



Conwy Primary School Modernisation Project

**Caerhun & Trefriw Area
(Dolgarrog, Tal Y Bont & Trefriw)**

Community Impact Assessment

May 2013

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1. Introduction

Conwy County Borough Council has been carrying out an in-depth review of its Primary Schools over the last 3 years. This resulted in the publication of the *'Strategy for the Modernisation of Conwy Primary Schools'* and associated *'Implementation Plan'* in October 2010, which was subsequently reviewed and agreed by Cabinet in November 2011.

The Cabinet also agreed to:

- i) consult with communities in detail (full impact assessment) on the options within the Implementation Plan and
- ii) Undertake stakeholder meetings with those areas identified for *'review in two years time'*.

Key information, including impact assessments on language; equality; transportation; community; and buildings fit for purpose, will be undertaken in order to inform an option appraisal.

Formal consultation meetings will take place with each school within an area for initial review to present in more detail the options considered for each area and the outcome of the option appraisal.

This document will consider the impact on the local community of the proposed options within the Caerhun & Trefriw Areas.

1.1 One Conwy - Conwy Local Service Board's vision for the future of Conwy.

'People in Conwy are educated and skilled' is one of the eight outcomes of One Conwy,

What we want to achieve

- Children and young people have a flying start in life through childcare, part-time education and parenting
- Young people are engaged in and have equal access to education, employment and training
- People have access to a wide range of learning opportunities
- People have the skills to get and maintain a job and have the opportunity to improve their skills, qualifications, experience and employability
- A co-ordinated approach to improve numeracy and literacy

1.2 Community focused schools

The Local Authority will support schools to develop community links that provide opportunities and enrich experiences for all. Opportunities for curriculum enhancement and enrichment need to be developed with the school's local community and beyond, benefiting both the pupils and members of the community. When considering the options for future school structures the Authority will balance educational needs with community development, investment and support needs.

1.3 Local schools (catchment areas)

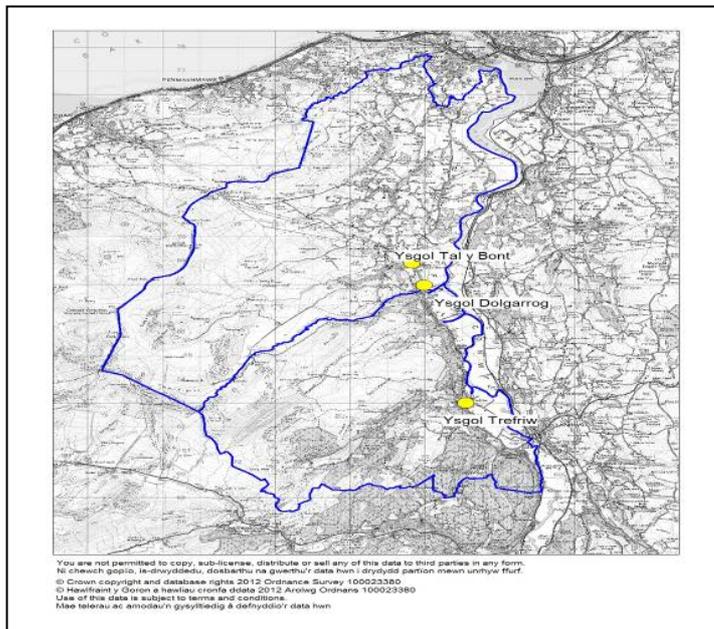
The Primary Schools Modernisation programme will support the Authority's policy of identifying local schools for communities. Each local school has a defined 'catchment area'. Catchment areas (in the main) are based on community ward boundaries as supplied by the Boundary Commission. Catchment areas are mapped out and are required to be reviewed periodically.

In rural areas, a catchment area will cover many square miles and may include one or more villages and their surrounding areas. In urban areas with two or more schools in a town, the catchment areas will be a collection of streets.

1.4 Rural village schools

The Authority recognises the vital role our village schools undertake within our rural communities to maintain the local culture, language and way of life. When considering the options for future school structures within the rural areas, the Authority will balance educational needs with community development, investment and support needs.

2.1 Caerhun Area Profile



There are three primary schools covering the Caerhun and Trefriw area - Ysgol Dolgarrog, Ysgol Tal Y Bont and Ysgol Trefriw. All three schools are classed as Welsh Medium Primary Schools and all pupils are taught Welsh as a first language. Ysgol Dolgarrog and Ysgol Tal Y Bont are within the Caerhun ward; the catchment area for Ysgol Dolgarrog is to the south of the ward incorporating the village of Dolgarrog and the surrounding National Park. Ysgol Tal Y Bont's catchment is in the northern part of the Caerhun ward and includes the villages of Tal y Bont, Ty'n-y-groes, Rowen and Llanbedr-y-cennin. Ysgol Trefriw is situated in the Trefriw ward covering the village of Trefriw and the surrounding rural countryside. Both wards have an urban/rural classification of 'Village, Hamlet & Isolated Dwellings'.¹

The combined population for both wards is 3236, containing slightly a higher proportion of people up to 65 years of age than the mean average for Conwy County; and a lower proportion of children aged 0-15.² The catchment area population of Ysgol Dolgarrog is 433 with 444 dwellings within 1 mile of the school. There are 316 dwellings within 1 mile of Ysgol Tal Y Bont and a catchment area population of 1294. For Ysgol Trefriw the catchment area population is 824 with 385 dwellings within 1 mile of the school.³

The current deposit Conwy Local Development Plan (2007 – 2022) indicates that new housing sites will be developed within the Caerhun and Trefriw area, with intentions for the Caerhun ward (covering both Ysgol Dolgarrog and Ysgol Tal Y Bont catchments) to accommodate a further 57 dwellings with a potential for an additional 18 primary school pupils associated with these extra dwellings. In the Trefriw ward and catchment area a further 17 dwellings could be accommodated and could potentially yield an additional 5 pupils. This is inclusive of new proposed housing allocations and sites with current planning permission.

