



Establishing a Welsh-medium stream at
Ysgol y Cribarth
Objection Report



**Proposal to establish a Welsh-medium stream at
Ysgol y Cribarth**

Objection Report

Contents

1. BACKGROUND.....3
2. SUMMARY OF OBJECTIONS RECEIVED.....4
3. SUMMARY OF ISSUES RAISED IN THE OBJECTIONS RECEIVED66

If you require a copy of the document in a different format, please contact the
Transforming Education Team on 01597 826618, or e-mail
transforming.education@powys.gov.uk

Establishing a Welsh-medium stream at Ysgol y Cribarth

Objection Report

1. BACKGROUND

Powys County Council has carried out the statutory process on a proposal to establish a Welsh-medium stream at Ysgol y Cribarth.

The proposal is as follows:

- To make a regulated alteration to formally establish a Welsh-medium stream at Ysgol y Cribarth from September 2023.

Consultation on the proposal took place from the 19th December 2022 to the 6th February 2023. The Council published a consultation report outlining the findings of the consultation exercise.

On 7th March 2023, the Council's Cabinet agreed to proceed with the proposal, and a Statutory Notice was published on the 19th April 2023. The Objection Period ended on the 17th May 2023.

2. SUMMARY OF OBJECTIONS RECEIVED

1 objection was received during the statutory objection period.

The issues raised in the objection received are summarised below, along with the Council's response.

3. ISSUES RAISED IN THE OBJECTION RECEIVED

The issues raised in the objection received are summarised below, along with the local authority's response to each issue.

Ref	Issue	Local authority response
1.	<p>Ysgol Gymraeg Dyffryn y Glowyr is named in the Statutory Notice, however the governing body was not notified of this before it went out to members of the public.</p> <p>The Governing Body of Ysgol Gymraeg Dyffryn y Glowyr was not consulted on this matter, which is disrespectful given that there would be a direct impact on the school.</p>	<p>Information about the consultation and the publication of the Statutory Notice was sent to Ysgol Gymraeg Dyffryn y Glowyr in accordance with the requirements of the School Organisation Code. No consultation response was received from the school's governing body.</p>
2.	<p>The Notice says that it is expected that Cribath will have a full Welsh medium stream by September 2026, however there is nothing to indicate the catchment of the Welsh stream. The catchment for both Ysgol y Cribarth and Ysgol Gymraeg Dyffryn y Glowyr should have been included for clarity.</p>	<p>At present, the catchment area for Ysgol Dyffryn y Glowyr includes the whole of the Maesydderwen catchment. Currently, there is no change to this.</p> <p>As stated in the Statutory Notice, from September 2023, all pupils applying to attend Ysgol y Cribarth in the Reception year will be able to express a preference for the Welsh-medium stream or the English-medium stream. However, pupils living closer to Ysgol y Cribarth will still be able to apply for a place at Ysgol Gymraeg Dyffryn y Glowyr should that be their preference. Any applications will be dealt with in accordance with the Council's admissions policy.</p> <p>The Statutory Notice provides further clarification in respect of the proposed transport arrangements associated with implementation of the proposal, stating that until a full Welsh-medium stream has been established at Ysgol y Cribarth, pupils living closer to Ysgol y Cribarth</p>

		<p>would continue to be able to access home to school to transport to Ysgol Gymraeg Dyffryn y Glowyr, should that be their preference, but that this would change following full implementation of the proposal, at which point, pupils would only be eligible for home to school transport to their nearest Welsh-medium provider, which is in accordance with the Council’s Home to School Transport Policy.</p> <p>However, the proposal won’t be fully implemented until September 2026. Should there be a need to review and amend the catchment of Ysgol Gymraeg Dyffryn y Glowyr, this would be done nearer the time, and the Governing Body of Ysgol Gymraeg Dyffryn y Glowyr would be part of this process.</p> <p>The aim of the proposal is not to restrict access to Ysgol Gymraeg Dyffryn y Glowyr. Pupil numbers at the school have grown significantly since the school was established in 2012. The aim of the proposal to establish a Welsh-medium stream at Ysgol y Cribarth is to provide additional Welsh-medium places in the catchment, and in particular, to improve access to Welsh-medium provision for pupils living in the north of the catchment, who may prefer to access their local school rather than travel to the south of the catchment to access Welsh-medium provision at Ysgol Gymraeg Dyffryn y Glowyr.</p>
3.	<p>In the Maesydderwen school modernisation process which took place in 2012, Powys informed the Welsh Assembly that Ysgol Gymraeg Dyffryn Y Glowyr is an Area Welsh medium School, this is why it was built bigger than the English medium schools.</p>	<p>Ysgol Gymraeg Dyffryn y Glowyr was established in 2012 as a Welsh-medium school to serve the whole catchment, and was built as a 300 place school to allow for future growth in pupil numbers.</p> <p>This growth has been realised – the Consultation Document published as part of this proposal acknowledged that ‘Pupil numbers at Ysgol Gymraeg Dyffryn y Glowyr have grown significantly since the school opened in 2012’.</p>

		<p>The aim of the proposal to establish a Welsh-medium stream is to further expand Welsh-medium provision in the catchment, to enable further growth in the number of pupils accessing Welsh-medium provision.</p>
4.	<p>On the notice, under transport, the words 'living closer to Cribarth' are not clear. In the transport policy it is quite specific, 'children living two miles or more within a Primary school catchment are entitled to free school transport.'</p>	<p>As stated in the Notice, transport for pupils attending Ysgol y Cribarth will be provided in accordance with the Council's Home to School Transport Policy.</p> <p>The Council's Home to School and College Transport Policy states the following:</p> <p><i>'1.2 Qualifying criteria</i></p> <p><i>Home to school transport will be provided for learners who ordinarily reside in Powys to attend their nearest suitable school or catchment school.</i></p> <p><i>A 'catchment' school means the nearest school within a geographic area.</i></p> <p><i>To be eligible for free home to school transport, the learners' nearest school or catchment school must be:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The nearest to the learners' home address and if so,</i> • <i>They are more than 2 miles from their home address for primary school (aged 4 -11) or more than 3 miles for secondary school (age 11 to 16)'</i> <p>The Policy also states in section 1.1. that <i>'The Council must...Promote access to Welsh medium education.'</i></p> <p>The Statutory Notice provides further clarification in respect of the proposed transport arrangements associated with implementation of the</p>

		<p>proposal, stating that until a full Welsh-medium stream has been established at Ysgol y Cribarth, pupils living closer to Ysgol y Cribarth would continue to be able to access home to school transport to Ysgol Gymraeg Dyffryn y Glowyr, should that be their preference, but that this would change following full implementation of the proposal, at which point, pupils would only be eligible to home to school transport to their nearest Welsh-medium provider, which is in accordance with the Council's Home to School Transport Policy.</p> <p>However, this is still a few years away. Should there be a need to review and amend the catchment of Ysgol Gymraeg Dyffryn y Glowyr, this would be done nearer the time, and the Governing Body of Ysgol Gymraeg Dyffryn y Glowyr would be part of this process.</p>
--	--	---