



**Proposals affecting Mount Street
Infants School, Mount Street Junior
School and Cradoc C.P. School
Consultation Document**



If you require a copy of the document in a different format, please contact the Transforming Education Team on 01597 826277, or e-mail school.organisation@powys.gov.uk.

Consultation on the amalgamation of Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School to establish a new primary school in Brecon

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Consultation on the amalgamation of Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School to establish a new primary school

OVERVIEW

1. The Proposals

Powys County Council is consulting on proposals to amalgamate Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School to establish a new primary school for pupils aged 4-11 on the three current sites. The proposals are as follows:

Phase 1 of the Proposals

- To close Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School
- To establish a new English-medium primary school for pupils aged 4-11 on the current sites of Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School.

The current target date is to close the three schools on the 31st August 2022, with the new school opening on the 1st September 2022.

Phase 2 of the Proposals

- To make a regulated alteration to transfer the new school to a new school building on a new site in Brecon.

The current target date for this phase is September 2024 at the earliest.

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/10327/Mount-Street-Infants-School-Mount-Street-Junior-School-and-Cradoc-C.P.-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 **15 April 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

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 proposals to amalgamate Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School to establish a new primary school for pupils aged 4-11 on the three current sites. The proposals are as follows:

Phase 1 of the Proposals

- **To close Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School**
- **To establish a new English-medium primary school for pupils aged 4-11 on the current sites of Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School.**

The current target date is to close the three schools on the 31st August 2022, with the new school opening on the 1st September 2022.

Phase 2 of the Proposals

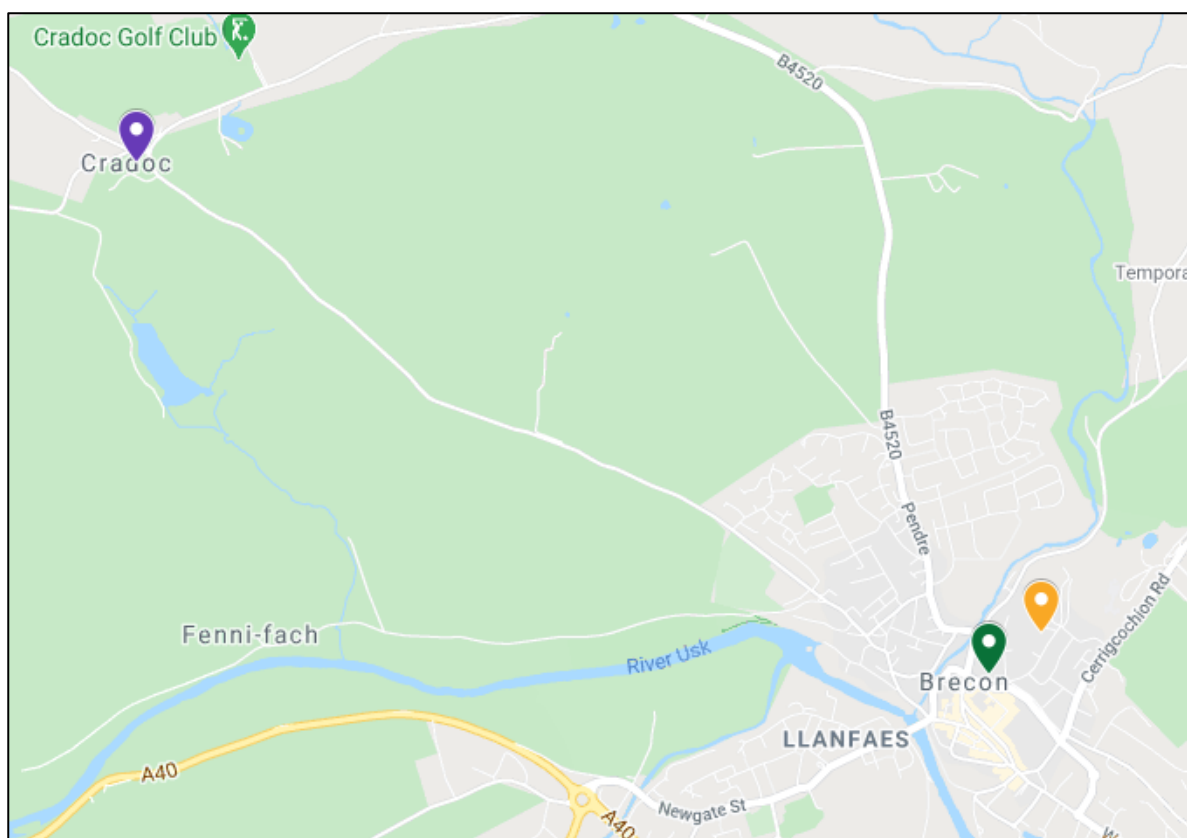
- **To make a regulated alteration to transfer the new school to a new school building on a new site in Brecon.**

The current target date for this phase is September 2024 at the earliest.

1. BACKGROUND

Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School are three English-medium schools located in the Brecon catchment area in South Powys. Both Mount Street Infants and Mount Street Juniors are located in the town of Brecon. Cradoc C.P. School is an English-medium primary school located in the village of Cradoc, approximately 3 miles from Brecon.

The following map shows the location of the three schools:



Key: Purple – Cradoc C.P. School, Orange – Mount Street Infants School, Green – Mount Street Junior School

Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School primarily serve the town of Brecon, whilst Cradoc C.P. School serves the village of Cradoc and surrounding area.

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

	School Type	Language Category	Admission Number	Rural School ¹
Mount Street Infants School, Rhosferig Road, Brecon, Powys, LD3 7NG	Community Infants School building owned by Powys County Council	English medium	43	No
Mount Street Junior School, Brecon, Powys, LD3 7LU	Community Junior School building owned by Powys County Council	English medium	43	No

¹ 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>)

Cradoc C.P. School, Cradoc, Brecon, Powys, LD3 9LR	Community Primary School building owned by Powys County Council	English medium	25	Yes
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Current pupil numbers² at the three schools are as follows:

	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
Mount Street Infants School	39	33	41					113
Mount Street Junior School				47	49	38	39	173
Cradoc C.P. School	13	10	12	19	14	13	14	95

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’.

On the 29th September 2020, the Council’s Cabinet considered a Programme Business Case (PBC) in respect of primary provision in the Brecon catchment.

The PBC considered by Cabinet identified a preferred way forward for the Brecon catchment, which is as follows:

To invest in the development of:

- A new 360 place English-medium primary school in Brecon, to replace Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street juniors School and Cradoc C.P. School, with a co-located Pupil Referral Unit and a community swimming pool – to be built on the site of the old Brecon High School
- A new 180 place dual-stream primary school in Sennybridge, replacing the current poor accommodation at Sennybridge CP School – to be built on the current site of Sennybridge CP School.

At the Cabinet meeting on the 29th September, Cabinet approved the submission of the PBC for the Brecon catchment to Welsh Government, and also approved that officers bring back a further report to Cabinet outlining the implementation steps, including consultation, required to achieve the new facilities.

² Finance NOR – 2020 Pupil Count Day (6th November 2020)

Following the Cabinet meeting which took place on the 29th September, the Council has carried out an options appraisal exercise to identify a preferred option for Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Juniors School and Cradoc C.P. School.

The following steps have been undertaken:

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

On the 23rd December 2020, the Cabinet considered a further report in respect of Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Juniors School and Cradoc C.P. School, and agreed to commence consultation on the following:

'Phase 1

To amalgamate Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Juniors School and Cradoc C.P. School to create a new primary school that would operate from the current three sites

The target date for establishing the new primary school is September 2022.

Phase 2

To make a regulated alteration to transfer the school to a new school building on a new site in Brecon'.

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 21st 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 strategy also includes a number of Enabling Actions which will be taken forward to support the implementation of the four Strategic Aims. One of these includes a commitment to capital investment in Powys schools, as outlined below:

'E.A.1 – The implementation of a major capital investment programme that will ensure that schools in Powys have inspiring, environmentally sustainable buildings that can provide opportunities for wider community activity, including where possible childcare services, early years, ALN, multi-agency support and community and leisure facilities. This will also include developing a reliable, high quality digital infrastructure.'

The current proposals in respect of Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Juniors School and Cradoc C.P. School are in line with these priorities.

4. WHY CHANGE IS NEEDED IN MOUNT STREET INFANTS, MOUNT STREET JUNIORS AND CRADOC

The following is a summary of the current challenges facing the three schools:

4.1 MOUNT STREET INFANTS AND MOUNT STREET JUNIOR SCHOOLS

i) Building condition

The current building condition of the two schools is as follows:

	Condition³
Mount Street Infants School	C – Poor
Mount Street Junior School	C – Poor

There are issues with building condition in both schools, with the condition of both schools being rated as poor, with approximately £1.7m in backlog maintenance outstanding across the two sites⁴.

ii) Last remaining infant and junior schools in Powys

School reorganisation in Powys has gradually moved to a model of ‘all-through’ provision in primary schools across the county. Mount Street Infant and Junior Schools represent the last remaining separate infant and junior schools within the County.

The advantages offered by single school provision for primary age pupils are well known and evidence based. Due in part to an increased critical mass of learners, ‘all-through’ primary schools are usually able to offer both enhanced continuity of provision and a curriculum which is more broad and balanced in content delivered in a continuous and coherent way from the Foundation Phase through to the end of Key Stage 2.

iii) Transition arrangements

Whilst the two schools work closely together to minimise disruption for pupils on transition from the Foundation Phase to Key Stage 2 in order to ensure that they can effectively move from one school to the other, the current arrangement does mean that there is an additional transition for pupils during their educational careers, which can cause disruption to pupils and their families.

iv) Staff development opportunities

The current arrangement provides the opportunity for staff to specialise in a particular educational phase – either Foundation Phase or Key Stage 2. However,

³ Premises Data Return to Welsh Government – 2020

⁴ School premises data 2020

this does mean that it is more difficult for them to gain experience across the whole primary age range.