¹ Office for National Statistics, Local Area Profile

² 2011 Census Key Statistics

³ 2011 Census and Post Office Address point

2.2 Community Facilities

The following facilities within the catchment area are available for community use:

Dolgarrog

- *Canolfan Porthlwyd, Conwy Road, Dolgarrog, LL32 8JU*

Tal y Bont

- *Llanbedr & Tal y Bont Memorial Hall, Llanbedr Road, Tal y Bont*

Trefriw

- *Trefriw Village Hall*

2.3 Businesses

Dolgarrog

There are a number of businesses in Dolgarrog including Garden Design, Joinery, Window Cleaning/Gutter clearing, Engineering, Pest Control, Holiday Cottages and a shop/café/post office, hot food takeaway, a pub and hair stylist located in the centre of the village and in close proximity to the school.

RWE Npower operates two separate hydro sites at Dolgarrog. The Cowlyd reservoir provides water for the 'high head' scheme (17MW total output) via a 5km pipeline utilising a total catchment area of about 44 square kilometers. The Coedyt reservoir provides water for Dolgarrog's 'low head' scheme (15MW total output) via a 3km pipeline with a catchment area of around 27 square kilometers.

Aluminium smelting and rolling production began at Dolgarrog in 1907 but came to an end in October 2007 with 175 redundancies therefore it is probably fair to say that much of the community has been built around this major employer. The site was demolished.

Conwy Adventure Leisure, the company behind the Surf Snowdonia project recently held an open day to inform the community of the multi-million pound surf attraction at the former aluminium factory site and aims to create an outdoor wave centre and 100 new jobs. This project is subject to funding and planning consent.

Tal y Bont

A village shop and post office, a market garden, a hotel and pub/restaurant, Speciality Cakes and Buffets business and a roofing business are located in the centre of the village.

Trefriw

There are a number of businesses in Trefriw including Garden Design, Tree surgery, Plumbing, Fencing, with numerous B&B's, Guest Houses, pubs/hotels a woollen mill, a grocery/newsagent/shop/cafe, post office and a butcher's shop are located in the centre of the village and in close proximity to the school.

2.4 Employment & income

Annual unemployment JSA claimant rates for June 2012 show that Caerhun 0.7% (8) and Trefriw 3% (23) have a slightly lower unemployment rate than the county average (4.5).⁴

According to the 2011 Census, in Caerhun employment is greatest in the Education (14.8%) health & social work (14.4%) followed by wholesale & retail (13.3%). In Trefriw, employment is greatest in Wholesale & retail (18.0%) followed by Health & social work (12.0%)

The rural location of both wards accounts for the fact that the percentage of people who work at home is higher than the average for Conwy County and for Wales; with 15% of Caerhun's population working mainly at or from home and 9% of Trefriw's population working mainly at or from home.

The mean household income for the county is £23,850. The average household income is higher in Caerhun at £27,350 and Trefriw is marginally lower at £24,150.

⁴2011 Census Key Statistics

3.0 School Profiles Ysgol Dolgarrog

Ysgol Dolgarrog is a Community Welsh medium Primary School for children aged between 3 and 11 years old. The school is located in the centre of the village of Dolgarrog in the Conwy Valley, serving the village and its rural catchment area. The school is a 2 storey building built in 1934 of brick construction and a slate roof, with an additional kitchen built in 1945.

According to the ESTYN inspection report from November 2012 “The area that is served by the school is neither prosperous nor economically disadvantaged.”

Ysgol Dolgarrog teaching staff consists of a permanent Headteacher (with a teaching commitment that is between 50 and 100%), there is also a full time teacher and 2 part time teachers. There are 2 teaching assistants to provide additional support to the pupils, and 2 administrative support staff.⁵

The average class size, according to the 2012 September Stats returns was 18 pupils, with as low of 13 pupils in one class to a high of 27 in another class.⁶

In January 2012 there were 58 pupils (including Nursery) attending Ysgol Dolgarrog. Of these pupils 22% are attending Ysgol Dolgarrog from outside of the catchment area.

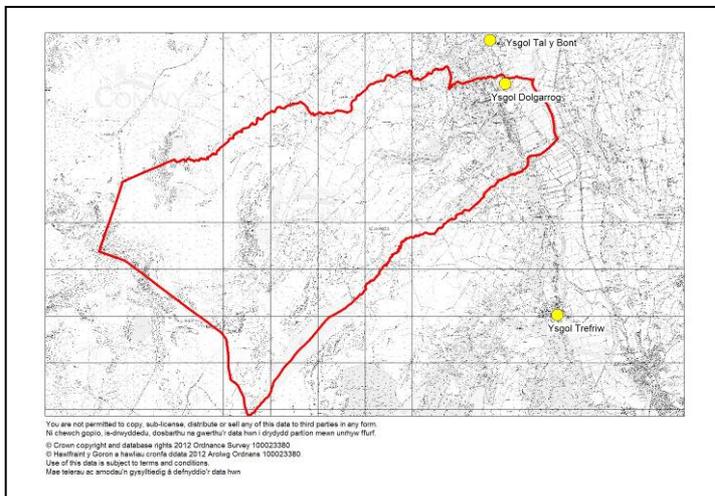
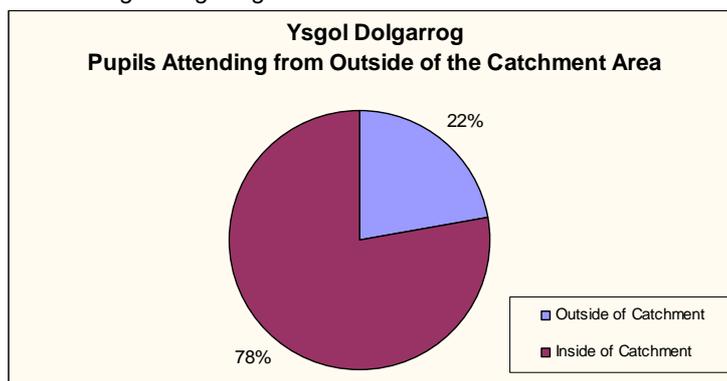
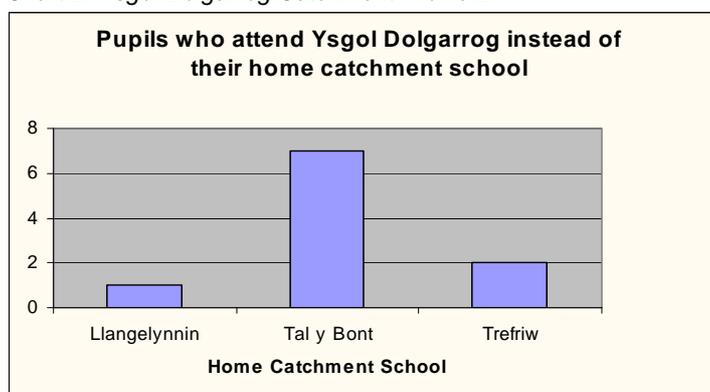


