COUNTY COUNCIL
13TH APRIL 2016

MODERNISING EDUCATION PROGRAMME (MEP)

PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE AGE RANGE OF YSGOL GYNRADD PEMBREY FROM 4-11 TO 3-11

Executive Board Recommendations

It is recommended that

1. The observations received following the statutory consultation period be received;
2. That a Statutory Notice to implement the proposal be published.

Reasons:

To comply with statutory procedures and guidance in relation to school re-organisation.

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Consulted – YES (9th March 2016)

The Committee unanimously resolved that:

- The report was received.
- It be recommended to the Executive Board that it approves the publication of a statutory notice to implement the proposal to change the age range of Pembrey Primary School from 4-11 to 3-11.

Council Decision Required – YES

Executive Board Member Portfolio Holder: Cllr. Gareth Jones (Education & Children)

Directorate: Education & Children	**Designations:**	**Tel Nos. / E-Mail Addresses:**
Name of Head of Service: Gareth Morgans	Chief Education Officer	01267 246450 EDGMorgans@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
Report Author: Simon Davies	School Modernisation Manager	01267 246471 SiDavies@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

COUNTY COUNCIL
13TH APRIL 2016

MODERNISING EDUCATION PROGRAMME
PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE AGE RANGE OF YSGOL GYNRADD PEMBREY FROM 4-11 TO 3-11

The Flying Start programme in Carmarthenshire is a Welsh Government prevention initiative, providing families with children aged 0-3 years with a range of targeted intensive prevention services, who live in geographic areas of deprivation within Carmarthenshire

The provision of good quality childcare for children from 2-3 years of age is the centre-piece of service delivered under the Flying Start initiative. The quality childcare provision focuses on children living in disadvantaged communities and aims to improve their outcomes in preparation for school and in the long term.

As a result of the original eight and more recently an additional nine geographic areas being identified to receive targeted services, Flying Start currently commission childcare based in a number of Carmarthenshire Primary Schools.

The age range of Pembrey CP School is currently age range 4-11. This has presented the Authority with a challenge whereby children can benefit from interventions through the Flying Start programme until they are three years of age but have no provision for nearly a year until admitted to school. One of the advantages of the Flying Start programme located on school sites is to facilitate entry into school at the age of three. Therefore, to ensure continuity of progression for these disadvantaged children into primary school, the Authority has arranged for nursery provision to commence at these schools. The children can now benefit from interventions through the Flying Start programme until they are admitted to school. The Headteachers and Governing Bodies of these schools have been consulted on the new arrangements and are fully supportive.

Under the 2013 School Organisation Statutory Code a regulated alteration such as a change in the age range of a school by a year or more requires a statutory proposal to be published to formalise arrangements.

In order to support the seamless transition of pupils through the Flying Start programme to school admission, it is considered essential that the County Council moves to extend the age range of Pembrey School from 4-11 to 3-11 as soon as possible, through formal statutory procedures.

In accordance with County Council's instructions, a formal consultation exercise was undertaken from 7th December 2015 to 29th January 2016. The results of the consultation exercise are contained in the attached report.

As this proposal commenced under the Authority's previous arrangements for determining school organisation proposals, the ECS Scrutiny Committee and the Executive Board are provided the opportunity to offer comment and a recommendation to County Council whether or not publish a Statutory Notice. Should County Council grant permission to proceed to Statutory Notice, the intention is to publish week beginning 9th May 2016.

If approved, following the end of the Statutory Notice period, an objection report which summarises any objections received by stakeholders, will be presented to the ECS Scrutiny Committee and Executive Board and ultimately County Council for determination.

Recommendation

That the Executive Board endorses the proposal and recommends to County Council the publication of a statutory notice.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?	**YES**

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report :

Signed: **G. Morgans** **Chief Education Officer**

S. Davies **School Modernisation Manager**

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
YES	**YES**	**YES**	**NONE**	**YES**	**YES**	**NONE**

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

Developments are consistent with the Authority's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2014-17, Corporate Strategy, Children and Young People's Plan and the Modernising Education Strategic Outline Programme.

2. Legal

Appropriate consultation will need to be initiated in accordance with the relevant statutory procedures.

3. Finance

Revenue implications will be catered for within the Local Management of Schools Fair Funding Scheme.

4. ICT

NONE

5. Risk Management Issues

Continuing with current age range of schools would not reflect the present position. The statutory consultation process needs to be completed to formalise arrangements.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed:	**G. Morgans**	**Chief Education Officer**
	S. Davies	**School Modernisation Manager**

1. Scrutiny Committee

The Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee has been consulted formally during the formal consultation period. The committee was asked to consider and comment on the findings of the statutory consultation period on 9th March 2016.

2.Local Member(s)

Local Members, Cllr. Shirley Matthews, Cllr. Hugh Shepardson

No observations were received during the formal consultation period.

3.Community / Town Council

Community Council has been consulted formally during the formal consultation period.

No observations were received from Pembrey & Burry Port Town Council.

4.Relevant Partners

Not applicable.

5.Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations

Teaching and non-teaching staff unions were consulted during the formal consultation stage.

No observations were received during the formal consultation period.

Staff (Teaching and Ancillary) Pembrey C.P.School	Governors and Parents, Pembrey C.P.School
Carmarthenshire Children's Partnership Child Care / Early Years ** Communities First Partnership	Community Councillors Pembrey & Burry Port Town Council
Local County Councillors	Welsh Language Commissioner
Assembly Member (AM) Regional Assembly Member	National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers (NASUWT)
National Union of Teachers (NUT)	Association Of Teachers & Lecturers (ATL)
Undeb Cenedlaethol Athrawon Cymru (UCAC)	The Professional Association of Teachers (PAT)
National Association Of Head Teachers (NAHT)	GMB Union
UNISON	*Neighbouring Primary and Secondary schools in Carmarthenshire
Transport and General Workers' Union (T&G)	LA Special Educational Needs Division
Director of Education – All Neighbouring Authorities	ERW – Education through Regional Working
Local Service Board	Regional Transport Consortium
Local Police and Crime Commissioner	Welsh Ministers
Estyn	Diocesan Director of Education & RC
Flying Start	

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information **List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:** These are detailed below.		
Title of Document	**File Ref No.**	**Locations that the papers are available for public inspection**
Planning School Places - Primary Schools – The Way Forward		www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk – the County Council Agenda 9 Pre 28/06/2004) – 11/04/2001
Modernising Education Provision Strategy and Draft Implementation Plan		www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk – Education and Learning – Useful Links
Modernising Education Provision Timeline/ Rollout:		www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk – Executive Board Agenda – 31/05/2005
Modernising Education Provision Update / Revised Draft Timetable		www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk – Executive Board Agenda – 24/07/2006
Modernising Educational Provision Future Use/Disposal of Redundant Land and Buildings arising from the MEP programme		www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk Executive Board – 31/05/05
School Organisation Code		http://gov.wales/topics/educationandskills/publications/guidance/school-organisation-code/?lang=en
MEP Annual Report 2013/14 and Programme 2014/15		http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk/ County Council Agenda 14th January 2015
Strategic Outline Programme 21st Century Schools		Strategic Outline Programme 21st Century Schools
Carmarthenshire's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2014-2017		http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk/english/welsh/pages/trafodiaith.aspx
Consultation Document		http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/residents/education-schools/modernising-education-programme/primary-schools/pembrey/