loss of school based facilities which are used by the local community)**

Implementation of the preferred option would mean that there would no longer be provision in Llanbedr. It is acknowledged that this would have a negative impact on the Llanbedr community, including the loss of primary

provision from the village of Llanbedr, and a possible loss of any community facilities associated with the school from the village.

An initial community impact assessment has been carried out, with input from the school to identify the potential impact on the community. This will be updated throughout the process to reflect any feedback received, and will be considered by the Council's Cabinet as part of the decision making process.

**v) How parents' and pupils' engagement with the alternative school and any facilities it may offer could be supported**

Should the Council proceed with the statutory process and eventually implementation of the preferred option, support would be provided to pupils and their parents as part of the transition process, to ensure full engagement with their new schools. The nature of this support will depend on the needs of the parents / pupils, however this could include effective transition arrangements with the receiving school to ensure pupils transition is positive.

## **21. EQUALITY AND COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENTS**

Draft impact assessments have been carried out in respect of the proposal. These will be updated following the consultation period to reflect any additional issues raised. The assessments are available on the Council's website:

<https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/10568/Llanbedr-Church-in-Wales-School>

A summary of the assessments are provided below:

**i) Equalities impact assessment**

Should the proposal be implemented, Llanbedr C. in W. School would close, and pupils transfer to their nearest alternative school.

This would have a significant impact on pupils currently attending Llanbedr C. in W. School, including any pupils belonging to the protected characteristic groups that attend that school, as some additional travel would be required in order to attend their nearest alternative school.

Whilst it is acknowledged that the proposals would impact on pupils belonging to the protected characteristic groups that attend the school, there is no reason to believe that the nearest alternative schools would be unable to meet the needs of pupils belonging to the protected characteristic groups that would be affected, including pupils with Additional Learning Needs, pupils belonging to Ethnic Groups other than White British, pupils eligible for Free School Meals and Looked After Children.

**ii) Impact on the community**

It is clear that a wide range of extra curricular activities are available to pupils at Llanbedr. Should there be no school in Llanbedr, pupils would transfer to alternative schools. These would be larger schools, and the expectation is that at least a similar range of activities would be available for pupils. However, it is acknowledged that pupils would need to travel to the alternative schools, which could impact on their ability to access activities, particularly where these take place after school.

Should the proposal be implemented, this would mean that there would be no school provision in the village of Llanbedr. The information provided above indicates that there is currently extensive community use of the Llanbedr building, and extensive links between the school and the local community. As a Church in Wales School, the Llanbedr School building is owned by the Diocese, therefore the Diocese would need to determine the building's future use, and therefore whether or not facilities would remain in Llanbedr. There is a village hall located in Llanbedr, therefore should the school no longer be available, community events and activities could take place at the hall.

It is also acknowledged that implementation of the proposal would result in additional travel to school for pupils for whom Llanbedr is currently their closest school. Whilst free home to school transport would be provided to eligible pupils in accordance with the home to school transport policy which is in operation at that time, it is acknowledged that there could be an impact on some pupils' ability to access after school activities, and could impact on the ability of parents to take part in school events, meetings etc.

## PART D – CONSULTATION DETAILS

### Who will we consult with?

The Council will consult with a range of stakeholders as required by the School Organisation Code, which include the following:

- Parents, carers and guardians at Llanbedr C. in W. School and other schools which may be affected by the proposal
- Governors at Llanbedr C. in W. School and other schools which may be affected by the proposal
- Staff at Llanbedr C. in W. School and other schools which may be affected by the proposal
- Pupils at Llanbedr C. in W. School and other schools which may be affected by the proposal
- The Church in Wales and Roman Catholic Diocesan Authorities
- The Welsh Minister for Education
- Monmouthshire County Council
- Local Powys Councillors
- Town and Community Councils in the local area
- The prospective candidates for Member of the Senedd for Brecon and Radnorshire and prospective candidates for Members of the Senedd for the Mid & West Wales region
- The MP for Brecon and Radnorshire
- Estyn
- Teaching and staff trade unions
- ERW
- The prospective candidates for Police & Crime Commissioner for Dyfed Powys
- Nursery providers in the local area
- Mudiad Meithrin
- The Powys Children and Young People's Partnership

Consultation with pupils will take place in accordance with the Welsh children and young people's national participation standards<sup>10</sup>.

### The consultation period

The consultation period will commence on the 21<sup>st</sup> April 2021 and will end on the 23rd June 2021.

### The statutory process

Consultation on this proposal will follow the guidelines set out by the Welsh Government in the revised School Organisation Code which became operational on the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2018. The process is summarised below:

---

<sup>10</sup> <https://gov.wales/children-and-young-peoples-national-participation-standards>

### **i) Consultation**

Consultation will start on the 21<sup>st</sup> April 2021 and end on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2021. Feedback from the consultation will be collated and summarised, and a consultation report will be produced and shared with stakeholders.

It is important to note that responses made to the consultation will not be counted as objections to the proposal, and that only objections can be registered following publication of a statutory notice.

The Council's Cabinet will consider the consultation report and the feedback received during the consultation period, and will decide whether to proceed with the proposal, to make changes to the proposal, or to not proceed with the proposal. If the Cabinet decides not to proceed, that will be the end of this proposal.

It is anticipated that the Consultation Report will be considered by the Cabinet in the autumn of 2021.

### **ii) Statutory notice**

If the Cabinet decides to proceed with the proposal, statutory notices would be published after the Cabinet meeting. There would then be a period of 28 days for people to submit written objections.

If there were objections, the Council would publish an objection report providing a summary of the objections and the Council's response to them before the end of 7 days beginning with the day of the local authority's determination. Only written objections submitted during the statutory notice period will be considered as objections and included in this report. Comments submitted as part of the consultation period would not be counted as objections. Should stakeholders wish their consultation responses to be considered as objections, they would need to be re-submitted in writing during the statutory notice period.

A further report would be presented to the Council's Cabinet, which they would consider alongside the objection report, in order to decide whether or not to approve the proposal.

It is anticipated that a final decision would be made by December 2021.

### **iii) Implementation**

If the Council's Cabinet were to approve the proposal, it would be implemented in accordance with the date given in the statutory notice or any subsequently modified date.

## **How to respond to the consultation**

A consultation response form is attached to this document. An online version is also available on the Council's website:

<https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/10568/Llanbedr-Church-in-Wales-School>

Alternatively, you can respond in writing.

Completed forms and other written responses should be sent to the following address:

*Transforming Education Team, Powys County Council, County Hall, Llandrindod Wells,  
LD1 5LG*

*E-mail: [school.consultation@powys.gov.uk](mailto:school.consultation@powys.gov.uk)*

All correspondence should be received by the **23<sup>rd</sup> June 2021**.

If you have any further questions about this proposal, you can contact the Transforming Education Team using the above contact details, or by phoning (01597) 826618.

## APPENDIX A – KEY DATA

Key data about the affected schools is provided below:

### 1. Llanbedr C. in W. School

#### General information

	School Type	Language Category	Admission Number <sup>11</sup>	Rural School? <sup>12</sup>
Llanbedr C. in W. School	Voluntary Aided Church in Wales  School building owned by the Diocese	English medium	5	Yes

#### Pupil numbers

##### i) Current pupil numbers<sup>13</sup>

	N1	N2	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total N-Yr 6	Total R-Yr 6
Llanbedr C in W. School	1	4	5	2	11	7	4	7	4	45	40

(As a Voluntary Aided School, Llanbedr C. in W. School is responsible for its own admissions arrangements and admits nursery aged pupils to the school, however these pupils are not funded by the Council. Information about nursery aged pupil numbers is provided here for information)

##### ii) Historical pupil numbers<sup>14</sup>

	Jan. 2014	Jan. 2015	Jan. 2016	Jan. 2017	Jan. 2018	Jan. 2019	Jan. 2020
Llanbedr C. in W. School (N – Yr 6)	39	41	40	39	43	42	46

<sup>11</sup> Powys Admissions Information and Arrangements 2021-22

<sup>12</sup> Annex F of the Welsh Government's School Organisation Code (2018)

(<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-10/school-organisation-code-second-edition.pdf>)

includes a list of 'rural schools', to which the 'Presumption against the closure of rural schools' applies.