Chart 1: Ysgol Dolgarrog Catchment Profile 1



The majority of pupils who attend Ysgol Dolgarrog from outside of the catchment area live in the catchment area for Ysgol Tal y Bont, as reflected in the chart below.

Chart 2: Ysgol Dolgarrog Catchment Profile 2

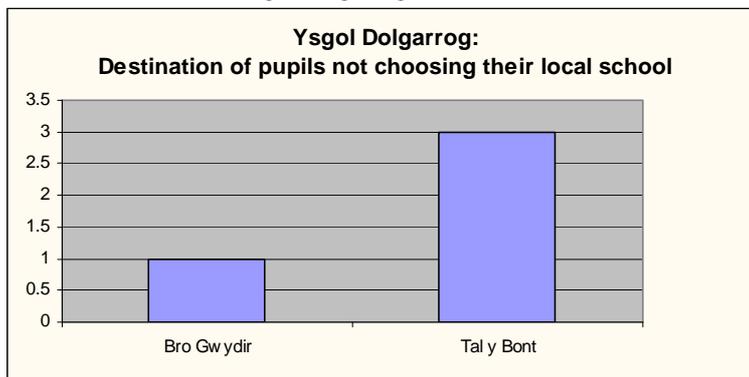


⁵ Statutory PLASC Return, January 2012

⁶ Statutory Class Sizes Return, September 2012

Conversely, 9% of pupils that do live in the Ysgol Dolgarrog catchment do not attend their local school for which the reasons are unknown (i.e. for Welsh Medium provision or down to parental preference). The chart below shows that the majority of pupils are attending Ysgol Tal Y Bont with another attending Ysgol Bro Gwydir.

Chart 3: Ysgol Dolgarrog Catchment Profile 3



The November 2012 ESTYN inspection report for Ysgol Dolgarrog notes that:

“Education is provided through the medium of Welsh for all pupils, although English is the main home language of almost all of them.”

“Staff promote Welsh effectively and regularly and there is an obvious Welsh ethos in classes. Provision for developing pupils’ awareness of the culture and history of Wales is good, and studies of the local community and the history of Wales make a valuable contribution to this.”

“The school works effectively with a range of partners. This has a beneficial effect on pupils’ wellbeing and attainment.

There is a strong partnership with parents. They are very supportive of the school and contribute enthusiastically to a number of activities, including raising money to improve educational provision. Parents appreciate the regular information that is shared with them. Responses to questionnaires are very positive and they do not suggest that there are important issues which need attention.”

“A valuable partnership exists with the Cylch Ti a Fi which meets at the school. This prepares the children well for their period at school and transfer arrangements are effective. There are numerous links with the local community and this has an extensive influence on learning experiences. The community has contributed generously over the years and the effect of this can be seen in the improvement to the outdoor area and the resources that have been contributed to the school. Recently, £1,000 was received to buy reading books.”

Ysgol Tal y Bont

Ysgol Tal Y Bont is located in the village of Tal Y Bont, and is a Community Welsh medium Primary School for children aged between 3 and 11 years old. The pupils come from the village itself and the surrounding rural area. The school was built in 1925 and is a 2 storey stone building with slate roof; a kitchen extension was built in 1958.

The July 2010 ESTYN inspection report notes that “The school judges that the area is recognized as one of economic and social disadvantage.”

The teaching staff at Ysgol Tal Y Bont includes an acting Headteacher (with a teaching commitment that is between 50 and 100%) and one other full time qualified teacher. To provide additional support to pupils there are also 2 teaching assistants and 2 special needs support staff. ⁷

The average class size according to the annual September 2012 Stats returns is 12.6 pupils, with a low of 11 in one class and a high of 14 in another. ⁸

As of January 2012 there were 38 full time pupils at Ysgol Tal y Bont with no pupils in the part time nursery class.

When we compared the addresses of these pupils against the local catchment for Ysgol Tal y Bont, it showed that 15% of these pupils were attending from outside of the school catchment (see chart 4 below).

The majority of these pupils live the previous Ysgol Rowen catchment area, which is shown in chart 5.

