

EXECUTIVE BOARD

8th February 2021

MODERNISING EDUCATION PROGRAMME

PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NATURE OF PROVISION AT MODEL VA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Recommendations / key decisions required:

It is recommended that the Executive Board approves:

- The proposal as outlined below and in the attached consultation document;
- Officers to initiate formal consultation on the proposal;
- That a report is submitted to the Executive Board at the end of the consultation period.

Reasons:

- To support Carmarthenshire's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan launched on 25 June 2018 in accordance with WG Strategic Plans;
- To comply with statutory procedures and guidance in relation to school re-organisation.

Relevant Scrutiny Committee Consulted: YES – 28/01/2021

A verbal update will be provided at the meeting.

Council Decision Required NO

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Cllr. Glynog Davies
(Education & Children)

Directorate: Education & Children	Designations:	Tel Nos. / E-Mail Addresses:
Name of Head of Service: Simon Davies	Head of Access to Education	01267 246471 SiDavies@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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MODERNISING EDUCATION PROGRAMME

PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NATURE OF PROVISION AT MODEL VA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Background

On 25th June 2018 in accordance with WG Strategic Plans the Local Authority launched **Carmarthenshire's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan** and its vision for a bilingual Carmarthenshire. To achieve this, the authority will deliver significant growth in Welsh medium education and training to increase the number of children and young people who become fluent in both Welsh and English and have the ability to use their languages confidently with their families, in their communities and in the workplace.

With this in mind, the Local Authority has a responsibility to provide its communities with the best education and opportunities possible and believes that this can be achieved through set objectives. Carmarthenshire County Council are fully supportive of the aim that all pupils are able to speak, read and write in both Welsh and English fluently by the end of Key Stage 2 and will provide services that will ensure high quality learning opportunities for all Carmarthenshire's children, young people and adults, thereby enabling them to achieve their full potential as lifetime learners in the context of the unique bilingual nature of the County.

In order to support Carmarthenshire's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan and national policies in moving the county's schools along the Welsh language continuum, the attached draft consultation document sets out proposals with regards to the change in nature of provision at **Model VA Primary School**.

The Proposal

- From 1st September 2022 the nature of Foundation Phase provision at Model VA Primary School will change to Welsh medium education.

This will only affect pupils starting in the Foundation Phase at the school from September 2022 onwards.

Current pupils attending the school will be unaffected.

With learners accessing Welsh medium education in the Foundation Phase this will, in time, necessitate setting up a Welsh Stream at Key Stage 2 to ensure continuity of provision. This will be reviewed in line with Carmarthenshire's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Executive Board approves to proceed with the proposal as outlined above and a formal consultation be initiated.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES: Draft Consultation Document

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:



Head of Access to Education

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 Corporate Strategy and the Modernising Education Strategic Outline Programme and WESP 2018.

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

The proposal may impact on the demand for school places at the school and surrounding catchment area schools. The situation will be monitored as part of the school admission process and ongoing data forecasting and analysis through the Authority's Modernising Education Programme.

6. Staffing Implications

Staffing implications will be addressed in accordance with the County Council's Policy and Procedures.

7. Physical Assets

None.

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed:  Head of Access to Education

1. **Scrutiny Committee** – Consulted on 28/01/2021.
A verbal update will be provided at the meeting.
2. **Local Member(s)** – The local members are aware of the proposal and will be consulted during the formal consultation period.
3. **Community / Town Council** – Will be consulted during the formal consultation period.
4. **Relevant Partners** – Will be consulted during the formal consultation period.
5. **Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations** – Will be consulted during the formal consultation period.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD PORTFOLIO
HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED
YES**

N/A

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

Title of Document	File Ref No. / Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Stage 1 (Permission to Consult) – ECS Scrutiny Committee Report	https://democracy.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/documents/s48022/Summary.pdf
Carmarthenshire's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan	https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-democracy/strategies-and-plans/welsh-in-education-strategic-plan/
MEP Biennial Review	www.carmarthenshire.gov.uk Executive Board 20 th June 2016
21 st Century Schools Website	www.21stcenturyschools.org
School Organisation Code 2018	School Organisation Code 2018