

School Reorganisation

Frequently Asked Questions

What does a consultation on the reorganisation proposal mean?

A consultation on a reorganisation proposal is a formal process where the local authority shares its plans and invites feedback from parents, staff, and the wider community. It's an opportunity for everyone affected to understand the reasons behind the proposal and ask questions or make comments before any final decisions are made. Your views are important and will be carefully considered as part of the decision-making process.

Why is there a consultation on the proposal to reorganise a school?

The local authority may propose reorganisation due to:

- Falling pupil numbers
- Financial pressures
- Site maintenance costs
- Strategic reorganisation

Who makes these decisions in Conwy Council?

The Local Authority regularly monitors and reviews published admission numbers in its schools. Feedback from the public consultation will be presented to Conwy Cabinet who are the democratically elected decision-making body when any changes to school organisation is being considered.

How will I be informed about the consultation process?

Schools will notify parents directly via:

- Letters or emails
- School apps or messaging services
- Local authority websites and social media

Why do local authorities have to consider reorganisation?

Reorganisation can help ensure that resources, such as staff, facilities, and funding are used effectively across schools. This can lead to improved learning environments, better access to specialist support, and more sustainable education provision for the wider community. While change can be challenging, the goal is to strengthen educational opportunities for all children.

Can I express my views on the proposals?

Yes. During the consultation phase, parents can:

- Submit written feedback as part of the consultation process
- Contact the school or local authority directly:

By Post: Coed Pella, Colwyn Bay, LL29 7AZ.

Online: www.conwy.gov.uk/YsgolBYCConsultation

You can also email your views to: School.Modernisation@conwy.gov.uk

Will Welsh-medium education still be available if my child's school is reorganised?

Yes. Local authorities in Wales, including Conwy, have a statutory duty to promote access to Welsh-medium education. If a Welsh-medium school is affected by reorganisation, the council will ensure that alternative provision is available, either within Conwy or neighbouring counties.

What if the nearest Welsh-medium school is not the closest school to our home?

Under current policy, free home-to-school transport is provided to the nearest suitable Welsh-medium school if the statutory distance criteria are met, even if there is a nearer English-medium school. However, proposed changes to discretionary transport criteria could affect this, so parents are encouraged to participate in consultations and share their views on the impact.

Will school reorganisation affect the Welsh language in our community?

The reorganisation of Welsh-medium schools may have an impact on the linguistic and cultural fabric of communities.

What is the council doing to expand Welsh-medium education?

Conwy's strategic plans include increasing capacity for Welsh-medium education across nursery, primary, and secondary levels. Targets include:

- 60 additional Year 1 places by September 2026
- Expanded provision in non-maintained settings
- Enhanced immersion support for latecomers to Welsh-medium education

What support is available for children transitioning into Welsh-medium education?

Specialist immersion programmes are available, particularly at schools like Ysgol Dyffryn yr Enfys and Ysgol y Creuddyn. These offer intensive language support for pupils joining Welsh-medium education later in their school journey.

What are the national goals for Welsh-medium education?

The Welsh Government aims for 30% of pupils to be educated through the medium of Welsh by 2031 and 40% by 2050. The Welsh Language and Education (Wales) Act 2025 sets out plans to ensure all pupils become independent Welsh language users by the end of compulsory schooling.