<sup>13</sup> Finance NOR – 2020 Pupil Count Day (6th November 2020)

<sup>14</sup> PLASC

**iii) Projected pupil numbers<sup>15</sup>**

		Jan. 2021	Jan. 2022	Jan. 2023	Jan. 2024	Jan. 2025
Llanbedr C. in W. School	N – Yr 6	42	41	39	38	36
Llanbedr C. in W. School	R – Yr 6	37	37	34	33	31

(As a Voluntary Aided School, Llanbedr C. in W. School is responsible for its own admissions arrangements and admits nursery aged pupils to the school, however these pupils are not funded by the Council. Information about nursery aged pupil numbers is provided here for information)

**iv) Projected pupil numbers (Finance projections)<sup>16</sup>**

	Jan. 2021	Jan. 2022	Jan. 2023	Jan. 2024	Jan. 2025
Llanbedr C. in W. School (R – Yr 6)	39	39	36	N/A	N/A

**Building Capacity and Condition**

**i) Capacity**

The following table provides information about the current capacity of Llanbedr Church in Wales school:

		Current Capacity <sup>17</sup>	Currently Filled	Surplus Capacity
Llanbedr C. in W. School	N – Yr 6	57	45 (78.9%)	12 (21.1%)
Llanbedr C. in W. School	R – Yr 6	57	40 (70.2%)	17 (29.8%)

**ii) Building condition<sup>18</sup>**

In 2009, Welsh Government carried out condition and suitability assessments of the school.

<sup>15</sup> Powys Schools Service Projections based on PLASC & Birth Rates

<sup>16</sup> Powys Finance Projections based on data provided by the schools – November 2020

<sup>17</sup> Welsh Government School Places Return – August 2020

<sup>18</sup> Premises Data Return to Welsh Government – 2020

	<b>Condition</b>	<b>Suitability</b>	<b>Access to hall on site</b>
<b>Llanbedr C. in W. School</b>	B Good	B/C	Yes

### **Quality and standards of education**

#### i) **Estyn**

The following table summarises the last Estyn inspections of the three schools:

	<b>Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School</b>
<b>Date of Inspection</b>	April 2014
<b>Standards</b>	Adequate
<b>Wellbeing</b>	Good
<b>Learning experiences</b>	Good
<b>Teaching</b>	Adequate
<b>Care, support and guidance</b>	Good
<b>Learning environment</b>	Good
<b>Leadership</b>	Good
<b>Improving quality</b>	Good
<b>Partnership working</b>	Good
<b>Resource management</b>	Adequate
<b>Follow up activity</b>	<p>School will draw up an action plan to address the recommendations. Estyn will monitor progress.</p> <p>(Removed from monitoring in July 2015)</p>

#### ii) **School Categorisation<sup>19</sup>**

The latest categorisations of the school in accordance with the National School Categorisation System for 2019 are as follows:

---

<sup>19</sup> 2019. Categorisations were not carried out in 2020 due to Covid-19.

	<b>Standards Group</b>	<b>Improvement Capacity</b>	<b>Support Capacity</b>
<b>Llanbedr C. in W. School</b>	N/A	A	Green

### **Financial information**

#### **Cost per pupil<sup>20</sup>**

	<b>Budget share per school</b>	<b>Budget share per pupil</b>	<b>Notional SEN budget</b>	<b>Non ISB funds devolved to the school</b>
<b>Llanbedr C. in W. School</b>	£232,000	£5,948	£14,000	£3,000
<b>Powys average (Primary)</b>	N/A	£4,264	N/A	N/A

### **Equalities information<sup>21</sup>**

#### **i) National identity**

(Pupils aged 5 or over on the 31st August 2019)

	<b>British</b>	<b>English</b>	<b>Irish</b>	<b>Scottish</b>	<b>Welsh</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Not supplied</b>	<b>Refused</b>
<b>Llanbedr C. in W. School</b>	17.4%	10.9%	0.0%	0.0%	54.3%	4.3%	13.0%	0.0%

#### **ii) Ethnic Group**

(Pupils aged 5 or over on the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019)

	<b>White British</b>	<b>Other known ethnicity</b>	<b>Information not yet obtained</b>
<b>Llanbedr C. in W. School</b>	82.6%	4.3%	13.0%

#### **iii) English as an Additional Language**

<sup>20</sup> Section 52 Budget Statement, 2020/21

<sup>21</sup> PLASC 2020

	% EAL	% EAL A/B/C
Llanbedr C. in W. School	0.0%	0.0%

**iv) Free School Meals**

	Not eligible for FSM	Eligible for FSM	% Eligible for FSM
Llanbedr C. in W. School	43	3	6.5%

**v) Looked after children**

	Looked after children
Llanbedr C. in W. School	0.0%

**vi) Additional Learning Needs (ALN)**

	None	School Action	School Action Plus	Statement	% ALN
Llanbedr C. in W. School	89.1%	6.5%	2.2%	2.2%	10.9%

**2. Other schools that could be affected**

Should the proposal to close Llanbedr C. in W. School be implemented, pupils would transfer to their nearest alternative school.

The expectation is that the number of pupils transferring to each school would be small, and therefore the impact on these schools would not be significant. However, information about schools to which pupils may transfer is provided below:

	School Type	Language Category	Admission Number <sup>22</sup>
Crickhowell C.P. School	Community Primary  School building owned by Powys County Council	English medium	25

<sup>22</sup> Powys Schools – Powys County Council Admission Arrangements and Information 2021/22 / Monmouthshire Schools – Monmouthshire County Council School Admissions Policy 2021/22

<b>Llangynidr C.P. School</b>	Community Primary School building owned by Powys County Council	English medium	21
<b>Llangattock C. in W. Primary School</b>	Voluntary Controlled Church in Wales  School building owned by the Diocese	English medium	20
<b>Deri View Primary School</b>	Community Primary  Maintained by Monmouthshire County Council	English medium	47
<b>Gilwern Primary School</b>	Community Primary  Maintained by Monmouthshire County Council	English medium	30
<b>Llanvihangel Crucorney C.P. School</b>	Community Primary  Maintained by Monmouthshire County Council	English medium	11

### Pupil Numbers

#### i) Current pupil numbers<sup>23</sup>

	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
<b>Crickhowell C.P. School</b>	17	24	26	33	24	27	33	184
<b>Llangynidr C.P. School</b>	12	10	13	15	14	19	19	102
<b>Llangattock C. in W. Primary School</b>	14	15	18	14	16	12	12	101
<b>Deri View Primary School</b>	36	38	38	38	41	42	43	276

<sup>23</sup> Powys Schools - Finance NOR – 2020 Pupil Count Day (6<sup>th</sup> November 2020) / Information received from Monmouthshire County Council March 2021

<b>Gilwern Primary School</b>	25	40	30	30	30	30	30	215
<b>Llanvihangel Crucorney C.P. School</b>	12	11	7	12	8	11	7	68

**ii) Historical pupil numbers<sup>24</sup>**

	Jan. 2014	Jan. 2015	Jan. 2016	Jan. 2017	Jan. 2018	Jan. 2019	Jan. 2020
<b>Crickhowell C.P. School</b>	242	232	233	224	204	203	192
<b>Llangynidr C.P. School</b>	112	121	137	136	137	130	116
<b>Llangattock C. in W. Primary School</b>	108	113	118	109	106	105	108
<b>Deri View Primary School</b>	260	264	258	253	262	256	271
<b>Gilwern Primary School</b>	181	180	192	198	206	203	220
<b>Llanvihangel Crucorney C.P. School</b>	54	47	54	57	63	68	69

**iii) Projected pupil numbers (Birth rate)<sup>25</sup>**

	Jan. 2021	Jan. 2022	Jan. 2023	Jan. 2024	Jan. 2025
<b>Crickhowell C.P. School</b>	177	165	160	156	143

<sup>24</sup> PLASC 2020

<sup>25</sup> Powys Schools Service Projections (R – Yr6) based on PLASC 2020 & Birth Rates / Monmouthshire Service Projections (R – Yr6) based on PLASC 2020 & Birth Rates. These are the projected figures based on PLASC 2020 information, therefore include a projection for January 2021. PLASC 2021 information and projected pupil numbers based on PLASC 2021 are not yet available.