4.2 CRADOC C.P. SCHOOL

i) Decreasing pupil numbers⁵

	Jan. 2014	Jan. 2015	Jan. 2016	Jan. 2017	Jan. 2018	Jan. 2019	Jan. 2020
Cradoc C.P. School	141	139	136	142	133	123	112

Pupil numbers have decreased significantly over the last five years. It has a capacity of 175 pupils with 95 pupils currently on roll, according to latest pupil data⁶, although forecasting information suggests pupil numbers may increase.

ii) Building condition

The current building condition of the school is as follows:

	Condition
Cradoc C.P. School	C – Poor

There are issues with building condition at Cradoc C.P. School, with the condition of the school being rated as poor, with approximately £628k in backlog maintenance outstanding. The building is also not fully compliant with the Equality Act 2010.

iii) Building configuration

The configuration of the school is problematic and creates safeguarding concerns. The school utilises three aging demountable buildings, only one of which has toilet facilities; therefore children have to leave the classroom to enter the main building in order to use the toilets.

⁵ PLASC

⁶ Finance NOR – 2020 Pupil Count Day (6th November 2020)

5. OPTIONS CONSIDERED

The following options have been identified for the three schools:

Option	Description
1	Status Quo – Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School continue to operate as separate schools
2a	Federation – Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School federate to create a federated primary school. Cradoc C.P. School continues to operate as a separate school
2b	Federation – Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School federate to create a federated primary school
3a	Merge Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School to create a new primary school. Cradoc C.P. School to continue to operate as a separate school
3b	Merge Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School to create a new primary school. Close Cradoc C.P. School, with pupils to attend alternative schools.
4	Merge Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School to create a new primary school.
5	Close Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School, pupils to attend alternative schools. Retain Cradoc C.P. School.
6	Close Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School. Pupils to attend alternative school.

SWOT analyses have also 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:

Option 4: Merge Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School to create a new primary school

The reasons for this are:

- One new, larger school would be established which would offer enhanced opportunities for pupils
- Would enable staff expertise and good practice to be shared across the entire primary age range
- Fairer for staff – all staff at the three schools would have the opportunity to secure positions in the new school
- More flexibility and personal development opportunities for staff
- Parents of pupils currently attending Mount Street Infants would not have to re-apply for admission to junior phase
- Improved transition arrangements between Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 for pupils attending Mount Street Infants
- Potential to attract capital funding to provide a new building
- 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 proposals on which the Council is consulting, based on implementation of the preferred option on a phased basis:

- **Phase 1:** Establishment of a new school operating from the current three sites
- **Phase 2:** Moving to a new building located on the site of the former Brecon High School

The proposals are 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 PROPOSALS

7. OVERVIEW

Powys County Council is consulting on proposals to amalgamate Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School to establish a new primary school for pupils aged 4-11 on the three current sites.

The proposals are as follows:

Phase 1 of the Proposals

- To close Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School
- To establish a new English-medium primary school for pupils aged 4-11 on the current sites of Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School.

The current target date is to close the three schools on the 31st August 2022, with the new school opening on the 1st September 2022.

Phase 2 of the Proposals

- To make a regulated alteration to transfer the new school to a new school building on a new site in Brecon.

The current target date for this phase is September 2024 at the earliest.

If the proposals were to be implemented, the following table provides details about the proposed new school:

Name	The name of the new school would be proposed by the temporary governing body, and approved by the Portfolio Holder for Education
Proposed admission number	Initially, the admission number for the new school would be 68. Following a move to a new building, the admission number would be recalculated based on the capacity of the new building. It is anticipated that the admission number for the new school following a move to a new building would be 51
Proposed admissions arrangements	Pupils attending Mount Street Infants, Mount Street Juniors and Cradoc C.P. School would automatically be allocated a place in the new school. Future pupils would apply for a place in accordance with the usual admission arrangements.

Age range	4 – 11
Pupil places capacity	<p>Initially, the new school would operate on the three existing sites, and the capacity would reflect their combined capacities. The capacity of the new primary school would initially be 420.</p> <p>Based on the PBC approved in September 2020, the intention is that the new school would move to a new building which would accommodate approximately 360 pupils – the capacity of the new school would need to be further assessed during the design stage.</p>
Location	<p>The new school would initially operate from the existing sites of Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School.</p> <p>Eventually, the intention is that the school would move to a new building located on the site of the old Brecon High School, Penlan, Brecon, LD3 9SR, with a co-located Pupil Referral Unit and a community swimming pool. It is anticipated that this would happen in September 2024 at the earliest.</p>
Category	Community School
Language category	English medium
Details of proposed accommodation	<p>Initially, the accommodation would remain the same as the current accommodation.</p> <p>Eventually, the intention is that the school would move to a new building located on the site of the old Brecon High School.</p> <p>Whilst no designs for the new building have been developed yet, it is anticipated that the facilities at the new accommodation would be similar to those provided at other school buildings which have been opened in Powys over recent years as part of the 21st Century Schools Programme, and would include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classrooms • Group rooms • Early years facilities • Staff room • Hall • Dining facilities • Community facilities • Sports facilities

Home to school transport arrangements	<p>Initially, home to school transport would continue to be provided to eligible pupils to the three existing sites in accordance with the Council’s transport policy which is available at https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/7223/Home-to-School-and-College-Transport-Policy</p> <p>Upon the opening of the new build, transport will be provided for eligible pupils attending the school at the time to the new building. Following the move to a new building, transport would be provided to eligible pupils in accordance with the home to school transport which is in operation at that time.</p>
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8. REASONS FOR THE PROPOSALS

The Council is proposing to amalgamate Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School for the following reasons:

- To offer enhanced opportunities for pupils from attending one new, larger, school
- To enable staff expertise and good practice to be shared across the entire primary age range
- To ensure that all staff at the three current schools have the opportunity to secure positions in the new school
- To provide more flexibility and personal development opportunities for staff
- To provide improved transition arrangements for pupils currently attending Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Juniors School between the Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2
- To provide access to 21st Century Schools Funding in order to provide a new building
- To reduce the Council’s surplus places in primary schools
- To rationalise the primary school estate
- To realise a financial saving

9. ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES

The advantages and disadvantages of the current proposals to amalgamate Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School are summarised below:

Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One new, larger school would be established which would offer enhanced opportunities for pupils - Would enable staff expertise and good practice to be shared across the entire primary age range - Fairer for staff – all staff at the three schools would have the opportunity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Additional travel for those pupils for whom Cradoc C.P. School is currently the closest school should the new school move to one site in Brecon - Potential loss of provision from Cradoc should the new school move to one site in Brecon

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to secure positions in the new school - More flexibility and personal development opportunities for staff - Parents of pupils currently attending Mount Street Infants would not have to re-apply for admission to junior phase - Improved transition arrangements between Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 for pupils attending Mount Street Infants - Potential to attract capital funding to provide a new building - Would reduce the Council's surplus places in primary schools - Would lead to rationalisation of the primary school estate - Financial saving to the Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Impact on the Cradoc community should there eventually be no school in Cradoc
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10. RISKS

As with all school reorganisation proposals, there are some risks associated with the proposals to amalgamate Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School.

These are outlined below, along with suggested mitigating actions:

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating Actions
Parents of pupils at Mount Street Infants / Juniors don't want their children to attend a primary school as opposed to an infant/junior school, so choose for them to move to alternative schools	Low	Low	Engagement with parents to take place throughout the process. Should the Cabinet decide to proceed with the proposals, opportunities to be provided for parents to contribute to the process of establishing the new school.
Parents don't want their children to attend the new school, so move them to alternative schools	Low	Low	Engagement with parents to take place throughout the process. Should the Cabinet decide to proceed with the proposals, opportunities to be provided for parents to

			contribute to the process of establishing the new school.
Period of uncertainty for the affected schools whilst the statutory process is being carried out and implemented may have a negative impact on standards at the two schools.	Medium	Medium	The Council to provide advice and support to the schools and the temporary governing body of the new school to ensure that standards and performance continue to improve during the transition period.
Uncertainty for staff during the transition period, may result in some staff leaving	Low	Low	Engagement with staff to take place throughout the process and staff to be kept informed of developments. Process to be concluded as quickly as possible in order to minimise the period of uncertainty for staff.
No capital funding available to fund the project	Medium	High	The Council will continue to engage with the Welsh Government's 21 st Century Schools programme to seek funding.

11. POTENTIAL IMPLEMENTATION TIMESCALE

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

Formal Consultation	25 February to 15 April 2021
Consultation Report to be published, and considered by Cabinet	Spring / Summer 2021

If Cabinet decide to proceed:

Publish Statutory Notice (28 days objection period)	June / July 2021
Objection Report to be published and considered by Cabinet	September 2021

If Cabinet approves implementation:

Phase 1:

Establish temporary governing body	Autumn 2021
Appoint headteacher	By end of 2021
Develop and appoint to a new staffing structure	Autumn 2021/Spring 2022
Current schools close	31 st August 2022
New school opens	1 st September 2022

Phase 2:

The target date for completion of the new school building is September 2024 at the earliest.

PART C – LIKELY IMPACT OF THE PROPOSALS

12. IMPACT ON PUPILS

i) Pupils currently attending Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School

Implementation of Phase 1 of the proposals would see the continuation of English-medium primary provision in Brecon, on the current sites of Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School, and in Cradoc, on the current site of Cradoc C.P. School. Therefore it is anticipated that the impact on pupils attending all three schools would be minimal during this phase.

Implementation of the proposals would provide improved opportunities for pupils in all key stages to benefit from staff specialisms throughout their time at the school, and to provide continuity in the support provided to vulnerable pupils throughout their time at the school. There would also be improved opportunities for more able and talented pupils.

Implementation of the proposals would mean that pupils currently attending Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School would attend one school throughout their primary education. It is expected that this would result in improved transition between the infant and junior phases, which should have a positive impact on the pupil well-being, and on their educational performance.