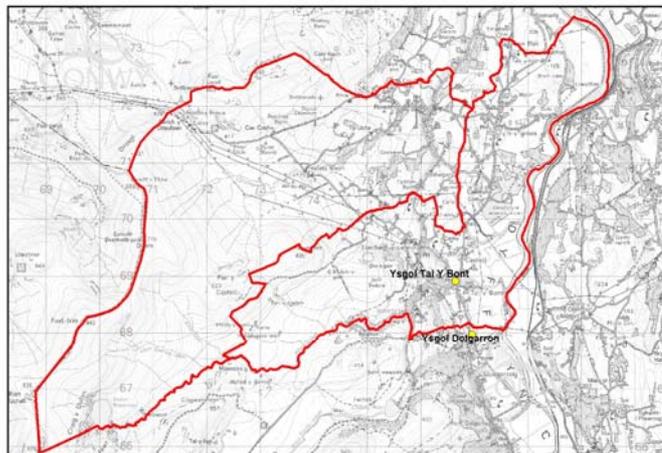
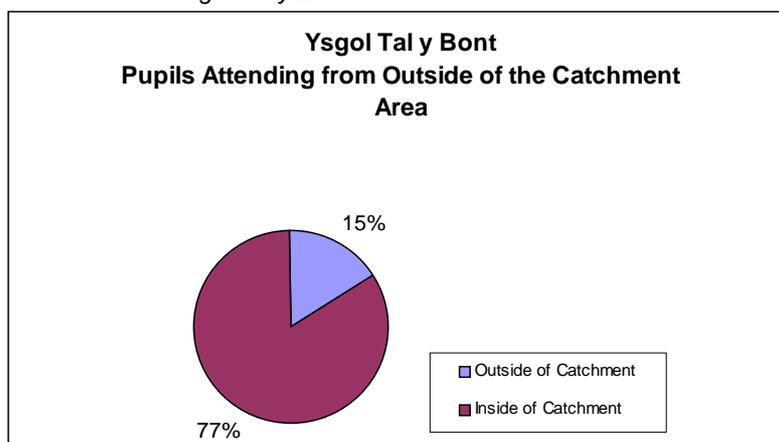


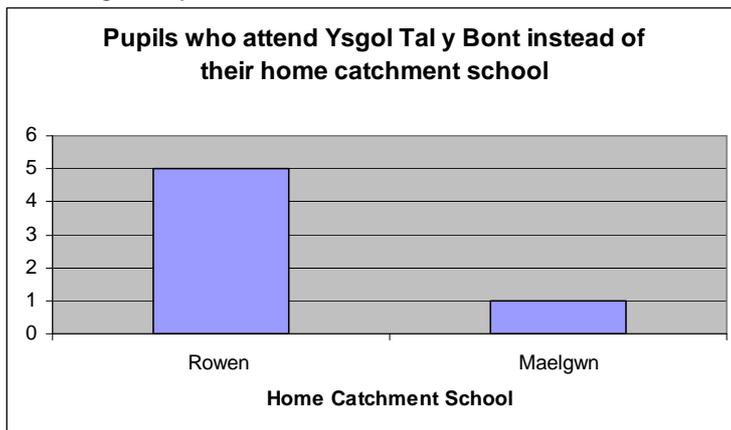
Chart 4: Ysgol Tal y Bont Catchment Profile 1



⁷ Statutory PLASC Return, January 2012

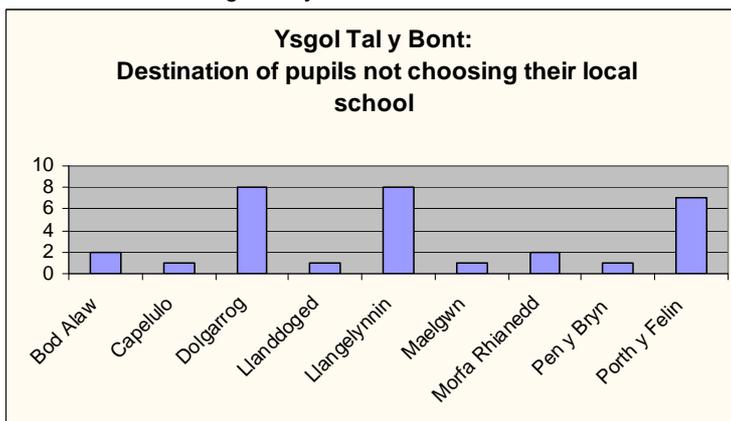
⁸ Statutory Class Sizes Return, September 2012

Chart 5: Ysgol Tal y Bont Catchment Profile 2



There are 44% of pupils living in the Tal y Bont catchment area and not choosing to attend their local school. Of these pupils the schools that they mainly attend are Ysgol Dolgarrog, Ysgol Llangelynnin and Ysgol Porth Y Felin, as well various other schools across the County as reflected in chart 6 below.

Chart 6: Ysgol Tal y Bont Catchment Profile 3



Ysgol Tal y Bont’s ESTYN inspection report from July 2010 states that:

“Significant emphasis is placed throughout the school on developing the pupils’ bilingual competency. The Cwricwlwm Cymreig is very effectively promoted.”

The regular visits the pupils make to the local community, and other areas of interest associated with class work, contributes significantly towards enhancing their understanding of the community itself and the world of work.

Pupils’ experiences are promoted and enriched well by means of a wide range of extra-curricular, cultural and community activities.

The school is extremely active in its local community and makes a key contribution to the cultural and social activities of the village. These experiences contribute significantly to their personal and social development.

Ysgol Trefriw

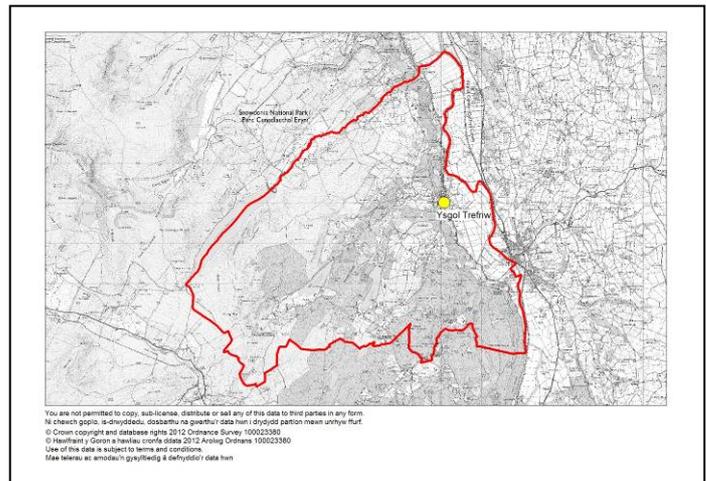
Ysgol Trefriw is situated on the main road in the middle of the village. It is a Community Welsh medium Primary School for children aged 3 to 11 years old serving the children of the village, and also pupils from the surrounding rural area. The school was built in 1902 and is a single storey building of stone construction with a slate roof.

The ESTYN inspection report from June 2008 states that “The school describes the area the pupils come from as being neither specifically prosperous nor economically disadvantaged.”