<b>Llangynidr C.P. School</b>	107	97	90	86	78
<b>Llangattock C. in W. Primary School</b>	96	91	87	79	74
<b>Deri View Primary School</b>	298	305	296	302	303
<b>Gilwern Primary School</b>	211	203	195	195	191
<b>Llanvihangel Crucorney C.P. School</b>	71	65	69	59	56

**iv) Projected pupil numbers (Finance projections)<sup>26</sup>**

	<b>Jan. 2021</b>	<b>Jan. 2022</b>	<b>Jan. 2023</b>	<b>Jan. 2024</b>	<b>Jan. 2025</b>
<b>Crickhowell C.P. School</b>	184	171	164	N/A	N/A
<b>Llangynidr C.P. School</b>	102	92	82	N/A	N/A
<b>Llangattock C. in W. Primary School</b>	101	106	111	N/A	N/A
<b>Deri View Primary School</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Gilwern Primary School</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Llanvihangel Crucorney C.P. School</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

**Building Capacity and Condition**

**i) Capacity**

The following table provides information about the school's current capacity:

---

<sup>26</sup> Powys Finance Projections based on data provided by the school – November 2020

	<b>Current Capacity<sup>27</sup></b>	<b>Currently Filled</b>	<b>Surplus Capacity</b>
<b>Crickhowell C.P. School</b>	230	184 (80%)	46 (20%)
<b>Llangynidr C.P. School</b>	147	102 (69.4%)	45 (30.6%)
<b>Llangattock C. in W. Primary School</b>	121	101 (83.4%)	20 (16.5%)
<b>Deri View Primary School</b>	330	276 (83.6%)	54 (16.4%)
<b>Gilwern Primary School</b>	210	215 (102.3%)	-5 (-2.3%)
<b>Llanvihangel Crucorney C.P. School</b>	77	68 (88.3%)	9 (11.7%)

## ii) Building condition

In 2009, Welsh Government carried out condition and suitability assessments of the school.

	<b>Condition</b>	<b>Suitability</b>	<b>Access to hall on site</b>
<b>Crickhowell C.P. School</b>	C	B/C	Yes
<b>Llangynidr C.P. School</b>	B	A/B	Yes
<b>Llangattock C. in W. Primary School</b>	B	B/C	Yes
<b>Deri View Primary School</b>	C	C	Yes
<b>Gilwern Primary School</b>	C	C	Yes
<b>Llanvihangel Crucorney C.P.</b>	B	B	Yes

<sup>27</sup> Powys Welsh Government School Places Return – August 2020 / Information received from Monmouthshire County Council March 2021

<b>School</b>			
---------------	--	--	--

### **Standards of Education**

i) **Estyn**

	<b>Crickhowell C.P. School</b>
<b>Date of Inspection</b>	February 2020
<b>Standards</b>	Good
<b>Wellbeing and attitudes to learning</b>	Good
<b>Teaching and Learning Experiences</b>	Good
<b>Care, Support and Guidance</b>	Good
<b>Learning Environment</b>	Good
<b>Leadership and Management</b>	Good
<b>Outcome</b>	School to draw up action plan and address the recommendations from the inspection

	<b>Llangynidr C.P. School</b>
<b>Date of Inspection</b>	September 2015
<b>Standards</b>	Good
<b>Wellbeing</b>	Good
<b>Learning Experiences</b>	Good
<b>Teaching</b>	Good
<b>Care, Support and Guidance</b>	Good
<b>Learning Environment</b>	Good
<b>Leadership</b>	Good
<b>Improving Quality</b>	Good
<b>Partnership Working</b>	Good
<b>Resource Management</b>	Good

<b>Outcome</b>	School to draw up action plan that shows how it is going to address the recommendations
----------------	---

<b>Llangattock C. in W. Primary School</b>	
<b>Date of Inspection</b>	February 2015
<b>Standards</b>	Good
<b>Wellbeing</b>	Good
<b>Learning Experiences</b>	Good
<b>Teaching</b>	Good
<b>Care, Support and Guidance</b>	Good
<b>Learning Environment</b>	Good
<b>Leadership</b>	Good
<b>Improving Quality</b>	Good
<b>Partnership Working</b>	Good
<b>Resource Management</b>	Good
<b>Outcome</b>	School to produce an action plan to show how it will address the recommendations

<b>Deri View Primary School</b>	
<b>Date of Inspection</b>	October 2018
<b>Standards</b>	Adequate and needs improvement
<b>Wellbeing and attitudes to learning</b>	Good
<b>Teaching and learning experiences</b>	Adequate and needs improvement
<b>Care, support and guidance</b>	Good
<b>Leadership and management</b>	Adequate and needs improvement
<b>Outcome</b>	School to draw up action plan and address the recommendations from the inspection. Estyn to monitor progress.

	Removed from Estyn monitoring in March 2020.
--	--

<b>Gilwern Primary School</b>	
<b>Date of Inspection</b>	January 2014
<b>Standards</b>	Good
<b>Wellbeing</b>	Good
<b>Learning experiences</b>	Adequate
<b>Teaching</b>	Good
<b>Care, support and guidance</b>	Good
<b>Learning environment</b>	Good
<b>Leadership</b>	Good
<b>Improving quality</b>	Good
<b>Partnership working</b>	Good
<b>Resource management</b>	Good
<b>Outcome</b>	School to draw up action plan and address the recommendations from the inspection. Local authority to monitor progress.

<b>Llanvihangel Crucorney C.P. School</b>	
<b>Date of Inspection</b>	September 2015
<b>Standards</b>	Good
<b>Wellbeing</b>	Good
<b>Learning experiences</b>	Good
<b>Teaching</b>	Good
<b>Care, support and guidance</b>	Good
<b>Learning environment</b>	Good
<b>Leadership</b>	Good

<b>Improving quality</b>	Good
<b>Partnership working</b>	Good
<b>Resource management</b>	Good
<b>Outcome</b>	School to draw up action plan and address the recommendations from the inspection.

ii) **School Categorisation<sup>28</sup>**

	<b>Standards Group</b>	<b>Support Capacity</b>
<b>Crickhowell C.P. School</b>	N/A	Green
<b>Llangynidr C.P. School</b>	N/A	Green
<b>Llangattock C. in W. Primary School</b>	N/A	Green
<b>Deri View Primary School</b>	N/A	Amber
<b>Gilwern Primary School</b>	N/A	Green
<b>Llanvihangel Crucorney C.P. School</b>	N/A	Green

**Financial information**

i) **Cost per pupil<sup>29</sup> (Section 52 Budget Statement, 2020/2021)**

	<b>Budget share per school</b>	<b>Budget share per pupil</b>	<b>Notional SEN budget</b>	<b>Non ISB funds devolved to the school</b>
<b>Crickhowell C.P. School</b>	£766,000	£4,053	£64,000	£12,000
<b>Llangynidr C.P. School</b>	£460,000	£3,964	£44,000	£5,000
<b>Llangattock C. in W. Primary School</b>	£416,000	£3,819	£25,000	£5,000

<sup>28</sup> 2019

<sup>29</sup> Section 52 Budget Statement 2020/2021

<b>Deri View Primary School</b>	£1,187,000	£3,957	£131,000	£201,000
<b>Gilwern Primary School</b>	£803,000	£3,650	£42,000	£75,000
<b>Llanvihangel Crucorney C.P. School</b>	£325,000	£4,710	£12,000	£29,000
<b>Powys average (Primary)</b>	N/A	£4,264	N/A	N/A
<b>Monmouthshire average (Primary)</b>	N/A	£3,895	N/A	N/A

### Equalities Information

#### i) National identity

(Pupils aged 5 or over on the 31st August 2019)