Eventually, the intention is that the new school moves to a new building located on the site of the old Brecon High School. This would mean that pupils attending the school would need to transfer to the new site. The new building would provide significantly improved accommodation compared with the current accommodation of Mount Street Infants, Mount Street Juniors and Cradoc C.P. School, which would have a positive impact on pupils.

For pupils currently attending Cradoc C.P. School, the move to a new building would require additional travel. 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 an impact on pupils' ability to access after-school activities.

ii) Pupils attending other schools in the Brecon catchment

It is not anticipated that implementation of the proposals would impact on any pupils attending any other schools in the Brecon catchment.

iii) Pupils attending other schools not in the Brecon catchment

It is not anticipated that implementation of the proposals would impact on pupils attending any other schools not in the Brecon catchment.

13. IMPACT ON STAFF

Should the proposals be implemented, Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School would close, and a new school would be opened with a new governing body. Should the proposals proceed, a temporary governing body would be appointed for an interim period, until the new school were to open.

The temporary governing body would be responsible for appointing a headteacher for the new school and would then work with the headteacher to develop the leadership, management and staffing structures for the new school.

Implementation of the new staffing structure would be in accordance with the relevant HR Policies for teaching and support staff. As part of this process, there would be an opportunity for the temporary governing body to 'ringfence' all teaching and associated staff posts to staff currently employed within the existing schools in the first instance.

Should the proposals be implemented, 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". Following this change, there are no nursery aged pupils attending Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School or Cradoc C.P. School.

However, ten hours of funded early years education provision is available on the sites of both Mount Street Infants School and Cradoc C.P. School. Information about this provision is provided below⁷:

Mount Street Infants School

Mount Street Infants School is a non-maintained school run setting which operates from the site of Mount Street Infants School. They also provide the Childcare Offer for Wales. Standards of education and accommodation at the setting is good. Learners at Mount Street Infants School share facilities connected with the Foundation Phase class.

There are 56 places available at this provider which are currently sufficient to meet the need for early years education in the area.

Cradoc C.P. School

⁷ All information correct as of Summer Term 2021/22

Cradoc C.P. School is a non-maintained school run setting which operates from the site of Cradoc C.P. School. They also provide the Childcare Offer for Wales. Standards of education and accommodation at the setting is good. Learners at Cradoc C.P. School share outdoor space with the Foundation Phase class.

There are 19 places available at this provider which are currently sufficient to meet the need for early years education in the area.

Implementation of the current proposal would result in the establishment of a new primary school for pupils aged 4-11. During Phase 1 of the proposals, the new school would be established on the current sites of Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School. It is not anticipated that Phase 1 of the proposals would impact on the funded early years education provision outlined above, which would continue to operate in the same accommodation under the management of the new school. There are currently enough nursery places within the area to accommodate the demand for places, including demand for Welsh-medium provision.

Eventually, the intention is that the new school moves to a new building located on the site of the old Brecon High School. Accommodation to provide funded early years education would be provided as part of the new building, and it is anticipated that there would be at least the same number of places available as are currently available at Mount Street Infants School and Cradoc C.P. School. The demand for nursery places in the area will be reviewed as the proposal moves forward, to ensure that sufficient places are provided to accommodate demand.

Should all provision move to the new building, this would mean that funded early years education provision and childcare provision would no longer be available at Cradoc, and families currently accessing this childcare at Cradoc would need to travel further in order to access this provision. This could mean that some families currently accessing funded early years education provision and childcare provision at Cradoc may not access the alternative provision in Brecon.

In addition to the current early years education provision at Cradoc C.P. School and Mount Street Infants School, there are a number of other registered early years providers in the area which parents could access instead of the new provision at the new building in Brecon. Information about these providers is provided below:

Sennybridge Nursery

Sennybridge Nursery is a non-maintained school run setting which operates from the site of Sennybridge C.P. School. They also provide the Childcare Offer for Wales. Standards of education and accommodation at the setting is good. Learners at the setting have suitable facilities.

There are 16 English-medium places available at this provider and 16 Welsh-medium places which are currently sufficient to meet the need for early years education in the area.

Llanfaes Little Steps

Llanfaes Little Steps is a non-maintained school run setting which operates from the site of Llanfaes C.P. School. Standards of education and accommodation at the setting is good. Learners at the setting have suitable facilities.

There are 32 places available at this provider which are currently sufficient to meet the need for early years education in the area.

Priory Pre-School

Priory Pre-School is a non-maintained community run setting which operates from the site of Priory C. in W. School. They also provide the Childcare Offer for Wales. Standards of education and accommodation at the setting is good. Learners at the setting have suitable facilities.

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

Cylch Meithrin Aberhonddu

Cylch Meithrin Aberhonddu is a non-maintained community run setting which operates from the site of Ysgol y Bannau. They also provide the Childcare Offer for Wales. Standards of accommodation at the setting is good. Learners at the setting have suitable facilities.

There are 24 places available at this provider which are currently sufficient to meet the need for early years education in the area.

15. 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 intention is to initially establish the new school in the buildings currently occupied by Mount Street Infants, Mount Street Juniors and Cradoc C.P. School. This would provide the same capacity as is currently available, and would provide accommodation of equivalent quality.

Eventually, the intention is that the new school moves to a new building located on the site of the old Brecon High School. This would improve the

quality of accommodation for pupils in the longer term. The intention is that the capacity of this new building would be approximately 360. However, there will be a need to review this capacity figure during the design phase - there is a potential for some parents to choose other schools rather than the new primary school in Brecon and there would also be a need to consider the impact of any housing developments in the area.

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

The three affected schools are English-medium community schools. The intention is to establish a new English-medium community primary school, ensuring continued access to community primary provision of the same language category.

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

There would be no change in terms of the nature of journeys and journey times for pupils following the establishment of one new school on the existing sites of Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School.

Eventually, the intention is that the new school moves to a new building located on the site of the old Brecon High School. This would result in additional travel for pupils for whom Cradoc C.P. School is currently the closest school. The site of the old Brecon High School is approximately 3 miles from Cradoc C.P. School, therefore, whilst there would be additional travel time for all pupils for whom Cradoc C.P. School is currently the closest school, including SEN pupils, the nature of journeys and journey times would not be unreasonable, and would not exceed 45 minutes.

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

The projected pupil numbers for all primary schools in the Brecon catchment for the next five years are as follows⁸:

	Jan. 2021	Jan. 2022	Jan. 2023	Jan. 2024	Jan. 2025
Cradoc C.P. School	98	98	99	99	94

⁸ Powys Schools 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.

Llanfaes C.P. School	201	200	194	195	193
Mount Street Infants School	105	109	110	111	110
Mount Street Junior School	159	156	151	139	130
Priory C. in W. School	146	151	149	158	160
Sennybridge C.P. School	127	124	124	120	114
Ysgol y Bannau	116	117	107	106	107
TOTAL	952	955	934	928	908

This suggests that there is no need / demand for additional places in the Brecon catchment.

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

The intention is to amalgamate the three schools in their existing accommodation initially, therefore there would be no change in terms of access for disabled pupils.

Eventually, the intention is that the new school moves to a new building located on the site of the old Brecon High School which would be DDA compliant. This would provide improved access for disabled pupils.

16. IMPACT ON GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

Implementation of the proposals would result in the establishment of a new primary school for pupils aged 4-11 on the current sites of Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School. A single governing body would be responsible for the school, which would replace the three existing governing bodies. A new Instrument of Government would be developed in accordance with The Government of Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2005. This is likely to include the following number of governors:

Category of governor	Number
Parent Governor	4 or 5
LEA Governor	3 or 4

Teacher Governor	1 or 2
Staff Governor	1
Community Governors	3 or 4
Additional Community Governor	1
Headteacher	1

If Phase 1 of the proposals to establish a new primary school is approved by the Council's Cabinet, a temporary governing body would initially be established to oversee the strategic and operational transition to the new school. The composition of the temporary governing body would be as per the table above.

The temporary governing body would be responsible for appointing a Headteacher for the new school, and for developing a new staffing structure for the school in conjunction with the Headteacher.

A permanent governing body would be established upon the formal opening of the new school, based on the Instrument of Government outlined above.

The Welsh Government consulted on new regulations for the composition of governing bodies during 2017. Should any new regulations come into effect in the future, it is likely that changes would be required to the composition of the governing body.

17. IMPACT ON QUALITY AND STANDARDS IN EDUCATION

i) Standards, wellbeing and attitudes to learning

Standards and progress overall, of specific groups and in skills

Standards of education and progress at all three schools are currently good. The Council would expect amalgamating to further strengthen the current standards.

For pupils currently attending Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School, amalgamation of the schools would enable pupil progression to be monitored throughout pupils' time in primary school, from age 4 to age 11, ensuring continuity in delivery and approach. It is anticipated that this would have an overall positive 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. Amalgamating the three schools would ensure that their

progress could be monitored, supported and tracked over a longer period of time, and throughout their time in primary school.

It is also anticipated that amalgamating the three schools would have a positive impact on the skills of all pupils, including literacy, numeracy and ICT, through improved opportunities to share staff expertise and resources across, and through improved ability to monitor pupil progress in these aspects.

Whilst some benefits would be realised immediately following establishment of the new school, these would be further enhanced following a move to one new building in the future.

Wellbeing and attitudes to learning

Wellbeing and attitudes to learning are currently strong in all three schools. Amalgamating the schools would provide an opportunity to strengthen these further. For pupils currently attending Mount Street Infants and Mount Street Juniors, amalgamation would mean that pupils would attend one school throughout the Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2, therefore providing continuity in progression and approach throughout the primary phase. It is anticipated that this would have a positive impact, particularly with regard to pupils' emotional health.

In the short term, it is possible that there would be an impact on pupil wellbeing during transition to the new operating model, however the Council would work with the temporary governing body and the headteacher of the new school to minimise any negative impact.