Ysgol Trefriw teaching staff consists of a permanent Headteacher (who has a teaching commitment between 50 and 100%) and 2 other part time qualified teachers. There are 2 teaching assistants to provide additional support to pupils as well as 1 other member of administrative staff.⁹

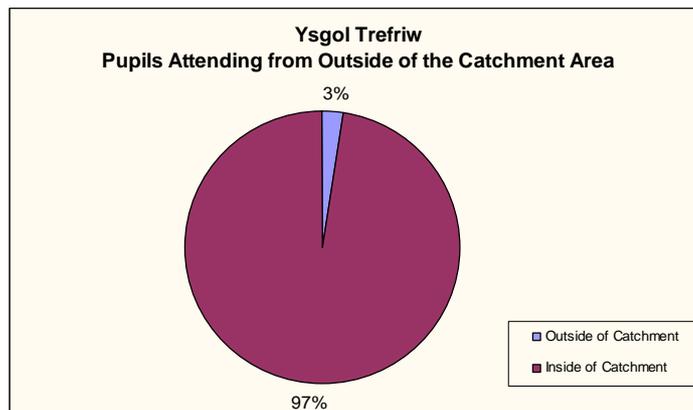
According to the annual September Stats returns from 2012 the average class size was 18.5, with 16 in one classroom and a high of 21 in another classroom.¹⁰

In January 2012 there were 39 pupils attending Ysgol Trefriw of which 3 of the pupils were attending the part time nursery.



There are only 3% of pupils at Ysgol Trefriw that attend from outside of the school catchment area; these pupils live in the Rowen catchment area. (See charts 7 and 8 below).

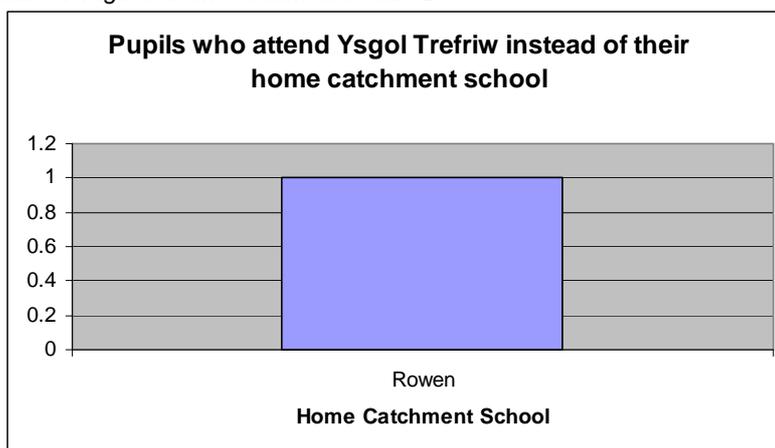
Chart 7: Ysgol Trefriw Catchment Profile



⁹ Statutory PLASC Return, January 2012

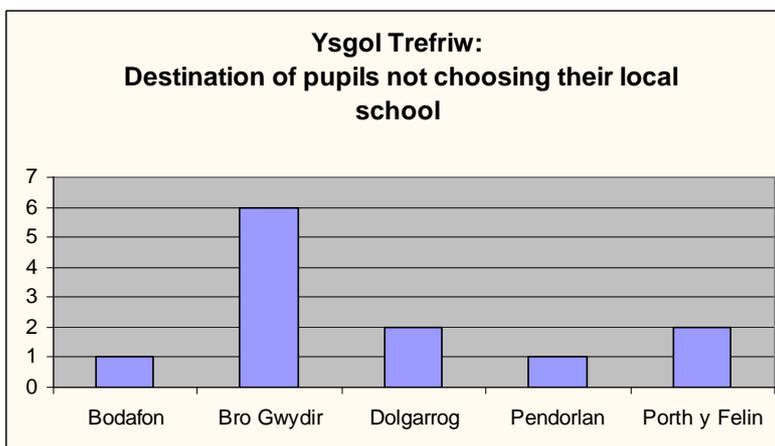
¹⁰ Statutory Class Sizes Return, September 2012

Chart 8: Ysgol Trefriw Catchment Profile 2



There are 24% of pupils living in the Trefriw catchment area not choosing to attend their local school (for reasons other than parental preference or Faith based); the majority of these pupils are attending Ysgol Bro Gwydir with others attending schools across the County, as reflected in chart 9 below.

Chart 9: Ysgol Trefriw Catchment Profile 3



The ESTYN inspection report from June 2008 makes the following observations:

“Ysgol Trefriw is an important institution in the village and the local community”

The school is an important element of the community and the locality, and it provides valuable experiences for the pupils when they take part in community and charitable events.

These links enhance pupils' educational experiences and prepare them to become responsible members of their community.

Pupils' contribution to the life of the community, being involved with a range of activities and use of facilities such as the village hall and village playing field, is good. This promotes their awareness of the local community and enables them to understand its features.

The school provides pupils with good experiences by enabling them to contribute to community and charitable events. The elderly and other deserving causes are supported. The school is important to the community and the locality, and it contributes well to the community by taking part in various activities in the village. These links enrich pupils' educational experiences and their personal development, and prepare them to become responsible members of the community.

There are close links with the 'Cylch Meithrin' (Nursery Group) which meets every afternoon in a room at the school. Some of the school's nursery children join the 'Cylch Meithrin' on occasions.

The Friends of the School support by raising funds by means of specific efforts. The money raised is used to improve the provision and to enhance the school's resources.

Despite the limitations of the facilities, the school succeeds well in making the best use of the rooms available, including the small room used as a library, as well as ensuring valuable experiences for the pupils through regular use of the hall and field that belong to the village.

At Ysgol Trefriw, we are proud of the children and ensure that we do our best to provide opportunities and to develop each child to his/her full potential. The school's success is a result of real commitment on the part of the staff and the support of parents, governors and the community.