	British	English	Irish	Scottish	Welsh	Other	Not supplied	Refused
<b>Crickhowell C.P. School</b>	31.3%	11.5%	0.5%	0.0%	41.7%	2.6%	12.5%	0.0%
<b>Llangynidr C.P. School</b>	86.2%	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%	3.4%	0.0%	7.8%	0.0%
<b>Llangattock C. in W. Primary School</b>	63.9%	1.9%	0.0%	0.0%	17.6%	1.9%	14.8%	0.0%
<b>Deri View Primary School</b>	49.6%	4.8%	0.0%	0.0%	39.1%	5.2%	0.0%	1.3%
<b>Gilwern Primary School</b>	48.9%	4.4%	0.0%	0.0%	43.3%	2.2%	0.6%	0.6%
<b>Llanvihangel Crucorney C.P. School</b>	31.0%	8.6%	0.0%	0.0%	56.9%	3.4%	0.0%	0.0%

#### ii) Ethnic Group

(Pupils aged 5 or over on the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019)

	White British	Other known ethnicity	Refused/Information not yet obtained

<b>Crickhowell C.P. School</b>	81.8%	5.7%	12.5%
<b>Llangynidr C.P. School</b>	88.8%	3.4%	7.8%
<b>Llangattock C. in W. Primary School</b>	76.9%	6.5%	16.7%
<b>Deri View Primary School</b>	67.8%	8.3%	23.9%
<b>Gilwern Primary School</b>	95.6%	4.4%	0.0%
<b>Llanvihangel Crucorney C.P. School</b>	94.8%	5.2%	0.0%

**iii) English as an Additional Language**

	<b>% EAL</b>	<b>% EAL A/B/C</b>
<b>Crickhowell C.P. School</b>	3.1%	1.6%
<b>Llangynidr C.P. School</b>	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Llangattock C. in W. Primary School</b>	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Deri View Primary School</b>	5.2%	5.2%
<b>Gilwern Primary School</b>	2.8%	1.1%
<b>Llanvihangel Crucorney C.P. School</b>	1.7%	1.7%

**iv) Free School Meals<sup>30</sup>**

---

<sup>30</sup> PLASC 2020

	<b>Number of pupils who had a free school meal on Census day</b>
<b>Crickhowell C.P. School</b>	4.7%
<b>Llangynidr C.P. School</b>	7.8%
<b>Llangattock C. in W. Primary School</b>	6.5%
<b>Deri View Primary School</b>	31.9%
<b>Gilwern Primary School</b>	5.9%
<b>Llanvihangel Crucorney C.P. School</b>	7.2%

v) **Pupils in care<sup>31</sup>**

	<b>Number of pupils in care</b>
<b>Crickhowell C.P. School</b>	0.0%
<b>Llangynidr C.P. School</b>	0.0%
<b>Llangattock C. in W. Primary School</b>	1.9%
<b>Deri View Primary School</b>	N/A
<b>Gilwern Primary School</b>	N/A
<b>Llanvihangel Crucorney C.P. School</b>	N/A

vi) **SEN/ALN<sup>32</sup>**

	<b>School Action</b>	<b>School Action Plus</b>	<b>Statement</b>
<b>Crickhowell C.P. School</b>	7.8%	3.1%	0%
<b>Llangynidr C.P. School</b>	6.9%	12.1%	2.6%
<b>Llangattock C. in W. Primary School</b>	15.6%	8.7%	1.7%
<b>Deri View Primary School</b>	8.2%	7.0%	0.9%
<b>Gilwern Primary School</b>	5.9%	6.8%	0.9%
<b>Llanvihangel Crucorney C.P. School</b>	4.3%	4.3%	1.4%

---

<sup>31</sup> PLASC 2020

<sup>32</sup> PLASC 2020

## APPENDIX B – SWOT AND CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTOR ANALYSIS

### 1. SWOT ANALYSES

SWOT analyses for each of the options identified in section 5 are provided below:

#### Option 1: Status Quo

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Would retain provision in Llanbedr</li> <li>- There would be no additional transport costs</li> <li>- No requirement for a reorganisation process</li> <li>- No change for staff</li> <li>- No impact on pupils</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pupil numbers at Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School would continue to be low</li> <li>- Would not lead to a rationalisation of primary provision</li> <li>- Would still need to maintain the Llanbedr building</li> <li>- Would not reduce surplus places</li> <li>- Would not lead to a financial saving</li> <li>- Would not address the high budget per pupil</li> </ul>
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Opportunities for further collaboration with other neighbouring schools to provide increased opportunities for pupils</li> </ul>	

#### Option 2: Federation with Crickhowell C.P. School

This is not a viable option as it is not possible to federate a C. in W. school with a C.P. school, therefore this option is **DISCOUNTED**

#### Option 3: Federation with Llangattock C. in W. School

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Would retain provision in Llanbedr</li> <li>- There would be no additional transport costs</li> <li>- More opportunities could be provided to pupils and staff</li> <li>- Llanbedr pupils would continue to attend school in the same location</li> <li>- Pupils would continue to attend school at the same location</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pupil numbers at Llanbedr would continue to be low</li> <li>- Llanbedr pupils would still be taught separately</li> <li>- Would not lead to a rationalisation of primary provision</li> <li>- Would still be required to maintain the Llanbedr building</li> <li>- Would not reduce surplus places</li> <li>- Would not lead to a financial saving</li> <li>- Would not address the high budget per pupil</li> </ul>
Opportunities	Threats

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Opportunity for further collaboration across the sites</li> <li>- More opportunities for networking and sharing good practice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-</li> </ul>
---	---

**Option 4: Merge with Crickhowell C.P. School to establish a new school on two sites**

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Would retain provision in Llanbedr</li> <li>- There would be no additional home to school transport costs</li> <li>- More opportunities could be provided to pupils and staff</li> <li>- Could provide a financial saving to the Council</li> <li>- Pupils would continue to attend school at the same location</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Small numbers would remain at Llanbedr</li> <li>- Llanbedr pupils would still be taught separately</li> <li>- Would still need to maintain the Llanbedr building</li> <li>- Both schools would lose their identity</li> <li>- Would also impact on staff at Crickhowell C.P. School</li> <li>- Significant difference in the size of the two schools – would have a disproportionate impact on Crickhowell C.P. School</li> <li>- Crickhowell is currently a C.P. School whilst Llanbedr is a C. in W.</li> </ul>
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Opportunities for further collaboration across the sites</li> <li>- More opportunities for networking and sharing good practice between staff</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Possible tension between C.P. / C. in W. provision</li> </ul>

**Option 5: Merge with Llangattock C. in W. School to establish a new school on two sites**

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Would retain provision in Llanbedr</li> <li>- There would be no additional home to school transport costs</li> <li>- More opportunities could be provided to pupils and staff</li> <li>- Could provide a financial saving to the Council</li> <li>- Pupils would continue to attend school at the same location</li> <li>- Both schools are C. in W. Schools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Small numbers would remain at Llanbedr</li> <li>- Llanbedr pupils would still be taught separately</li> <li>- Would still need to maintain the Llanbedr building</li> <li>- Both schools would lose their identity</li> <li>- Would also impact on staff at Llangattock C. in W. School</li> </ul>
Opportunities	Threats

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Opportunities for further collaboration across the sites</li> <li>- More opportunities for networking and sharing good practice between staff</li> </ul>	<p>-</p>
---	----------

**Option 6: Close Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School, retain the site as part of Crickhowell C.P. School**

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Would retain provision in Llanbedr</li> <li>- There would be no additional home to school transport costs</li> <li>- More opportunities could be provided to pupils and staff</li> <li>- Could provide a financial saving to the Council</li> <li>- Pupils would continue to attend school at the same location</li> <li>- Minimal impact on staff at Crickhowell C.P. School</li> <li>- Crickhowell C.P. School would retain its identity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Small numbers would remain at Llanbedr</li> <li>- Llanbedr pupils would still be taught separately</li> <li>- Would still need to maintain the Llanbedr building</li> <li>- Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School would lose its identity</li> <li>- May not be attractive to Crickhowell C.P. School</li> <li>- Significant difference in the size of the two schools</li> <li>- Crickhowell is a C.P. School whilst Llanbedr is a C. in W. School</li> </ul>
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Opportunities for further collaboration across the sites</li> <li>- More opportunities for networking and sharing good practice between staff</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Possible tension between C.P. / C. in W. provision</li> </ul>