In the longer term, the intention is that the new school would move to a new building located on the site of the old Brecon High School. It is possible that there would also be an impact on pupil wellbeing during the transition to the new building, in particular for pupils currently attending Cradoc C.P. School, who would need to travel further to school. However, all pupils would be attending a brand new building, which would provide significantly improved accommodation compared with the current accommodation of Mount Street Infants, Mount Street Juniors and Cradoc C.P. School, which should have a positive impact on pupil wellbeing and attitudes to learning.

ii) Teaching and learning experiences

Quality of teaching

Quality of teaching is currently good in all three schools. It is anticipated that amalgamating the three schools would provide an opportunity to enhance this, by providing flexibility to share good practice and teaching experiences, resulting in positive benefits for staff and pupils.

For pupils currently attending Mount Street Infants and Mount Street Juniors, there would be enhanced opportunities to share Foundation Phase pedagogy with Key Stage 2 classes, which would enhance teaching approaches across the school, and vice versa. Being part of a larger primary school with a larger pool of teaching staff would also lead to enhanced opportunities for pupils currently attending Cradoc C.P. School.

Whilst some benefits would be realised immediately following establishment of the new school, these would be further enhanced following a move to one new building in the future.

The breadth, balance and appropriateness of the curriculum

Amalgamating the three schools would provide the opportunity to further strengthen the curriculum offered to pupils. The new school would be better placed to develop provision which meets the requirements of the new curriculum.

Whilst some benefits would be realised immediately following establishment of the new school, these would be further enhanced following a move to one new building in the future.

The provision of skills

The provision of skills is strong in all three schools now, however, amalgamating the schools would provide an opportunity to strengthen this.

Whilst some benefits would be realised immediately following establishment of the new school, these would be further enhanced following a move to one new building in the future.

iii) Care support and guidance

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

Amalgamating the three schools to establish one new school would provide an opportunity to further develop these aspects. In particular, there would be a positive impact for pupils currently attending Mount Street Infants and Mount Street Juniors, as pupils would attend a primary school rather than separate infants / junior schools, therefore the school would know the child for longer, and would monitor their development from 5 years old to 11 years old. For those children that need additional support, this continuity of approach would be beneficial. This is also the case in respect of personal development and safeguarding.

In the longer term, the Council intends to invest in a new building to replace the current buildings. Whilst some benefits would be realised immediately

following establishment of the new school, these would be further enhanced following a move to one new building in the future. Safeguarding arrangements would be a key consideration when planning the site, and when designing the new building, therefore it is likely that this would significantly improve safeguarding arrangements.

iv) Leadership and management

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

Leadership is good at all three schools, however, amalgamating the three schools would provide an opportunity to further enhance this, and would increase the capacity for leadership, and sharing of good practice across the foundation phase and key stage 2.

The new school would be a larger school, which would provide the opportunity for a non-teaching headteacher and would enable increased focus on leadership. Amalgamating the three schools would also provide enhanced opportunities to develop leadership across the school, and would provide enhanced leadership opportunities for staff.

Amalgamating the three schools would provide enhanced opportunities to develop self-evaluation processes across the primary phase, enabling the development of consistency in processes for the benefit of a larger number of pupils. As a primary school, the new school to see each pupil's full development across the primary age range.

In addition, there would be enhanced opportunities for improvement planning across the primary phase. Pupils currently attending Mount Street Infants and Mount Street Juniors would attend the new school for longer, therefore the school would be better informed about the pupils, which would enable more effective target setting and improvement planning.

The intention is to initially establish a new school in the buildings currently occupied by Mount Street Infants, Mount Street Juniors and Cradoc C.P. School. It is acknowledged that operating across three sites could cause challenges for the school's leaders during this phase.

Whilst some benefits would be realised immediately following establishment of the new school, these would be further enhanced following a move to one new building in the future.

In the longer term, the intention is for the new school to move to a new building. This would enable the new school to maximise the benefits in terms of leadership and management.

Professional learning

Amalgamating the three schools would provide improved professional learning opportunities for staff through greater opportunities for cross phase working, opportunities to develop leaders more effectively and more opportunities to develop middle leaders. In addition, there would be improved opportunities to see the progression of learning across the primary age range and improve opportunities to apply the principles of the new curriculum.

Whilst it is expected that some improvements in professional learning opportunities would be realised immediately following the amalgamation of the three schools, this would be further enhanced following a move to one new building in the future.

Use of resources

Should the three schools amalgamate to create one new school, the school would be funded as one school, with one budget, and would be run by one headteacher, one leadership team, and one governing body. This would eventually enable the school to operate more efficiently compared with the current arrangements, and should result in some efficiencies through shared staffing and the ability to share of other resources.

Initially, the new school would be established on the existing sites of the three schools. This would mean that there would be a need to maintain all three buildings in the short term, which would result in duplication of resources and could lead to inefficient use of resources in the short term.

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

Amalgamating the three schools would provide enhanced opportunities to support pupils belonging to vulnerable groups, including children with SEN.

During Phase 1 of the proposals, provision would continue on the current sites of the three schools, therefore the impact on pupils would be minimal. However, it is anticipated that there would be benefits for pupils belonging to vulnerable groups, including children with SEN, from being part of a larger school with a larger team of staff, and the ability to share expertise and resources across the three sites.

There are currently specialist units at both Mount Street Infants and Mount Street Junior Schools which provide additional support for pupils with SEN. During Phase 1 of the proposals, these units would continue to operate as they currently do, in their existing accommodation.

During Phase 2 of the proposals, the intention is that the new school would move to a new building on the site of the old Brecon High School. It is

anticipated that this would provide enhanced facilities and opportunities for pupils, including any vulnerable pupils, such as children with SEN. Whilst it is anticipated that the enhanced facilities at the new building would provide benefits for all vulnerable pupils attending the school, including any children with SEN, it is acknowledged that this would mean that there would be no provision in the village of Cradoc. As a result, implementation of Phase 2 would mean that additional travel would be required for any vulnerable pupils, for whom Cradoc C.P. School is currently the closest school, including pupils with SEN.

The requirement for specialist provision as part of the new building will be a key consideration when reviewing the specialist provision for SEN/ALN in Brecon, in accordance with the Council's ALN Strategy.

vi) Impact on the schools' ability to deliver the full curriculum in the foundation stage and each key stage

Amalgamating the three schools would enable the provision of a full curriculum to pupils across the primary age range.

Initially, the new school would be established on the existing sites of the three schools. Whilst one headteacher and governing body would be responsible for all through sites during this period, the full curriculum would continue to be provided to pupils in the foundation phase and key stage 2. The provision available for pupils would be at least equivalent to the current provision, and there would be additional opportunities to provide enhanced opportunities to pupils across all three sites through shared staffing and the opportunity to hold all-school activities.

Eventually, the intention is that the new school moves to a new building located on the site of the old Brecon High School. This would provide enhanced opportunities to offer a full curriculum to all pupils across the primary age range in brand new facilities.

vii) Impact on other schools

It is not anticipated that implementation of the proposals would impact on quality and standards in education at any other schools.

18. RESOURCING OF EDUCATION AND OTHER FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

The proposal is to establish the new school in the buildings currently occupied by the three existing schools, therefore there would be no impact on surplus places in the area.

Eventually, the intention is that the new school moves to a new building located on the site of the old Brecon High School. The size of the new building would be planned based on the current and projected pupil numbers at the three affected schools, however it is anticipated that this would lead to a reduction in surplus places in the area.

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

The Council intends to implement this change on a phased basis, and to initially establish a new school in the buildings currently occupied by Mount Street Infants, Mount Street Juniors and Cradoc C.P. School. This is not dependent on 21st Century Schools funding.

Eventually, the intention is that the new school moves to a new building located on the site of the old Brecon High School. Plans to provide a new primary school in Brecon are included in the Council's Strategic Outline Programme of the 21st Century Schools Programme.

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 these proposals would be the increased rates charges for a new build which are currently estimated to be an additional £14,000. This has been included in the delegated revenue costing and is funded through savings in other areas of the formula in relation to these proposals.

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

No additional transport costs would be incurred as a result of establishing a new school on the existing sites of Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School.

Eventually, the intention is that the new school moves to a new building located on the site of the old Brecon High School. It is currently projected that there would be no additional transport costs as current bus routes can accommodate this model.

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

There are no capital costs associated with the initial phase, which would see Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School amalgamating to establish a new primary school operating on the three current sites.

Eventually, the intention is that the new school moves to a new building located on the site of the old Brecon High School. It is estimated that the capital cost of this would be approximately £9 to £10m.

The intention is that this would be funded by the Welsh Government's 21st Century Schools Programme. Plans to provide a new primary school in Brecon are included in the Council's SOP for the 21st Century Schools Programme, however the Council would need to go through an extensive business case process in order to draw down funding. Should 21st Century Schools funding not be available, the Council could consider utilising alternative funding sources.

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

The intention is to initially establish a new school on the current sites of Mount Street Infants, Mount Street Juniors and Cradoc C.P. School. It is estimated that this would result in annual revenue savings to the Council of £16,181 per annum. There would be no additional transport costs associated with this phase, although there would be some additional set-up costs. Based on previous primary school mergers, this is estimated to be in the region of £50k.

Eventually, the intention is that the new school moves to a new building located on the site of the old Brecon High. It is estimated that the capital cost of this would be approximately £9m to £10m.

It is anticipated that the lifetime costs of the status quo option, which would include backlog maintenance would be £97,990,442 over a 60-year investment period. This is compared with the lifetime costs of the move to a new school building would be £92,772,215 over a 60-year investment period, generating a saving of £5,218,227.

A move to one new building would also result in additional estimated revenue savings in delegated funding amounting to £184,306 per annum and £35,760 for catering functions. It is currently projected that there would be no additional transports costs as current bus routes can accommodate this model.

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

Based on the latest information held by the Council's Finance Team⁹, Mount Street Infants is not projecting to be in a deficit budget position during 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23. Mount Street Juniors is projecting to be in a deficit budget position during 2020/21, however it is projected that this would be recovered by 2021/22 and 2022/23. Cradoc C.P. School are projecting to

⁹ December 2020

be in a surplus budget position during 2020/21, but to be in a deficit budget position during 2021/22 and 2022/23.