3.1 Further school information

		Dolgarrog	Tal Y Bont	Trefriw
Percentage/number of children living in the catchment area attending the school				
		91%	56%	76%
Services provided by the school for the community, including extra curricular activities				
Breakfast club	Term time		Daily	Daily
After school club	Term	Daily		
Clwb yr Urdd	Term	Weekly	Weekly	Weekly
Cookery Club	Term		Weekly	
Dance Club	Term	Weekly		
Sports Club	Term		Weekly	
Football Club	Term	Fortnightly		
Film Club	Term		Weekly	
Knitting Club	Term		Weekly	
Community facilities used regularly by the school				
Village Hall	Term		2x Weekly	2 x Weekly
Chapel	Term			Annually
Church	Term		Annually	Annually
Trefriw Park/Playground	Term			5 times a month
Community facilities provided by and activity undertaken within the school premises				
Welsh Lessons		Weekly		
Clwb yr Henoed			Monthly	
Impact on local businesses and employment				
Local Shop			Weekly	Weekly
Local Butcher				Annually

4.0 Community Impact Assessment

The Community Development Service was asked to consider the impact on the schools in Trefriw and the Caerhun communities based on the following options from 'Strategy for the Modernisation of Conwy Primary Schools' Implementation Plan:

Option 1 – New build area school on 1 site (Dolgarrog)

Option 2 -Maintain current schools (Community preferred)

Option 3- Area school on one site via remodelling of Ysgol Dolgarrog

Option 4- Area school on existing 3 sites

Each of the schools within the area provided information about their role in the community (see 3.1 *Further school information*). Using these details and other information, the Community Development Service investigated the potential impacts that each of the proposed options may present.

Information analysed in this process represents a snapshot of the current situation.

Five key measures were identified with weightings agreed by the Primary Schools Modernisation Programme Board and applied to ensure that particular issues are appropriately represented:

- Children living in the catchment area attending their local school (Weighting: 30)
- Services provided by the school for the community including extra curricular activities (Weighting: 25)
- Community facilities used regularly by the school (Weighting: 10)
- Community facilities provided by and activity undertaken within the school premises (Weighting: 25)
- Impact on local businesses and employment (Weighting: 10)

A workshop involving local Elected Members was assembled to consider the assessment.

Against each Option (e.g. 'Option 3 All through school on existing 2 sites):

- The five measures (e.g. 'impact on local businesses and employment') were assessed to identify any negative or positive impacts on the community.
- A score was then applied ranging from -3 to +3 based on the balance of the evidence available.
- Each individual score was then multiplied by the agreed weighting for the measure.

Measure score	Measure assessment	Total measure score
-3	Large deterioration	-201 to -300
-2	Moderate deterioration	-101 to -200
-1	Slight deterioration	-1 to -100
0	No overall change	0
1	Slight improvement	1 to 100
2	Moderate improvement	101 to 200
3	Large improvement	201 to 300

Section 4.1 presents the outcome of the impact assessment for each Option. For full methodology see Appendix

4.1 Local Authority Options for Structural Change Community Impact Assessment

MEASURE	<i>Option 1</i> All through new build school on one site (Dolgarrog)	<i>Option 2</i> Maintain Current Schools (Community preferred)	<i>Option 3</i> Area school on one site via remodelling of Ysgol Dolgarrog	<i>Option 4</i> Area school on existing 3 sites	Comments / Future mitigation of negative impacts
<p>Children living in the catchment area attending the school</p> <p>Weighting 30</p>	<p>-3 (-90)</p>	<p>0 (0)</p>	<p>-3 (-90)</p>	<p>-1 (-30)</p>	<p>Pupils currently have the choice of schools which would not be available under options 1&3. These schools also have independent governing bodies and separate Head Teachers. These options would result in sharing a Head Teacher/ loss of Head Teacher on site but there would be a site head appointed as first point of contact.</p> <p>The Head Teacher would be a non-teaching head and therefore a teacher would be teaching 100% of the time (- 10% non-teaching time),</p> <p>If the schools were to be amalgamated the cost per head of pupil would reduce significantly – will this money be re-invested in the school in the community?</p> <p>Majority of Trefriw pupils currently walk to school. School transport would be provided for options 1&3, provided that pupils live over 2 miles from their nearest appropriate school; but Tal y Bont pupils will have a slightly longer walk to school.</p> <p>Assuming that the secondary education catchment remains the same for the catchment of Tal y Bont and Dolgarrog then there would be no impact on choice of secondary school for these pupils.</p>

The average class sizes at all three schools are similar, but we are currently unable to score this impact for the amalgamation of the 3 schools on one site at Dolgarrog as this would be done at a later stage through the design process. There is however, the potential for class sizes to increase should there be an Area school on one site.

Option 1 – Although new build school on one site at Dolgarrog

2012	Capacity	Current no's	Unfilled places
Ysgol Trefriw	73	36 (47)	51%
Ysgol Dolgarrog	90	48 (40)	37%
Ysgol Tal y Bont	60	38 (60)	47%
Total		122 (147)	

122 = current number of pupils in the schools

147 = the number of children living in the catchment areas.

Option 3 - Area school on one site via remodelling of Ysgol Dolgarrog

	Capacity	Projected no's by 2017					
		2012	13	14	15	16	17
Ysgol Trefriw	73	36	32	33	33	26	26
Ysgol Dolgarrog	90	48	52	51	52	51	52
Ysgol Tal y Bont	60	36	32	33	33	26	26
223		120	116	117	118	103	104