**Option 7: Close Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School, retain the site as part of Llangattock C. in W. School**

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Would retain provision in Llanbedr</li> <li>- There would be no additional home to school transport costs</li> <li>- More opportunities could be provided to pupils and staff</li> <li>- Could provide a financial saving to the Council</li> <li>- Pupils would continue to attend school at the same location</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Small numbers would remain at Llanbedr</li> <li>- Llanbedr pupils would still be taught separately</li> <li>- Would still need to maintain the Llanbedr building</li> <li>- Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School would lose its identity</li> </ul>
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Opportunities for further collaboration across the sites</li> <li>- More opportunities for networking and sharing good practice between staff</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Possible tension between C.P. / C. in W. provision</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Minimal impact on staff at Llangattock C. in W. School</li> <li>- Llangattock C. in W. School would retain its identity</li> <li>- Both schools are C. in W. Schools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-</li> </ul>
<b>Opportunities</b>	<b>Threats</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Opportunities for further collaboration across the sites</li> <li>- More opportunities for networking and sharing good practice between staff</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Introduction of the new curriculum – would be difficult to provide educational opportunities which meet the requirements of the new curriculum on the Llanbedr site</li> </ul>

**Option 8: Merge with Crickhowell C.P. School to establish a new school on the Crickhowell site**

<b>Strengths</b>	<b>Weaknesses</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- More opportunities could be provided to the pupils</li> <li>- Could provide a financial saving to the Council</li> <li>- Would reduce surplus places</li> <li>- All staff would have the opportunity to apply for positions at the new school</li> <li>- Improved opportunities for staff from working in a larger school</li> <li>- Pupils would all be taught in one location</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Additional travel for those pupils for whom Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School is currently the closest school</li> <li>- Additional transport costs</li> <li>- Pupils currently attending Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School would have to transfer to a new location</li> <li>- Loss of provision from Llanbedr</li> <li>- Impact on the Llanbedr community</li> <li>- Would impact on Crickhowell C.P. School staff as well as Llanbedr staff</li> <li>- Potential reduction in staffing requirements</li> <li>- Both schools would lose their identities</li> <li>- Crickhowell is a C.P. School whilst Llanbedr is currently a C. in W. School</li> </ul>
<b>Opportunities</b>	<b>Threats</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Possible reduction in staffing requirements at the new school</li> <li>- Possible tension between C.P. / C. in W. provision</li> </ul>

**Option 9: Merge with Crickhowell C.P. School to establish a new school on the Llanbedr site**

<b>Strengths</b>	<b>Weaknesses</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- More opportunities could be provided to the pupils</li> <li>- Could provide a financial saving to the Council</li> <li>- Would reduce surplus places</li> <li>- All staff would have the opportunity to apply for positions at the new school</li> <li>- Improved opportunities for staff from working in a larger school</li> <li>- Pupils would all be taught in one location</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Additional travel for those pupils for whom Crickhowell C.P. School is currently the closest school</li> <li>- Additional transport costs</li> <li>- Pupils currently attending Crickhowell C.P. School would have to transfer to a new location</li> <li>- Less convenient for the majority of pupils</li> <li>- Current Crickhowell C.P. School pupils may live closer to other schools</li> <li>- Loss of provision from Crickhowell</li> <li>- Impact on the Crickhowell community</li> <li>- Would impact on Crickhowell staff as well as Llanbedr staff</li> <li>- Potential reduction in staffing requirements</li> <li>- Would not be acceptable to Crickhowell C.P. School</li> <li>- Both schools would lose their identities</li> <li>- Significant investment would be needed in the Llanbedr site to accommodate Crickhowell pupils</li> <li>- Llanbedr school is too small to accommodate the merged school</li> <li>- Crickhowell is a C.P. School whilst Llanbedr is a C. in W School</li> </ul>
<b>Opportunities</b>	<b>Threats</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Opportunity to realise a capital receipt from sale of the Crickhowell site</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Significant investment would be needed in the Llanbedr site to accommodate Crickhowell pupils</li> <li>- Unlikely that the Llanbedr site would not be large enough to accommodate a school of the size required – a new site may be required</li> <li>- Possible tension between C.P. / C. in W. provision</li> </ul>

**Option 10: Merge with Llangattock C. in W. School to establish a new school on the Llangattock site**

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- More opportunities could be provided to the pupils</li> <li>- Could provide a financial saving to the Council</li> <li>- Would reduce surplus places</li> <li>- All staff would have the opportunity to apply for positions at the new school</li> <li>- Improved opportunities for staff from working in a larger school</li> <li>- Pupils would all be taught in one location</li> <li>- Both schools are currently C. in W. Schools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Additional travel for those pupils for whom Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School is currently the closest school</li> <li>- Additional transport costs</li> <li>- Pupils currently attending Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School would have to transfer to a new location</li> <li>- Loss of provision from Llanbedr</li> <li>- Impact on the Llanbedr community</li> <li>- Would impact on Llangattock C. in W. School staff as well as Llanbedr staff</li> <li>- Potential reduction in staffing requirements</li> <li>- Both schools would lose their identities</li> </ul>
Opportunities	Threats
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Possible reduction in staffing requirements at the new school</li> <li>- Llangattock C. in W. School has recently been remodelled. It may be difficult to extend again should this be needed.</li> <li>- Possible loss of roles for staff at Llanbedr at the new school</li> </ul>

**Option 11: Merge with Llangattock C. in W. School to establish a new school on the Llanbedr site**

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- More opportunities could be provided to the pupils</li> <li>- Could provide a financial saving to the Council</li> <li>- Would reduce surplus places</li> <li>- All staff would have the opportunity to apply for positions at the new school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Additional travel for those pupils for whom Llangattock C. in W. School is currently the closest school</li> <li>- Additional transport costs</li> <li>- Pupils currently attending Llangattock C. in W. School would have to transfer to a new location</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Improved opportunities for staff from working in a larger school</li> <li>- Pupils would all be taught in one location</li> <li>- Both schools are C. in W. Schools</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Less convenient for the majority of pupils</li> <li>- Current Llangattock C. in W. School pupils may live closer to other schools</li> <li>- Loss of provision from Llangattock</li> <li>- Impact on the Llangattock community</li> <li>- Would impact on Llangattock staff as well as Llanbedr staff</li> <li>- Potential reduction in staffing requirements</li> <li>- Both schools would lose their identities</li> <li>- Llanbedr school is too small to accommodate the merged school</li> <li>- Investment would be needed in the Llanbedr site to accommodate Llangattock pupils</li> </ul>
<b>Opportunities</b>	<b>Threats</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Significant investment would be needed in the Llanbedr site to accommodate Llangattock pupils</li> <li>- The Llanbedr site may not be large enough to accommodate a school of the size required – a new site may be required.</li> </ul>

**Option 12: Close Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School, pupils to attend nearest alternative schools**

<b>Strengths</b>	<b>Weaknesses</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Would address the issue of low pupil numbers at Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School</li> <li>- Would reduce the Council's overall surplus capacity in primary schools</li> <li>- Revenue saving to the Council</li> <li>- Pupils would attend larger schools, which would be better equipped to meet the requirements of the new curriculum</li> <li>- Pupils would attend larger schools, which could provide a wider range of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Additional travel for those pupils for whom Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School is currently the closest school</li> <li>- Additional travel costs</li> <li>- Pupils currently attending Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School would have to transfer to alternative provision</li> <li>- Loss of provision from Llanbedr, including nursery provision</li> <li>- Impact on the current staff of Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School</li> </ul>

educational and extra-curricular opportunities - Alternative Church in Wales provision is available in the catchment at Llangattock C. in W. School	- Impact on the Llanbedr community - Loss of C. in W. provision from Llanbedr
<b>Opportunities</b>	<b>Threats</b>
	- Some pupils may transfer to provision outside Powys

## 2. CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS

The options have also been assessed against the following Critical Success Factors:

Critical Success Factor	Description
1 – Strategic fit and business needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The option must align with the Council's Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys 2020-2030, to include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Address the challenges facing education in Powys, as outlined in the Council's Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys 2020-2030</li> <li>Align with the Vision and Guiding Principles outlined in the Council's Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys 2020-2030</li> <li>Align with the Strategic Aims and Objectives outlined in the Council's Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys 2020-2030</li> </ul> </li> <li>The option must optimise the benefits of the Council's Transforming Education Programme</li> </ul>
2 – Value for money	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The option must optimise the resources available for the delivery of learning</li> <li>The option must provide value for money in the delivery of learning</li> </ul>
3 – Potential achievability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The option must be achievable within current legislation</li> <li>The option must be operationally achievable</li> <li>The option must be physically achievable</li> </ul>
4 – Potential affordability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The extent to which the option is affordable within the Council's forecasted revenue</li> <li>The extent to which the option is affordable within the forecasted capital funding available to the Council</li> </ul>

Each option has been assessed against the Critical Success Factors based on the following criteria:

✓ – Meets    ? – Could meet    x – Does not meet

The assessment for each option is as follows:

	<b>Option 1</b>	<b>Option 2</b>	<b>Option 3</b>	<b>Option 4</b>	<b>Option 5</b>	<b>Option 6</b>	<b>Option 7</b>	<b>Option 8</b>	<b>Option 9</b>	<b>Option 10</b>	<b>Option 11</b>	<b>Option 12</b>
<b>1 – Strategic fit and business needs</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>2 – Value for money</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	?	x	?	x	✓
<b>3 – Potential achievability</b>	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	?	✓	?	x	✓	x	✓
<b>4 – Potential affordability</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	x	✓	x	✓
<b>Total ✓</b>	1	0	1	1	1	0	2	2	1	3	1	4
<b>Total x</b>	3	4	3	3	3	3	2	0	3	0	3	0
<b>Outcome</b>	Discount	Possible	Discount	Possible	Discount	Preferred						

## APPENDIX C – IMPACT OF EACH OPTION ON RURAL SCHOOLS CRITERIA

The likely impact of each option on quality and standards, the community and travelling arrangements is considered below:

Option	Likely impact on quality and standards	Likely impact on the community	Likely impact of different travelling arrangements
<b>Option 1: Status Quo – continue as a standalone school</b>	There would be no impact on quality and standards – pupils would continue to attend the current provision at Llanbedr.	There would be no impact on the community – provision would continue to be available in Llanbedr.	There would be no impact on travel arrangements – pupils would continue to attend Llanbedr C. in W. School.
<b>Option 2: Federation with Crickhowell C.P. School</b>	Discounted – N/A	Discounted – N/A	Discounted – N/A
<b>Option 3: Federation with Llangattock C. in W. School</b>	<p>The impact on quality and standards would be minimal. Llanbedr C. in W. School would continue to operate as a standalone school, however the school would be federated with Langattock C. in W. School, meaning that one joint governing body would be responsible for both schools. There would also be the potential for shared leadership across the two schools.</p> <p>Establishment of a federation could lead to opportunities to share staff / resources across the federation, which would have a positive impact on quality and standards.</p>	<p>The impact on the community would be minimal – provision would continue to be available in Llanbedr.</p> <p>However, one new governing body would be responsible for both sites, therefore there could be a perceived reduction in community involvement in management of the school, depending on the make up of the federated governing body.</p>	<p>Pupils would continue to attend school on the current site of Llanbedr C. in W. School.</p> <p>However, some additional travel may be required between schools in order to access activities and events.</p>

<b>Option 4: Merge with Crickhowell C.P. School to establish a new school on two sites</b>	<p>Both Llanbedr C. in W. School and Crickhowell C.P. School are currently categorised as Green schools based on the latest categorisations carried out in 2019. Therefore it is anticipated that merging the two schools to establish a new school would result in a school where quality and standards are at least as good as the current provision.</p>	<p>The impact on the community would be minimal – provision would continue to be available in Llanbedr.</p> <p>However, one new governing body would be responsible for both sites, therefore there could be a perceived reduction in community involvement in management of the school, depending on the make up of the new governing body.</p> <p>In addition, it is possible that joint school activities would take place on the Crickhowell site as the much larger site, which could lead to a reduction in activity on the Llanbedr site.</p>	<p>Pupils would continue to attend school on the current site of Llanbedr C. in W. School.</p> <p>However, some additional travel may be required between schools in order to access activities and events.</p>
<b>Option 5: Merge with Llangattock C. in W. School to establish a new school on two sites</b>	<p>Both Llanbedr C. in W. School and Llangattock C. in W. School are currently categorised as Green schools based on the latest categorisations carried out in 2019. Therefore it is anticipated that merging the two schools to establish a new school would result in a school where quality and standards are at least as good as the current provision.</p>	<p>The impact on the community would be minimal – provision would continue to be available in Llanbedr.</p> <p>However, one new governing body would be responsible for both sites, therefore there could be a perceived reduction in community involvement in management of the school, depending on the make up of the new governing body.</p>	<p>Pupils would continue to attend school on the current site of Llanbedr C. in W. School.</p> <p>However, some additional travel may be required between schools in order to access activities and events.</p>

		<p>In addition, it is possible that joint school activities would take place on the Llangattock site as the much larger site, which could lead to a reduction in activity on the Llanbedr site.</p>	
<b>Option 6: Close Llanbedr C. in W. School, retain the site as part of Crickhowell C.P. School</b>	Both Llanbedr C. in W. School and Crickhowell C.P. School are currently categorised as Green schools based on the latest categorisations carried out in 2019, therefore it is anticipated that implementation of this option would mean that pupils would attend provision where the quality and standards are at least as good as the current provision.	<p>Provision would continue to be available in Llanbedr. However, the site would be managed by the current governing body of Crickhowell C.P. School, therefore there could be a perceived reduction in community involvement in management of the school.</p> <p>In addition, it is possible that joint school activities would take place on the Crickhowell site as the larger site, which could lead to a reduction in activity on the Llanbedr site.</p>	<p>Pupils would continue to attend school on the current site of Llanbedr C. in W. School.</p> <p>However, some additional travel may be required between schools in order to access activities and events.</p>
<b>Option 7: Close Llanbedr C. in W. School, retain the site as part of Llangattock C. in W. School</b>	Both Llanbedr C. in W. School and Llangattock C. in W. school are currently categorised as Green schools based on the latest categorisations carried out in 2019, therefore it is anticipated that implementation of this option would mean that pupils would attend provision where the quality	<p>Provision would continue to be available in Llanbedr. However, the site would be managed by the current governing body of Llangattock C. in W. School, therefore there could be a perceived reduction in community involvement in management of the school.</p>	<p>Pupils would continue to attend school on the current site of Llanbedr C. in W. School.</p> <p>However, some additional travel may be required between schools in order to access activities and events.</p>

	<p>and standards are at least as good as the current provision.</p>	<p>In addition, it is possible that joint school activities would take place on the Llangattock site as the larger site, which could lead to a reduction in activity on the Llanbedr site.</p>	
<b>Option 8: Merge with Crickhowell C.P. School to establish a new school on the Crickhowell site</b>	<p>Both Llanbedr C. in W. School and Crickhowell C.P. School are currently categorised as Green schools based on the latest categorisations carried out in 2019. Therefore it is anticipated that merging the two schools to establish a new school would result in a school where quality and standards are at least as good as the current provision. This option would result in all pupils attending school in the same location, which would result in further benefits to pupils currently attending Llanbedr School through being part of larger cohorts of pupils.</p>	<p>There would be a significant impact on the community of Llanbedr as there would be no provision in Llanbedr.</p> <p>However, merging with Crickhowell CP School to establish a new school would provide opportunities for the Llanbedr community to be involved in the process of establishing the new school, which would aid community involvement in the new school.</p>	<p>Additional travel would be required for pupils currently attending Llanbedr C. in W. School.</p> <p>Whilst free home to school transport would be provided to eligible pupils in accordance with the Council's Home to School Transport Policy, there would also be an additional travel requirement for parents in order to access school activities / events.</p>
<b>Option 9: Merge with Crickhowell C.P. School to establish a new school on the Llanbedr site</b>	<p>Both Llanbedr C. in W. School and Crickhowell C.P. School are currently categorised as Green schools based on the latest categorisations carried out in 2019. Therefore in general, it is anticipated that merging the two schools to establish a new school would result in a school where</p>	<p>There would be a positive impact on the Llanbedr community as this option would retain provision in Llanbedr and would lead to a significant increase in pupil numbers, safeguarding provision in the village for the future.</p>	<p>Additional travel would be required for pupils currently attending Crickhowell C.P. School. As pupil numbers at Crickhowell C.P. School are significantly larger than those at Llanbedr C. in W. School, this is likely to impact on a significant number of pupils.</p>