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?

Initially there would be no redundant sites as the new school would be established on the current sites of the three schools.

Eventually, the intention is that the new school moves to a new building located on the site of the old Brecon High School. This would result in three redundant sites, which could realise a capital receipt. Any capital receipts received would be reinvested into the Council's corporate budget and any reinvestment in the schools' system would be agreed as part of the annual budget planning cycle.

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 Mount Street Infants, Mount Street Juniors and Cradoc C.P. School as they would transfer to the new, amalgamated school. Based on PLASC figures from January 2020, approximately 9% of pupils attending Mount Street Infants School, approximately 16% of pupils attending Mount Street Junior School and approximately 6% of pupils attending Cradoc C.P. School were eligible for Free School Meals, therefore it is acknowledged that the proposals would impact on some pupils from economically deprived backgrounds.

It is anticipated that amalgamation of the three schools would have a positive impact on educational attainment among children from economically deprived backgrounds. As a larger school, the new school would have a larger pupil deprivation grant, which could be used to support pupils consistently throughout their time in primary school.

Eventually, the intention is that the new school moves to a new building located on the site of the old Brecon High. This would mean that pupils

attending the school would need to transfer to the new site. For pupils currently attending Cradoc C.P. School, this would require additional travel. 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 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.

ii) **Land and Buildings**

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

As the proposal is to initially establish a new school in the current accommodation of the three existing schools, there would be no impact on the quality of accommodation for pupils.

Eventually, the intention is that the school would move to a new building located on the site of the old Brecon High School, which would result in new facilities, leading to a significant improvement in the quality of accommodation for pupils in the longer term.

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

All current pupils can be accommodated within the current accommodation and no building work would be necessary to proceed with Phase 1 of the proposals.

Eventually, the intention is that the school would move to a new building located on the site of the old Brecon High School. A new building would be required in order to enable this move to take place. It is currently anticipated that the new building would be ready by September 2024 at the earliest.

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

Any sites which are surplus following a move to a new building would be disposed of in accordance with the Council's asset management policy.

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?

The schools involved are not subject to any trust or charitable interests which might be affected by the establishment of a new primary school.

iii) Walking routes to school

Should the proposals be implemented, the new school would initially be established on the sites where Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School are currently located, therefore during Phase 1, walking routes to the new school would be the same as the current walking routes to these three schools.

Eventually, the intention is that the school would move to a new building located on the site of the old Brecon High School, Penlan, Brecon, LD3 9SR. Active travel is a key consideration when developing new school buildings, therefore every effort would be made to encourage walking / cycling to school when developing the new building. As the proposed site for the new school was previously a school site, there are already good active travel links between the site and the town centre.

iv) School Admissions

Admissions for the three current schools are administered by the Council. Should the current proposals be implemented, admissions for the new school 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>

Should the proposals be implemented, pupils currently attending the schools would be allocated places in the new primary school.

New pupils wishing to attend the school would need to apply for a place in accordance with the Council's admissions arrangements.

v) Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP)

The proposal is to amalgamate three English-medium schools in order to establish one new English-medium primary school. The proposal is not linked to the targets in the Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan.

The proposals 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 the three schools, these include options considered in the Programme Business Case in respect of the Brecon catchment, and the options outlined in section 5 of this

document. Assessments of each option have been carried out, which includes an assessment of the weaknesses / threats associated with each.

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 options were considered in respect of the three schools, as outlined in section 5 of this document. Assessments of each option have been carried out, which includes an assessment of the weaknesses / threats associated with each.

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 buildings as a community or educational resource would not address the issues identified in respect of Mount Street Infants, Mount Street Juniors and Cradoc School. The condition of the current buildings is poor, making fuller use of the buildings would not address this.

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 provision would continue to be available in Brecon, therefore the impact on the Brecon community would be minimal. Ultimately, there would be a positive impact on the community in Brecon through the provision of one new primary school with enhanced community facilities.

Implementation of this option would eventually mean that there would no longer be provision in Cradoc. This would have a negative impact on the Cradoc community, and would result in the loss of primary provision in Cradoc, and a possible loss of any community facilities associated with the school from the village of Cradoc.

A draft community impact assessment has been carried out with input from the affected schools, which considers the potential impact of the proposals 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 the new school. As the preferred option would result in the establishment of one new school, initially operating over three sites, there would be opportunities for all parents and pupils involved with the three existing schools to be fully involved with the establishment of the new school, which would ensure full engagement by the time the school were to move to the planned new building.

21. EQUALITY AND COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Draft impact assessments have been carried out in respect of the proposals. 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/10327/Mount-Street-Infants-School-Mount-Street-Junior-School-and-Cradoc-C.P.-School>

A summary of the assessments are provided below:

i) Equalities impact assessment

Should the proposals be implemented, a new English medium primary school would be established, initially on three sites but eventually moving to a new build school in Brecon, and all pupils currently attending Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School would be able to attend the new school. The aim of the proposal is to improve the educational opportunities available to pupils in the Brecon area, including any pupils belonging to the protected characteristic groups.

During the first phase of implementing the proposals, pupils would continue to attend school in their current buildings, therefore the impact on pupils belonging to protected characteristic groups would be minimal.

Eventually the intention is that the new school moves to a new building in Brecon. Whilst this would provide significant improvements to all pupils in terms of the quality of accommodation and the facilities available, this phase would have a more significant impact on pupils currently attending Cradoc C.P. 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 the new building.

Whilst it is acknowledged that the proposals would impact on pupils belonging to the protected characteristic groups that attend the three current schools, there is no reason to believe that the proposed new primary school 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, EAL pupils, 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 the three affected schools. Should the proposals be implemented, a new school would be established on the existing sites of the three schools. It is expected that a similar range of activities would be provided to pupils on the existing sites. It is also possible that an increased range of activities and opportunities could be offered to pupils, through the ability to share staff expertise and the ability to offer joint activities to a larger group of pupils. During the first phase of implementation, it is anticipated that the impact of the proposals on the community would be minimal.

Eventually, the intention is that the new school would move to one new building located on the site of the old Brecon High School in Brecon, co-located with the PRU and a new community swimming pool. It is anticipated that the new building would have a range of community facilities, which would ensure that many of the activities which currently take place in the schools could continue, as well as providing the opportunity to offer new activities.

It is acknowledged, however that the move to one new building in Brecon would mean that there would be no school provision in the village of Cradoc. The information provided in section 4.3 above indicates that there is currently extensive community use of the Cradoc building, and extensive links between the school and the local community. It is currently unclear where the facilities and services currently provided by the school could be provided should there be no school in Cradoc. However, should the Council proceed with the proposal, it would endeavour to work with the community in Cradoc to identify a suitable alternative.

It is also acknowledged that implementation of the proposals would result in additional travel to school for pupils for whom Cradoc 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.

The move to one new building would also have some impact on pupils currently attending Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School, as the new school building would be located approximately 0.6/0.7 miles from the current school buildings, and would be located up a hill, which could mean that parents would be more likely to drive their children to school rather than walk / cycle. Active travel is a key consideration when developing new school buildings, therefore every effort would be made to encourage walking / cycling to school when developing the new building. As the proposed site for the new school was previously a school site, there are already good active travel links between the site and the town centre.

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 Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School
- Governors at Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School
- Staff at Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School
- Pupils at Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School
- The Church in Wales and Roman Catholic Diocesan Authorities
- The Welsh Minister for Education
- Local Powys Councillors
- Town and Community Councils in the local area
- The Member of the Senedd for Brecon and Radnorshire and regional Members of the Senedd for the area
- The MP for Brecon and Radnorshire
- Estyn
- Teaching and staff trade unions
- ERW
- The 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 standards¹⁰.

The consultation period

The consultation period will commence on the 25 February 2021 and end on 15 April 2021

The statutory process

Consultation on these proposals will follow the guidelines set out by the Welsh Government in the revised School Organisation Code which became operational on the 1st November 2018. The process is summarised below:

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

i) Consultation

Consultation will start on the 25 February 2021 and end on 15 April 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 proposals, 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 proposals, to make changes to the proposals, or to not proceed with the proposals. If the Cabinet decides not to proceed, that will be the end of these proposals.

It is anticipated that the Consultation Report will be considered by the Cabinet in spring/summer 2021.

ii) Statutory notice

If the Cabinet decides to proceed with the proposals, 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 proposals.

It is anticipated that a final decision would be made by the end of September 2021.

iii) Implementation

If the Council's Cabinet were to approve the proposals, 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/10327/Mount-Street-Infants-School-Mount-Street-Junior-School-and-Cradoc-C.P.-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

All correspondence should be received by the **15 April 2021**.

If you have any further questions about these proposals, 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 three schools is provided below:

General information

	School Type	Language Category	Admission Number ¹¹	Rural School? ¹²
Mount Street Infants School	Community Infants School building owned by Powys County Council	English medium	43	No
Mount Street Junior School	Community Junior School building owned by Powys County Council	English medium	43	No
Cradoc C.P. School	Community Primary School building owned by Powys County Council	English medium	25	Yes

Pupil numbers

i) Current pupil numbers¹³

	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
Mount Street Infants School	39	33	41	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	113
Mount Street Junior School	N/A	N/A	N/A	47	49	38	39	173
Cradoc C.P. School	13	10	12	19	14	13	14	95
TOTAL	52	43	53	66	63	51	53	381

¹¹ Powys Admissions Information and Arrangements 2021-22

¹² 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.