MEASURE	Option 1 All through new build school on one site (Dolgarrog)	Option 2 Maintain Current Schools (Community preferred)	Option 3 Area school on one site via remodelling of Ysgol Dolgarrog	Option 4 Area school on existing 3 sites	Comments / Future mitigation of negative impacts
<p>Services provided by the school for the community, including extra curricular activities</p> <p>Weighting 25</p>	<p>-3 (-75)</p>	<p>0 (0)</p>	<p>-3 (-75)</p>	<p>0 (0)</p>	<p>Option 1 & 3 – As at 25th September 2012, Breakfast club/Welsh Government free breakfast was provided for 16 children at Dolgarrog, 9 at Tal y bont and 7 at Trefriw. Children from Tal y bont and Trefriw, if eligible to travel to school by school transport to Ysgol Dolgarrog would not arrive in time to receive breakfast. These pupils probably currently walk to school.</p> <p>All three schools provide comparable range of activities, none of which require specialist facilities with the exception of Ysgol Dolgarrog which does provide a fortnightly football club on the large field on the school premises. It is anticipated that options 1 & 3 would provide a similar or greater number of activities.</p> <p>Ysgol Tal y Bont provides a weekly film & knitting club and a monthly cookery club. Clwb yr Henoed come in to the school once a month.</p> <p>All three schools actively participate and support Welsh language cultural activities and events within their respective communities i.e. Cylch Meithrin, Ti a Fi, Eisteddfodau, Urdd. Will these survive in their respective communities without the support of the school?</p> <p>Social events such as barbeques, concerts, coffee evenings etc attended by members of the community who don't have children at the school. Loss of socialising opportunity.</p> <p>Ysgolion Trefriw and Tal y Bont use the local Church and Chapel up to 3 times a year for Easter and Christmas services. There a risk that these might not continue if the Trefriw and Tal y Bont schools are closed. Pupil participation ensures parent attendance at services. Depleting congregation, sense of place within community. School/PTA/Governors could consider alternating venues across the three villages.</p>

MEASURE	Option 1 All through new build school on one site (Dolgarrog)	Option 2 Maintain Current Schools (Community preferred)	Option 3 Area school on one site via remodelling of Ysgol Dolgarrog	Option 4 Area school on existing 3 sites	Comments / Future mitigation of negative impacts
Community facilities used regularly by the school Weighting 10	-1 (-10)	0 (0)	-1 (-10)	0 (0)	<p>Ysgolion Trefriw and Tal y Bont use the Village Hall in their respective communities twice weekly plus for school concerts as neither school has a school hall. Options 1 & 3 will result in a slight loss of income for these village halls.</p> <p>Ysgol Dolgarrog do not make use of any community facility; has its own school hall.</p> <p>Ysgol Trefriw use the local park weekly.</p>
Community facilities provided by and activity undertaken within the school premises Weighting 25	-2 (-50)	0 (0)	-2 (-50)	0 (0)	<p>Option 1 & 3 – Ysgol Feithrin/Ti a Fi are held in the school at Trefriw & Tal y Bont which means that parents and children become familiar with the school and staff and enables a smooth transition to reception class.</p> <p><i>Trefriw – ESTYN report - There are close links with the 'Cylch Meithrin' (Nursery Group) which meets every afternoon in a room at the school. Some of the school's nursery children join the 'Cylch Meithrin' on occasions.</i></p> <p>Options 1 & 3 - If Ti a Fi were to also transfer and not be held at another location within Trefriw & Talybont, this could have a negative impact on those communities.</p> <p>Ysgol Dolgarrog provides facilities for weekly Welsh lessons by Bangor University</p> <p>Ysgol Tal y Bont provides monthly facilities for Clwb yr Henoed which might result in the loss of opportunity for social integration between the two age-groups.</p>

MEASURE	Option 1 All through new build school on one site (Dolgarrog)	Option 2 Maintain Current Schools (Community preferred)	Option 3 Area school on one site via remodelling of Ysgol Dolgarrog	Option 4 Area school on existing 3 sites	Comments / Future mitigation of negative impacts
Impact on local businesses and employment Weighting 10					
Breakdown: <i>Employment</i>	-3 (-30)	0 (0)	-3 (-30)	0 (0)	<p>No members of the teaching, support or admin staff at any of the three schools live in the school catchment area but at Ysgol Dolgarrog, the Caretaker lives in Tal y Bont (within the ward) Ysgol Tal Y Bont – Caretaker lives in Tal y Bont Trefriw – Caretaker lives in Trefriw . We have no information on playground assistants, nor canteen staff.</p> <p>We have no information available as to how many staff will be required for options 1&3.</p> <p>It is fair to assume that options 1&3 would result in some loss of ancillary and domestic posts.</p>
<i>Local convenience retail businesses</i>	-1 (-10)	0 (0)	-1 (-10)	0 (0)	<p>Ysgolion Trefriw & Tal y Bont use the local shop and butcher for purchasing refreshments for extra curricular/after school activities and events.</p> <p>All three villages' shops/butchers are in close proximity of or on route to the schools and may lose the benefit from school traffic footfall.</p>
<i>Childcare Business within the Area</i>	0	0	0	0	None
<i>Businesses supplying schools</i>	0	0	0	0	Use made of the local shop and butchers for refreshments for Urdd and school events (barbeques)

Measure	<i>Option 1</i> All through new build school on one site (Dolgarrog)	<i>Option 2</i> Maintain Current Schools (Community preferred)	<i>Option 3</i> Area school on one site via remodelling of Ysgol Dolgarrog	<i>Option 4</i> Area school on existing 3 sites
Children living in the catchment area attending the school (30)	-90	0	-90	-30
Services provided by the school for the community, including extra curricular activities (25)	-75	0	-75	0
Community facilities used regularly by the school (10)	-10	0	-10	0
Community facilities provided by and activity undertaken within the school premises (25)	-50	0	-50	0
Impact on local businesses and employment (10)	-40	0	-40	0
Total Community Impact Score	-265	0	-265	-30

5. Conclusions and Recommendations

91% of the Dolgarrog children, 56% of the Tal y Bont children and 76% of Trefriw children living in the catchment, choose their local school.

The destination of pupils not choosing their local school for reasons other than faith or down to parental preference demonstrates that there is a level distribution of pupils who currently choose to attend schools outside their own area catchment but within the catchment proposed at options 1 & 3.

We have assumed that the new build school site will be at or in close proximity of the current school at Dolgarrog.