	<p>quality and standards are at least as good as the current provision.</p> <p>However, this option would result in all pupils attending the Llanbedr site. The Llanbedr site would not be suitable to accommodate all pupils currently attending Crickhowell C.P. School and Llanbedr C. in W. School, therefore overall, this option would have a negative impact on quality and standards.</p>	<p>However, there would be a negative impact on the Crickhowell community as there would no longer be provision in Crickhowell. Whilst merging the two schools to establish a new school would provide opportunities for the Crickhowell community to be involved in the process of establishing the new school to aid community involvement in the new school, however as Crickhowell is a town with a significantly larger school, it is likely that the Crickhowell community would consider this option to be disproportionate.</p>	<p>Whilst free home to school transport would be provided to eligible pupils in accordance with the Council's Home to School Transport Policy, there would also be an additional travel requirement for parents in order to access school activities / events.</p>
<b>Option 10: Merge with Llangattock C. in W. School to establish a new school on the Llangattock site</b>	<p>Both Llanbedr C. in W. School and Llangattock C. in W. School are currently categorised as Green schools based on the latest categorisations carried out in 2019. Therefore it is anticipated that merging the two schools to establish a new school would result in a school where quality and standards are at least as good as the current provision. This option would result in all pupils attending school in the same location, which would result in further benefits to pupils currently attending Llanbedr</p>	<p>There would be a significant impact on the community of Llanbedr as there would be no provision in Llanbedr.</p> <p>However, merging with Llangattock C. in W. school to establish a new school would provide opportunities for the Llanbedr community to be involved in the process of establishing the new school, which would aid community involvement in the new school.</p>	<p>Additional travel would be required for pupils currently attending Llanbedr C. in W. School.</p> <p>Whilst free home to school transport would be provided to eligible pupils in accordance with the Council's Home to School Transport Policy, there would also be an additional travel requirement for parents in order to access school activities / events.</p>

	School through being part of larger cohorts of pupils.		
<b>Option 11: Merge with Llangattock C. in W. School to establish a new school on the Llanbedr site</b>	<p>Both Llanbedr C. in W. School and Llangattock C. in W. School are currently categorised as Green schools based on the latest categorisations carried out in 2019. Therefore in general, it is anticipated that merging the two schools to establish a new school would result in a school where quality and standards are at least as good as the current provision.</p> <p>However, this option would result in all pupils attending the Llanbedr site. The Llanbedr site would not be suitable to accommodate all pupils currently attending Llangattock C. in W. School and Llanbedr C. in W. School, therefore overall, this option would have a negative impact on quality and standards.</p>	<p>There would be a positive impact on the Llanbedr community as this option would retain provision in Llanbedr and could lead to an increase in pupil numbers, safeguarding provision in the village for the future.</p> <p>However, there would be a negative impact on the Llangattock community as there would no longer be provision in Llangattock. Whilst merging the two schools to establish a new school would provide opportunities for the Llangattock community to be involved in the process of establishing the new school to aid community involvement in the new school, however as Llangattock is a larger school, it is likely that the Llangattock community would consider this option to be disproportionate.</p>	<p>Additional travel would be required for pupils currently attending Llangattock C. in W. School.</p> <p>Whilst free home to school transport would be provided to eligible pupils in accordance with the Council's Home to School Transport Policy, there would also be an additional travel requirement for parents in order to access school activities / events.</p>
<b>Option 12: Close Llanbedr C. in W. School, pupils to attend nearest alternative schools</b>	Implementation of this option would mean that pupils would transfer to their nearest alternative schools. For the majority of pupils currently attending Llanbedr C. in W.	There would be a significant impact on the community of Llanbedr as there would be no provision in Llanbedr.	<p>Additional travel would be required for pupils currently attending Llanbedr C. in W. School.</p> <p>Whilst free home to school transport would be provided to</p>

	<p>School, the closest alternative Powys schools would be Crickhowell C.P. School, Llangynidr C.P. School and Llangattock C. in W. School. All of these schools are currently classified as Green schools based on the latest categorisations carried out in 2019, therefore it is not anticipated that this would have a negative impact on quality and standards.</p> <p>A number of pupils that live in Monmouthshire currently attend Llanbedr C. in W. School. For these pupils, the closest alternative provision would be Deri View Primary School which is located in Monmouthshire. This school was categorised as Amber in the latest categorisations carried out in 2019.</p>	<p>As a Church in Wales School, The Llanbedr School building is owned by the Diocese, therefore the Diocese would need to determine the building's future use, and therefore whether or not facilities would remain in Llanbedr.</p>	<p>eligible pupils in accordance with the Council's Home to School Transport Policy, there would also be an additional travel requirement for parents in order to access school activities / events.</p>
--	--	--	--

## APPENDIX D – REASONS WHY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS HAVE NOT BEEN TAKEN FORWARD

<b>Option</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Reason for discounting</b>
1	Status quo – continue as a standalone school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pupil numbers at Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School would continue to be low</li> <li>- Would not lead to a rationalisation of primary provision</li> <li>- Would still need to maintain the Llanbedr building</li> <li>- Would not reduce surplus places</li> <li>- Would not lead to a financial saving</li> <li>- Would not address the high budget per pupil</li> <li>- Does not meet all the Critical Success Factors</li> </ul>
3	Federation with Llangattock C. in W. School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pupil numbers at Llanbedr would continue to be low</li> <li>- Llanbedr pupils would still be taught separately</li> <li>- Would not lead to a rationalisation of primary provision</li> <li>- Would still be required to maintain the Llanbedr building</li> <li>- Would not reduce surplus places</li> <li>- Would not lead to a financial saving</li> <li>- Would not address the high budget per pupil</li> <li>- Does not meet all the Critical Success Factors</li> </ul>
4	Merge with Crickhowell C.P. School to establish a new school on two sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Small numbers would remain at Llanbedr</li> <li>- Llanbedr pupils would still be taught separately</li> <li>- Would still need to maintain the Llanbedr building</li> <li>- Both schools would lose their identity</li> <li>- Would also impact on staff at Crickhowell C.P. School</li> <li>- Significant difference in the size of the two schools – would have a disproportionate impact on Crickhowell C.P. School</li> <li>- Crickhowell is currently a C.P. School whilst Llanbedr is a C. in W.</li> <li>- Does not meet all the Critical Success Factors</li> </ul>
5	Merge with Llangattock C. in W. School to establish a new school on two sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Small numbers would remain at Llanbedr</li> <li>- Llanbedr pupils would still be taught separately</li> <li>- Would still need to maintain the Llanbedr building</li> <li>- Both schools would lose their identity</li> <li>- Would also impact on staff at Llangattock C. in W. School</li> <li>- Does not meet all the Critical Success Factors</li> </ul>
6	Close Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School, retain the site as part	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Small numbers would remain at Llanbedr</li> <li>- Llanbedr pupils would still be taught separately</li> <li>- Would still need to maintain the Llanbedr building</li> </ul>