¹³ Finance NOR – 2020 Pupil Count Day (6th November 2020)

ii) Historical pupil numbers¹⁴

	Jan. 2014	Jan. 2015	Jan. 2016	Jan. 2017	Jan. 2018	Jan. 2019	Jan. 2020
Mount Street Infants School	159	176	191	187	179	171	150
Mount Street Junior School	153	124	138	139	145	143	152
Cradoc C.P. School	141	139	136	142	133	123	112
TOTAL	453	439	465	478	457	437	414

iii) Projected pupil numbers¹⁵

	Jan. 2021	Jan. 2022	Jan. 2023	Jan. 2024	Jan. 2025
Mount Street Infants School	105	109	110	111	110
Mount Street Junior School	159	156	151	139	130
Cradoc C.P. School	98	98	99	99	94
TOTAL	362	363	360	349	334

iv) Projected pupil numbers (Finance projections)¹⁶

	Jan. 2022	Jan. 2023	Jan. 2024	Jan. 2025
Mount Street Infants School	113	112	119	N/A
Mount Street Junior School	173	178	173	N/A
Cradoc C.P. School	95	94	94	N/A
TOTAL	381	384	386	N/A

¹⁴ PLASC

¹⁵ Powys Schools 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. If the proposal is implemented, the five year forecast of pupil numbers at the proposed new school would be the total pupil numbers indicated in the table above.

¹⁶ Powys Finance Projections based on pupil numbers – November 2020

Building Capacity and Condition

i) Capacity

The following table provides information about the current capacity of the three schools:

	Current Capacity¹⁷	Currently Filled	Surplus Capacity
Mount Street Infants School	129	113 (87.6%)	16 (12.4%)
Mount Street Junior School	172	173 (100.6%)	-1 (0.5%)
Cradoc C.P. School	175	95 (54.3%)	80 (45.7%)

ii) Building condition

In 2009, Welsh Government carried out condition and suitability assessments of the three schools:

	Condition	Suitability	Access to hall on site
Mount Street Infants School	C Poor	B/C Good/Poor	Yes
Mount Street Junior School	C Poor	A/B Excellent/Good	Yes
Cradoc C.P. School	C Poor	B/C Good/Poor	Yes

Quality and standards of education

i) Estyn

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

¹⁷ Welsh Government School Places Return – August 2020

	Mount Street Infants School
Date of Inspection	January 2020
Standards	Good
Wellbeing and attitudes to learning	Excellent
Teaching and learning experiences	Good
Care, support and guidance	Excellent
Leadership and management	Good
Follow Up	School will draw up an action plan to address the recommendations from the inspection.

	Mount Street Junior School
Date of Inspection	March 2016
Standards	Good
Wellbeing	Good
Learning experiences	Good
Teaching	Good
Care, support, and guidance	Good
Learning environment	Good
Leadership	Good
Improving quality	Good
Partnership working	Good
Resource management	Good
Follow Up	The school will draw up an action plan that shows how it is going to address the recommendations

	Cradoc C.P. School
Date of Inspection	May 2017
Standards	Adequate
Wellbeing	Adequate
Learning experiences	Adequate
Teaching	Adequate
Care, support, and guidance	Adequate
Learning environment	Adequate
Leadership	Adequate
Improving quality	Adequate
Partnership working	Adequate
Resource management	Adequate
Follow Up	The school will draw up an action plan, which shows how it is going to address the recommendations. Estyn will review the schools progress.

ii) School Categorisation

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

	Standards Group	Improvement Capacity	Support Capacity
Mount Street Infants School	N/A	A	Green
Mount Street Junior School	N/A	C	Amber
Cradoc C.P. School	N/A	B	Yellow

Financial information

Cost per pupil¹⁸

	Budget share per school	Budget share per pupil	Notional SEN budget	Non ISB funds devolved to the school
Mount Street Infants School	£526,000	£4,618	£44,000	£8,000
Mount Street Junior School	£558,000	£3,821	£67,000	£21,000
Cradoc C.P. School	£423,000	£4,226	£21,000	£5,000
Powys average (Primary)	N/A	£4,264	N/A	N/A

Equalities information¹⁹

i) National identity

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

	British	English	Irish	Scottish	Welsh	Other	Not supplied	Refused	Total pupils
Mount Street Infants School	27%	13%	0%	0%	38%	5%	13%	5%	150
Mount Street Junior School	38%	7%	1%	0%	45%	9%	1%	1%	152
Cradoc C.P. School	71%	5%	0%	0%	19%	3%	1%	2%	150

ii) Ethnic Group

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

¹⁸ Section 52 Budget Statement, 2020/21

¹⁹ PLASC 2020

	White British	Other known ethnicity	Information not yet obtained	Total pupils
Mount Street Infants School	78.7%	21.3%	0.0%	150
Mount Street Junior School	80.9%	18.4%	0.7%	152
Cradoc C.P. School	94.6%	4.5%	0.9%	112

iii) **English as an Additional Language**

	NOR	% EAL	% EAL A/B/C
Mount Street Infants School	150	11.3%	11.3%
Mount Street Junior School	152	13.8%	13.8%
Cradoc C.P. School	112	2.7%	0.9%

iv) **Free School Meals**

	Not eligible for FSM	Eligible for FSM	Total pupils	% Eligible for FSM
Mount Street Infants School	128	24	152	9.3%
Mount Street Junior School	136	14	150	15.8%
Cradoc C.P. School	105	7	112	6.3%

v) **Looked after children**

	Looked after children
Mount Street Infants School	1.3%
Mount Street Junior School	0.7%
Cradoc C.P. School	1.8%

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

	None	School Action	School Action Plus	Statement	Total Pupils	% ALN
Mount Street Infants School	76.7%	13.3%	10.0%	0.0%	150	23.3%
Mount Street Junior School	63.8%	14.5%	19.7%	2.0%	152	36.2%
Cradoc C.P. School	83.9%	12.5%	3.6%	0.0%	112	16.1%

APPENDIX B – SWOT AND CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTOR ANALYSIS

1. SWOT ANALYSES

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

Option 1: Status Quo – Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School continue to operate as separate schools

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Retains provision in all current locations - Retains provision in the village of Cradoc - No additional transport costs - No requirement for a reorganisation process - No change for staff - No change for pupils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Buildings are in poor condition - Would still need to maintain all three buildings - Would not lead to any financial efficiencies - Would not reduce surplus places - Unlikely to attract capital funding to improve the buildings - Would not lead to a rationalisation of primary provision - Outdated infant / junior model would remain
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Opportunities for further collaboration between the schools and other neighbouring schools to provide increased opportunities for pupils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Building condition would continue to deteriorate

Option 2a: Federation – Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School federate to create a federated primary school. Cradoc C.P. School continues to operate as a separate school

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Each school would retain its own character, ethos and identity - Improved opportunities for sharing staff expertise and good practice across the Mount Street schools - Improved transition links between the two Mount Street schools - Potential for the two Mount Street schools to run more efficiently through shared staffing and resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The two Mount Street schools would remain as two separate schools therefore there could be some tensions between the two schools - Federation is a less robust model than amalgamation - Parents of pupils at the Mount Street schools would still have to apply to admit their children to the junior phase

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One governing body for the two Mount Street schools which would have strategic overview of the two schools - Would be easier to dissolve a federation if the change was not working - Potential for one headteacher across the two Mount Street schools in the future - Would retain provision in the village of Cradoc - No additional transport costs - No requirement for a school reorganisation process - No change for staff at Cradoc - No change for pupils at Cradoc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The buildings are in poor condition - Would still need to maintain all three buildings - Would not lead to any financial efficiencies - Would not reduce surplus places - Unlikely to attract capital funding to improve the buildings - Would not lead to a rationalisation of primary provision - Outdated infant / junior model would remain
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Opportunity for collaboration between the two Mount Street schools - Opportunity to secure shared leadership across the Mount Street schools in the future 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Building condition would continue to deteriorate

Option 2b: Federation – Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School federate to create a federated primary school

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Each school would retain its own character, ethos and identity - Improved opportunities for sharing staff expertise and good practice across the three schools - Improved transition links between the two Mount Street schools - Potential for the three schools to run more efficiently through shared staffing and resources - One governing body for the three schools which would have strategic overview of the two schools - Would be easier to dissolve a federation if the change was not working - Potential for one headteacher across the three schools in the future 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The three schools would remain as separate schools therefore it would be more difficult to create a single school ethos - Federation is a less robust model than amalgamation - Parents of pupils at the Mount Street schools would still have to apply to admit their children to the junior phase - The buildings are in poor condition - Would still need to maintain all three buildings - Would not lead to any financial efficiencies - Would not reduce surplus places - Unlikely to attract capital funding to improve the buildings

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Would retain provision in the village of Cradoc - No additional transport costs - No requirement for a school reorganisation process - Minimal impact on staff and pupils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Would not lead to a rationalisation of primary provision - Outdated infant / junior model would remain
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Opportunity for collaboration between the three schools - Opportunity to secure shared leadership across the three schools in the future 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Building condition would continue to deteriorate

Option 3a: Merge Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School to create a new primary school. Cradoc C.P. School to continue to operate as a separate school

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More flexibility and opportunities for personal development for staff at the Mount Street Schools - Would enable staff expertise and good practice to be shared across the entire primary age range - Parents would not have to re-apply for admission to junior phase - One governing body and one leadership team across the Mount Street schools - More efficient model of governance and leadership at the Mount Street schools - Improved transition arrangements between Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 at the Mount Street schools - Potential to attract capital funding to replace the current Mount Streets building - Would retain provision in the village of Cradoc - No additional transport costs - No change for staff at Cradoc - No change for pupils at Cradoc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Impact on staff at the Mount Street schools as management of change process would need to take place leading to potential job losses - Would still need to maintain three buildings in the short term, and at least two buildings in the long term - Unlikely to attract capital funding to improve the buildings at Cradoc - Would not address issues with building condition at Cradoc - Would not address surplus places at Cradoc
Opportunities	Threats

- Opportunity to access 21 st Century Schools funding for a replacement building for the Mount Street schools in the future.	- Building condition would continue to deteriorate
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Option 3b: Merge Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School to create a new primary school. Close Cradoc C.P. School, with pupils to attend alternative schools.