The outcome of the impact assessment based on the five measures in section 4 is that options 1 & 3, an all-through new build school on one site (Dolgarrog) and/or an area school on one site via remodelling of Ysgol Dolgarrog will result in a moderate impact on the communities of Trefriw and Tal y Bont. There would be a slight increase in journey times for the children living in Tal y Bont. For the children living in the Trefriw catchment, the daily journey to school could potentially increase from 1.6 miles to 6.2 miles. These pupils will be eligible for free Home to School transport (in line with the Home to School Transport Policy), but they will no longer be able to walk or cycle to school. Given Trefriw's close proximity to Llanrwst, 2.5 miles, a journey of 6 minutes, it could be that this will be the parental choice of school as an alternative to Dolgarrog/ Options 1 or 3.

Option 2, maintain current schools, the community preferred option, would see no real change other than possible improvements to existing facilities in order to bring them up to 'fit for purpose' standards. Option 4, an area school on existing three sites, would result in a slight negative impact with the sharing of a Head Teacher with the other 2 schools together with possible improvements to existing facilities in order to bring them up to 'fit for purpose' standards.

The average class sizes at all three schools are similar, but we are currently unable to score this impact for the amalgamation of the 3 schools on one site at Dolgarrog as this would be done at a later stage through the design process. There is however, the potential for class sizes to increase should there be an Area school on one site.

For those children in receipt of Breakfast club/Welsh Government free breakfast as at 25th September 2012, options 1 & 3 would have a moderate impact children from Trefriw; eligible to travel by school transport but which would not get them to Ysgol Dolgarrog in time to receive breakfast. These pupils probably currently walk to school in Trefriw.

All three schools provide comparable range of activities, none of which require specialist facilities with the exception of Ysgol Dolgarrog which does provide a fortnightly football club on the large field on the school premises. It is anticipated that options 1 & 3 would provide a similar or greater number of activities.

Both Ysgolion Tal y Bont and Trefriw use Community facilities regularly because they have no school hall and school field. Options 1 & 3 will result in a slight loss of income for the respective village halls and we believe there would be a moderate negative impact on the local Church and Chapel through the loss of Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas services might not continue at Trefriw and Tal y Bont. Pupil participation ensures parent attendance at services and may result in depleting congregation & loss of sense of place within community. School/PTA/Governors could consider alternating venues across the three villages. Social events such as barbeques, concerts, coffee evenings etc are attended by members of the community who don't have children at the school. Loss of the school in a community will result in the loss of a socialising opportunity.

All three schools actively participate and support Welsh language cultural activities and events within their respective communities i.e. Cylch Meithrin, Ti a Fi, Eisteddfodau, Urdd. Will these survive in their respective communities without the support of the school?

No members of the teaching, support or administrative staff at any of the three schools live in the school catchment area but it is fair to assume that options 1&3 would result in some loss of ancillary, administrative and domestic posts. We have no information available as to how many staff will be required for a new build/remodelling of Dolgarrog school.

There is no childcare business in the catchment areas of the three schools so we would therefore assume that arrangements are made within a circle of family and/or friends. Options 1 &3 would have a negative impact upon this type of arrangement for the Trefriw community as transport would be required to drop off/pick up children (part-time nursery and after school). Public transport is infrequent.

All three villages' shops/butchers are in close proximity of or on route to the schools and may lose the benefit from school traffic footfall.

Loss of a school may have an impact on the sustainability of a community, may make the village(s) less appealing to families with young children.

Appendix

Community Impact Assessment Methodology

The Community Development Service was asked to consider the impact on the Penmaenrhos community, of the following options from the 'Strategy for the Modernisation of Conwy Primary Schools' Implementation Plan:

Option 1 (Driver Led) All through school on 1 site (Tan y Marian)

Option 2 (Community Preferred) - Maintain Current Schools

Option 3 All through school on existing 2 sites

The definition of 'All Through' given within the Conwy Primary School Modernisation Report:

This will involve the amalgamation of a junior and its feeder infant into one Primary school, with one Headteacher and one Governing Body.

Each of the schools within the area provided information about their role in the community (see 3.1 *Further school information*). Using these details and other information, the Community Development Service investigated the potential impacts that each of the proposed options may present.

Information analysed in this process represents a snapshot of the current situation.

Five key measures were identified with weightings agreed by the Primary Schools Modernisation Programme Board and applied to ensure that particular issues are appropriately represented:

- Children living in the catchment area attending their local school (Weighting: 30)
- Services provided by the school for the community including extra curricular activities (Weighting: 25)
- Community facilities used regularly by the school (Weighting: 10)
- Community facilities provided by and activity undertaken within the school premises (Weighting: 25)
- Impact on local businesses and employment (Weighting: 10)

A workshop involving local Elected Members was assembled to consider the assessment.

Against each Option (e.g. 'Option 3 All through school on existing 2 sites):

- The five measures (e.g. 'impact on local businesses and employment') were assessed to identify any negative or positive impacts on the community.
- A score was then applied ranging from -3 to +3 based on the balance of the evidence available.
- Each individual score was then multiplied by the agreed weighting for the measure.

Measure score	Measure assessment	Total measure score
-3	Large deterioration	-201 to -300
-2	Moderate deterioration	-101 to -200
-1	Slight deterioration	-1 to -100
0	No overall change	0
1	Slight improvement	1 to 100
2	Moderate improvement	101 to 200
3	Large improvement	201 to 300

Section 4.1 presents the outcome of the impact assessment for each Option.

The total score for each option was then translated into the overarching Option Appraisal, with a score of 1-5, with 1 being the lowest score and 5 the highest:

- 5 – Strongly Agree / Improvement
- 4 – Agree / Slight Improvement
- 3 – Neither Agree nor Disagree / No change
- 2 – Disagree / Slightly Worse
- 1 – Strongly Disagree / Worse

Measure impact assessment and Option scoring

Measure score	Measure assessment	Total measure score	Option score	Option assessment
-3	Large deterioration	-201 to -300	1	Worse
-2	Moderate deterioration	-101 to -200		
-1	Slight deterioration	-1 to -100	2	Slightly worse
0	No overall change	0	3	No change
1	Slight improvement	1 to 100	4	Some improvement
2	Moderate improvement	101 to 200	5	Improvement
3	Large improvement	201 to 300		

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