	of Crickhowell C.P. School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School would lose its identity</li> <li>- May not be attractive to Crickhowell C.P. School</li> <li>- Significant difference in the size of the two schools</li> <li>- Crickhowell is a C.P. School whilst Llanbedr is a C. in W. School</li> <li>- Does not meet the Critical Success Factors</li> </ul>
7	Close Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School, retain the site as part of Llangattock C. in W. School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Small numbers would remain at Llanbedr</li> <li>- Llanbedr pupils would still be taught separately</li> <li>- Would still need to maintain the Llanbedr building</li> <li>- Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School would lose its identity</li> <li>- Does not meet the Critical Success Factors</li> </ul>
8	Merge with Crickhowell C.P. School to establish a new school on the Crickhowell site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Additional travel for those pupils for whom Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School is currently the closest school</li> <li>- Additional transport costs</li> <li>- Pupils currently attending Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School would have to transfer to a new location</li> <li>- Loss of provision from Llanbedr</li> <li>- Impact on the Llanbedr community</li> <li>- Would impact on Crickhowell C.P. School staff as well as Llanbedr staff</li> <li>- Potential reduction in staffing requirements</li> <li>- Both schools would lose their identities</li> <li>- Crickhowell is a C.P. School whilst Llanbedr is currently a C. in W. School</li> <li>- Does not meet the Critical Success Factors</li> </ul>
9	Merge with Crickhowell C.P. School to establish a new school on the Llanbedr site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Additional travel for those pupils for whom Crickhowell C.P. School is currently the closest school</li> <li>- Additional transport costs</li> <li>- Pupils currently attending Crickhowell C.P. School would have to transfer to a new location</li> <li>- Less convenient for the majority of pupils</li> <li>- Current Crickhowell C.P. School pupils may live closer to other schools</li> <li>- Loss of provision from Crickhowell</li> <li>- Impact on the Crickhowell community</li> <li>- Would impact on Crickhowell staff as well as Llanbedr staff</li> <li>- Potential reduction in staffing requirements</li> <li>- Would not be acceptable to Crickhowell C.P. School</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Both schools would lose their identities</li> <li>- Significant investment would be needed in the Llanbedr site to accommodate Crickhowell pupils</li> <li>- Llanbedr school is too small to accommodate the merged school</li> <li>- Crickhowell is a C.P. School whilst Llanbedr is a C. in W School</li> <li>- Does not meet the Critical Success Factors</li> </ul>
10	Merge with Llangattock C. in W. School to establish a new school on the Llangattock site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Additional travel for those pupils for whom Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School is currently the closest school</li> <li>- Additional transport costs</li> <li>- Pupils currently attending Llanbedr C. in W. Primary School would have to transfer to a new location</li> <li>- Loss of provision from Llanbedr</li> <li>- Impact on the Llanbedr community</li> <li>- Would impact on Llangattock C. in W. School staff as well as Llanbedr staff</li> <li>- Potential reduction in staffing requirements</li> <li>- Both schools would lose their identities</li> <li>- Does not meet the Critical Success Factors</li> </ul>
11	Merge with Llangattock C. in W. School to establish a new school on the Llanbedr site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Additional travel for those pupils for whom Llangattock C. in W. School is currently the closest school</li> <li>- Additional transport costs</li> <li>- Pupils currently attending Llangattock C. in W. School would have to transfer to a new location</li> <li>- Less convenient for the majority of pupils</li> <li>- Current Llangattock C. in W. School pupils may live closer to other schools</li> <li>- Loss of provision from Llangattock</li> <li>- Impact on the Llangattock community</li> <li>- Would impact on Llangattock staff as well as Llanbedr staff</li> <li>- Potential reduction in staffing requirements</li> <li>- Both schools would lose their identities</li> <li>- Llanbedr school is too small to accommodate the merged school</li> <li>- Investment would be needed in the Llanbedr site to accommodate Llangattock pupils</li> <li>- Does not meet the Critical Success Factors</li> </ul>

## APPENDIX E – RESPONSE FORM

### PROPOSAL TO CLOSE LLANBEDR C. IN W. SCHOOL

Powys County Council is consulting on a proposal to close Llanbedr C. in W. School. The proposal is as follows:

- To close Llanbedr C. in W. School from the 31st August 2022, with pupils to transfer to their nearest alternative schools

A consultation document which provides more information about the proposals is available on the Council's website at <http://www.powys.gov.uk/transformingeducation>. This consultation response form gives you the opportunity to let us know your view on the Council's proposal. The response form can also be completed online – a link to the online form is available by following the link above.

The closing date for this consultation is the **23<sup>rd</sup> June 2021**. All responses must be received by this date.

For information on how the Transforming Education Team protects and uses personal information collected during consultation processes, please see the Transforming Education privacy notice, which is available via the following link:

<https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/9803/Transforming-Education-Privacy-Notice>

#### Part 1 – About You

**1. Please indicate how you are associated with the schools affected by this consultation:**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Parent, carer or guardian	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prospective parent, carer or guardian
<input type="checkbox"/>	Governor	<input type="checkbox"/>	Member of staff
<input type="checkbox"/>	Member of the community	<input type="checkbox"/>	Organisation e.g. Community Council
<input type="checkbox"/>	No association	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

If you said 'Other' or are responding on behalf of an organisation, please specify:

---

**2. Please specify which school you are associated with:**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Llanbedr C. in W. School	<input type="checkbox"/>	Another school
<input type="checkbox"/>	No association		

If you are associated another school, please specify which school:

---

**3. Please provide your postcode:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Part 2 – Consultation Response**

- 4. Please provide any comments you have on the proposal to close Llanbedr C. in W. School:**

- 5. Are there any other options you think the Council should be considering for Llanbedr C. in W. School?**

Please outline any alternative options below, including a description of the option(s) you think the Council should be considering:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Impact on people with protected characteristics**

- 6. Do you have any comments or concerns about the impact of the proposal to close Llanbedr C. in W. School on people with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010?**

The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### **Impact on the Welsh language**

7. In your opinion, what positive or adverse effects would the proposal to close Llanbedr C. in W. School have on opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language?

---

---

---

---

8. How do you think the proposal to close Llanbedr C. in W. School could be formulated or revised so that it would have positive / more positive effects, or so that it would not have adverse effects / less adverse effects on opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language?

---

---

---

---

### **Copy of Consultation Report**

9. At the end of the Consultation Period, the Council will publish a Consultation Report, summarising the issues raised in the consultation responses received and providing the Council's response to these issues.

Would you like to be informed of the publication of the consultation report?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
--------------------------	-----	--------------------------	----

If you answered 'Yes', please provide an e-mail address or postal address:

---

### **Part 3 – Equalities Information (Optional)**

We want to ensure that we include all sectors of the community in our consultation, and are requesting that you provide this information to enable us to identify whether the consultation has been inclusive. However, these questions are optional.

**10. How old are you?**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Under 16	<input type="checkbox"/>	16-24	<input type="checkbox"/>	25-34
<input type="checkbox"/>	35-44	<input type="checkbox"/>	45-54	<input type="checkbox"/>	55-64
<input type="checkbox"/>	65-74	<input type="checkbox"/>	75-84	<input type="checkbox"/>	85+
<input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say					

**11. What is your gender?**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Male	<input type="checkbox"/>	Female	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gender Fluid
<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Binary	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gender neutral	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer not to say

**12. Can you understand, speak or write Welsh?**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer not to say
--------------------------	-----	--------------------------	----	--------------------------	-------------------

**13. If you have school-aged children, are they entitled to receive free school meals?**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer not to say
--------------------------	-----	--------------------------	----	--------------------------	-------------------

**14. If you have school-aged children, do they have any additional learning needs?**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer not to say
--------------------------	-----	--------------------------	----	--------------------------	-------------------

**15. Do you consider yourself to be disabled?**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer not to say
--------------------------	-----	--------------------------	----	--------------------------	-------------------

**16. What is your ethnic group?**

<input type="checkbox"/>	White	<input type="checkbox"/>	Asian	<input type="checkbox"/>	Black, African or Caribbean
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mixed	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gypsy/Traveller	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other
<input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say					

**Thank you for completing this questionnaire.**

Completed questionnaires should be sent to the following address, to arrive **no later than the 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2021**.

*Transforming Education Team, Powys County Council, County Hall, Llandrindod Wells, LD1 5LG*

*E-mail: [school.consultation@powys.gov.uk](mailto:school.consultation@powys.gov.uk)*