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More flexibility and opportunities for personal development for staff at the Mount Street Schools - Would enable staff expertise and good practice to be shared across the entire primary age range - Parents would not have to re-apply for admission to junior phase - One governing body and one leadership team across the Mount Street schools - More efficient model of governance and leadership at the Mount Street schools - Improved transition arrangements between Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 at the Mount Street schools - Potential to attract capital funding to replace the current Mount Streets building - Would reduce the Council's surplus places in primary schools - Would lead to rationalisation of the primary school estate - Financial saving to the Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Additional travel for those pupils for whom Cradoc C.P. School is currently the closest school - Pupils currently attending Cradoc C.P. School would have to transfer to alternative provision - Loss of provision from Cradoc - Impact on the current staff of Cradoc C.P. School – would be in a redundancy situation, therefore would not be included in ringfencing arrangements as part of establishing the new Mount Street school. - Impact on the Cradoc community - May not be sufficient capacity at other schools to accommodate all current Cradoc pupils - Impact on staff at the Mount Street schools as management of change process would need to take place leading to potential job losses
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Opportunity to realise a capital receipt from sale of the surplus site(s) - Opportunity to access 21st Century Schools funding for a replacement building for the Mount Street schools in the future. - A new staffing structure would be developed for the new Mount Streets school, which would could provide new opportunities for current staff. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Likely to be unpopular in Cradoc

Option 4: Merge Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School to create a new primary school

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One new, larger school would be established which would offer enhanced opportunities for pupils - Would enable staff expertise and good practice to be shared across the entire primary age range - Fairer for staff – all staff at the three schools would have the opportunity to secure positions in the new school - More flexibility and personal development opportunities for staff - Parents of pupils currently attending Mount Street Infants would not have to re-apply for admission to junior phase - Improved transition arrangements between Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 for pupils attending Mount Street Infants - Potential to attract capital funding to provide a new building - Would reduce the Council’s surplus places in primary schools - Would lead to rationalisation of the primary school estate - Financial saving to the Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Additional travel for those pupils for whom Cradoc C.P. School is currently the closest school should the new school move to one site in Brecon - Potential loss of provision from Cradoc should the new school move to one site in Brecon - Impact on the Cradoc community should there eventually be no school in Cradoc
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Opportunity to realise a capital receipt from sale of surplus sites - Opportunity to access 21st Century Schools funding for a replacement building. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Likely to be unpopular in Cradoc

Option 5: Close Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School, pupils to attend alternative schools. Retain Cradoc C.P. School.

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Would reduce the Council’s surplus places in primary schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - May not be sufficient capacity at other schools to accommodate all current Mount Street pupils

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Would lead to rationalisation of the primary school estate - Financial saving to the Council - Pupils would attend primary schools rather than split infant/junior school - Would retain provision in the village of Cradoc - No additional transport costs - No change for staff at Cradoc - No change for pupils at Cradoc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Capital investment may be needed in other schools - Pupils currently attending Mount Street Infants and Mount Street Juniors would need to transfer to alternative schools - Loss of provision from the area of Brecon currently served by the Mount Street schools - Possible additional travel for Mount Street pupils should there be no spaces in Brecon - Additional transport costs for the Council should there be a need to transport pupils from Brecon to primary schools in other locations - Impact on the staff of the two Mount Street schools – they would be in a redundancy situation - Would not address issues with the condition of the Cradoc building
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Opportunity to realise a capital receipt from the sale of surplus sites - Potential opportunity to access 21st Century Schools funding for a replacement building for Cradoc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Likely to be unpopular with the Mount Streets school communities

Option 6: Close Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School. Pupils to attend alternative schools.

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Would reduce surplus capacity in primary schools - Revenue saving to the Council - Pupils would attend schools with better quality accommodation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unlikely to be sufficient available capacity in other local schools to accommodate all pupils - Capital investment would be needed in other schools - All pupils would need to transfer to alternative schools - Loss of provision from Cradoc and the area of Brecon currently served by the Mount Street schools - Impact on the Cradoc community from loss of provision in Cradoc - Additional travel for pupils for whom Cradoc is currently the closest school

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Additional transport costs for the Council - Impact on the staff of all three schools – all staff would be in a redundancy situation
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Opportunity to realise a capital receipt from sale of surplus sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Likely to be the least popular option locally - Job losses

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

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:

	Option 1	Option 2a	Option 2b	Option 3a	Option 3b	Option 4	Option 5	Option 6
1 – Strategic fit and business needs	x	x	x	?	✓	✓	?	✓
2 – Value for money	x	x	x	?	✓	✓	?	✓
3 – Potential achievability	✓	✓	✓	✓	?	✓	?	x
5 – Potential affordability	x	x	x	?	✓	✓	?	?
Total ✓	1	1	1	1	3	4	0	2
Total x	3	3	3	0	0	0	4	1
Outcome	Discount	Discount	Discount	Discount	Possible	Preferred	Discount	Discount

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
<p>Option 1: Status Quo – Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School continue to operate as separate schools</p>	<p>There would be no impact on quality and standards – pupils would continue to attend either Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School or Cradoc C.P. School.</p>	<p>There would be no impact on the community – provision would continue to be available in the current Mount Street locations and Cradoc.</p>	<p>There would be no impact on travel arrangements – pupils would continue to attend either Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School or Cradoc C.P. School.</p>
<p>Option 2a: Federation – Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School federate to create a federated primary school. Cradoc C.P. School continues to operate as a separate school</p>	<p>The impact on quality and standards would be minimal – pupils would continue to attend their existing schools, however a federated governing body would be established to oversee the Mount Street Schools. This could provide additional opportunities for collaboration across the three schools, and an opportunity to appoint one headteacher for the federation in the longer term. There would also be additional opportunities to share staff expertise across the federation.</p>	<p>The impact on the community would be minimal – provision would continue to be available in the current Mount Street locations and Cradoc.</p> <p>One joint governing body would be responsible for Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School, however a separate governing body would continue to operate for Cradoc C.P. School.</p>	<p>There would be no impact on travel arrangements – pupils would continue to attend either Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School or Cradoc C.P. School.</p>

<p>Option 2b: Federation – Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School federate to create a federated primary school</p>	<p>The impact on quality and standards would be minimal – pupils would continue to attend their existing schools, however a federated governing body would be established to oversee the three schools. This could provide additional opportunities for collaboration across the three schools, and an opportunity to appoint one headteacher for the federation in the longer term. There would also be additional opportunities to share staff expertise across the federation.</p>	<p>The impact on the community would be minimal – provision would continue to be available in the current Mount Street locations and Cradoc.</p> <p>However, one joint governing body would be responsible for the three schools, 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>There would be no impact on travel arrangements – pupils would continue to attend either Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School or Cradoc C.P. School.</p>
<p>Option 3a: Merge Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School to create a new primary school. Cradoc C.P. School to continue to operate as a separate school</p>	<p>It is anticipated that this option would have a positive impact on quality and standards at the Mount Street schools through the establishment of one new primary school. This would mean that pupil progression would be monitored throughout pupils’ time in primary school, from age 4 to 11, ensuring continuity in delivery and approach.</p> <p>Cradoc C.P. School would continue to operate as a standalone school, therefore there would be no impact on quality and standards at Cradoc.</p>	<p>The impact on the community would be minimal – provision would continue to be available to the communities currently served by Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School at a new primary school located in Brecon. Cradoc C.P. School would continue to operate as a separate school in Cradoc, therefore there would be no impact on the Cradoc community.</p>	<p>One new school would be established in Brecon to replace the current Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School. This may result in an additional distance to school for some pupils, however provision would continue to be available within Brecon, therefore it is not anticipated that the impact on travel would be significant.</p> <p>Cradoc C.P. School would continue to operate as a standalone school in Cradoc, therefore no additional travel would be required for pupils currently attending Cradoc C.P. School.</p>

<p>Option 3b: Merge Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School to create a new primary school. Close Cradoc C.P. School, with pupils to attend alternative schools.</p>	<p>It is anticipated that this option would have a positive impact on quality and standards at the Mount Street schools through the establishment of one new primary school. This would mean that pupil progression would be monitored throughout pupils' time in primary school, from age 4 to 11, ensuring continuity in delivery and approach.</p> <p>This option would result in the closure of Cradoc C.P. School. The impact on quality and standards would depend on which school(s) pupils transferred to, however in general there are no concerns about the quality of provision at any of the schools in the Brecon catchment therefore it is not anticipated that the impact on quality and standards would be negative.</p>	<p>Provision would continue to be available in Brecon, therefore the impact on the Brecon community would be minimal. Ultimately, there would be a positive impact on the community in Brecon through the provision of one new primary school with enhanced community facilities.</p> <p>Implementation of this option would mean that there would no longer be provision in Cradoc. This would have a negative impact on the Cradoc community, and would result in the loss of primary provision in Cradoc, and a possible loss of any community facilities associated with the school from the village of Cradoc.</p>	<p>One new school would be established in Brecon to replace the current Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School. This may result in an additional distance to school for some pupils, however provision would continue to be available within Brecon, therefore it is not anticipated that the impact on travel would be significant.</p> <p>Implementation of this option would mean that there would be no longer be provision in Cradoc. This would result in additional travel for pupils for whom Cradoc C.P. School is currently the closest school. Whilst home to school travel would be provided for 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>
<p>Option 4: Merge Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School to</p>	<p>It is anticipated that this option would have a positive impact on quality and standards through the establishment of one new larger primary school. In respect of pupils currently attending the Mount Street Schools, this would mean</p>	<p>Provision would continue to be available in Brecon, therefore the impact on the Brecon community would be minimal. Ultimately, there would be a positive impact on the community in Brecon through the provision of one new primary</p>	<p>One new school would be established in Brecon to replace the current Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School. This may result in an additional distance to school for some pupils, however provision</p>

<p>create a new primary school</p>	<p>that pupil progression would be monitored throughout pupils' time in primary school, from age 4 to 11, ensuring continuity in delivery and approach. As a larger school, the headteacher would be able to spend more time on leadership, enabling a greater focus on improving the quality of provision. In addition, there would be a larger team of staff, enabling expertise to be shared across the school and enabling more distributed leadership and professional development opportunities.</p>	<p>school with enhanced community facilities.</p> <p>Implementation of this option would eventually mean that there would no longer be provision in Cradoc. This would have a negative impact on the Cradoc community, and would result in the loss of primary provision in Cradoc, and a possible loss of any community facilities associated with the school from the village of Cradoc.</p>	<p>would continue to be available within Brecon, therefore it is not anticipated that the impact on travel would be significant.</p> <p>Implementation of this option would mean that there would be no longer be provision in Cradoc. This would result in additional travel for pupils for whom Cradoc C.P. School is currently the closest school. Whilst home to school travel would be provided for 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>
<p>Option 5: Close Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School, pupils to attend alternative schools. Retain Cradoc C.P. School.</p>	<p>This option would result in the closure of Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School. The impact on quality and standards would depend on which school(s) pupils transferred to, however in general there are no concerns about the quality of provision at any of the schools in the Brecon catchment therefore it is not anticipated that the impact on quality and standards would be negative.</p>	<p>Whilst implementation of this option would mean that Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School would no longer exist, it is likely that pupils would transfer to alternative provision in Brecon, although additional capacity may be required in Brecon in order to facilitate this.</p> <p>Whilst provision would continue to be available in the town of Brecon, there would be a loss of facilities in the locations where the two Mount</p>	<p>Implementation of this option would mean that Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School would no longer exist. It is likely that pupils would transfer to alternative provision in Brecon, however additional capacity may be required in Brecon in order to facilitate this. It is therefore anticipated that there would be no significant impact on travel arrangements.</p>

	<p>Cradoc C.P. School would continue to operate as a standalone school, therefore there would be no impact on quality and standards at Cradoc.</p>	<p>Street Schools are currently located, which could impact on the community in this area of Brecon.</p> <p>Cradoc C.P. School would continue to operate as a separate school in Cradoc, therefore there would be no impact on the Cradoc community.</p>	<p>Cradoc C.P. School would continue to operate as a standalone school in Cradoc, therefore no additional travel would be required for pupils currently attending Cradoc C.P. School.</p>
<p>Option 6: Close Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School. Pupils to attend alternative schools.</p>	<p>This option would result in the closure of Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School. The impact on quality and standards would depend on which school(s) pupils transferred to, however in general there are no concerns about the quality of provision at any of the schools in the Brecon catchment therefore it is not anticipated that the impact on quality and standards would be negative.</p>	<p>Whilst implementation of this option would mean that Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School would no longer exist, it is likely that pupils would transfer to alternative provision in Brecon, although additional capacity may be required in Brecon in order to facilitate this.</p> <p>Whilst provision would continue to be available in the town of Brecon, there would be a loss of facilities in the locations where the two Mount Street Schools are currently located, which could impact on the community in this area of Brecon.</p> <p>Implementation of this option would mean that there would no longer be provision in Cradoc. This would have a negative impact on the Cradoc community, and would result in the loss of primary</p>	<p>Implementation of this option would mean that Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School would no longer exist. It is likely that pupils would transfer to alternative provision in Brecon, however additional capacity may be required in Brecon in order to facilitate this. It is therefore anticipated that there would be no significant impact on travel arrangements.</p> <p>Implementation of this option would mean that there would be no longer be provision in Cradoc. This would result in additional travel for pupils for whom Cradoc C.P. School is currently the closest school. Whilst home to school travel would be provided for eligible pupils in accordance with the Council's Home to School Transport Policy, there would also be an additional</p>

		provision in Cradoc, and a possible loss of any community facilities associated with the school from the village of Cradoc.	travel requirement for parents in order to access school activities / events.
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APPENDIX D – REASONS WHY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS HAVE NOT BEEN TAKEN FORWARD

Option	Description	Reason for discounting
1	Status Quo – Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School continue to operate as separate schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Buildings are in poor condition and would continue to deteriorate - Would still need to maintain all three buildings - Would not lead to any financial efficiencies - Would not reduce surplus places - Unlikely to attract capital funding to improve the buildings - Would not lead to a rationalisation of primary provision - Outdated infant / junior model would remain - Does not meet all the Critical Success Factors
2a	Federation – Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School federate to create a federated primary school. Cradoc C.P. School continues to operate as a separate school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The two Mount Street schools would remain as two separate schools therefore there could be some tensions between the two schools - Federation is a less robust model than amalgamation - Parents of pupils at the Mount Street schools would still have to apply to admit their children to the junior phase - The buildings are in poor condition and would continue to deteriorate - Would still need to maintain all three buildings - Would not lead to any financial efficiencies - Would not reduce surplus places - Unlikely to attract capital funding to improve the buildings - Would not lead to a rationalisation of primary provision - Outdated infant / junior model would remain - Does not meet all the Critical Success Factors

2b	Federation – Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School federate to create a federated primary school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The three schools would remain as separate schools therefore it would be more difficult to create a single school ethos - Federation is a less robust model than amalgamation - Parents of pupils at the Mount Street schools would still have to apply to admit their children to the junior phase - The buildings are in poor condition and would continue to deteriorate - Would still need to maintain all three buildings - Would not lead to any financial efficiencies - Would not reduce surplus places - Unlikely to attract capital funding to improve the buildings - Would not lead to a rationalisation of primary provision - Outdated infant / junior model would remain - Does not meet all the Critical Success Factors
3a	Merge Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School to create a new primary school. Cradoc C.P. School to continue to operate as a separate school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Impact on staff at the Mount Street schools as management of change process would need to take place leading to potential job losses - Would still need to maintain three buildings in the short term, and at least two buildings in the long term - Unlikely to attract capital funding to improve the buildings at Cradoc - Would not address issues with building condition at Cradoc, which would continue to deteriorate - Would not address surplus places at Cradoc - Does not meet all the Critical Success Factors
3b	Merge Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School to create a new primary school. Close Cradoc C.P. School, with pupils to attend alternative schools.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Additional travel for those pupils for whom Cradoc C.P. School is currently the closest school - Pupils currently attending Cradoc C.P. School would have to transfer to alternative provision - Loss of provision from Cradoc - Impact on the current staff of Cradoc C.P. School – would be in a redundancy situation, therefore would not be included in ringfencing arrangements as part of establishing the new Mount Street school. - Impact on the Cradoc community - May not be sufficient capacity at other schools to accommodate all current Cradoc pupils - Impact on staff at the Mount Street schools as management of change process would need to take place leading to potential job losses - Likely to be unpopular in Cradoc

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Does not meet all the Critical Success Factors
5	<p>Close Mount Street Infants School and Mount Street Junior School, pupils to attend alternative schools. Retain Cradoc C.P. School.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - May not be sufficient capacity at other schools to accommodate all current Mount Street pupils - Capital investment may be needed in other schools - Pupils currently attending Mount Street Infants and Mount Street Juniors would need to transfer to alternative schools - Loss of provision from the area of Brecon currently served by the Mount Street schools - Possible additional travel for Mount Street pupils should there be no spaces in Brecon - Additional transport costs for the Council should there be a need to transport pupils from Brecon to primary schools in other locations - Impact on the staff of the two Mount Street schools – they would be in a redundancy situation - Would not address issues with the condition of the Cradoc building - Likely to be unpopular with the Mount Streets school communities - Does not meet all the Critical Success Factors
6	<p>Close Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School. Pupils to attend alternative school.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unlikely to be sufficient available capacity in other local schools to accommodate all pupils - Capital investment would be needed in other schools - All pupils would need to transfer to alternative schools - Loss of provision from Cradoc and the area of Brecon currently served by the Mount Street schools - Impact on the Cradoc community from loss of provision in Cradoc - Additional travel for pupils for whom Cradoc is currently the closest school - Additional transport costs for the Council - Impact on the staff of all three schools – all staff would be in a redundancy situation - Likely to be the least popular option locally - Job losses - Does not meet all the Critical Success Factors

APPENDIX E – RESPONSE FORM

PROPOSALS TO AMALGAMATE MOUNT STREET INFANTS SCHOOL, MOUNT STREET JUNIOR SCHOOL AND CRADOC C.P. SCHOOL

Introduction

Powys County Council is consulting on proposals to amalgamate Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School to establish a new primary school for pupils aged 4-11 on the three current sites. The proposals are as follows:

Phase 1 of the Proposals

- To close Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School
- To establish a new English-medium primary school for pupils aged 4-11 on the current sites of Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School.

The current target date is to close the three schools on the 31st August 2022, with the new school opening on the 1st September 2022.

Phase 2 of the Proposals

- To make a regulated alteration to transfer the new school to a new school building on a new site in Brecon.

The current target date for this phase is September 2024 at the earliest.

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 proposals. 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 **15 April 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. If you are associated with a school, please specify which school you are associated with:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mount Street Infants School | <input type="checkbox"/> Mount Street Junior School |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cradoc C.P. 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

Please indicate your responses to the questions below.

4. Please provide any comments you have in respect of Phase 1 of the proposals, to amalgamate Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School on the existing sites of the three schools, as outlined in the ‘Introduction’ above.

5. Please provide any comments you have in respect of Phase 2 of the proposals, to move the new school to a new building on the site of the old Brecon High School, Penlan, Brecon, LD3 9SR, as outlined in the 'Introduction' above.

6. Are there any other options you think the Council should be considering for Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School?

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

7. Please provide any other comments you would like to submit in respect of the proposals for Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School

Impact on people with protected characteristics

8. Do you have any comments or concerns about the impact of the proposals to amalgamate Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. 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

9. In your opinion, what positive or adverse effects would the proposals to amalgamate Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. School have on opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language?

10. How do you think the proposals to amalgamate Mount Street Infants School, Mount Street Junior School and Cradoc C.P. 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

11. 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?

Yes

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.

12. 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		

13. 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

14. Can you understand, speak or write Welsh?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say
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15. 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
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16. 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
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17. Do you consider yourself to be disabled?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say
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18. 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 15 April 2021**.

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

E-mail: school.consultation@powys.gov.uk