

Replacement Local Development Plan 2018-2033

Background Paper

BP45: Population change, housing and education impact

Deposit Plan

December 2025



Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg hefyd.

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**Sir Conwy, yr amgylchedd iawn i fyw, gweithio
a darganfod**

**Conwy County, the right environment to live,
work and discover**

Contents

1	Introduction	4
2	National planning policy and guidance	4
3	Current school provision	5
4	Sustainable communities for learning programme.....	6
5	Impact of projected growth during RLDP period on school capacity	8
6	RLDP policy approach	10
7	Primary schools	11
7.1	West RLDP strategy area: Llanfairfechan, Penmaenmawr and Dwygyfylchi	11
7.2	Creuddyn RLDP strategy area	16
7.3	Central RLDP strategy area: Rhos on Sea, Colwyn Bay, Old Colwyn, Mochdre and Llysfaen.....	25
7.4	East RLDP strategy area: Abergele, Towyn and Kinmel Bay and Llanddulas.....	34
7.5	Rural RLDP area: Llanrwst.....	38
8	Secondary schools.....	41
9	Additional learning need provision	43
10	Conclusion	43

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This is one of a series of Background Papers accompanying the Replacement Local Development Plan (RLDP). When the Council publishes its Deposit Plan, it must also explain how the policy has been formulated based on the evidence base available to the Council at the time.
- 1.2 This paper has been prepared jointly with CCBC Education Services. A Statement of Common Ground has been prepared alongside this paper. The purpose of this background paper is to:
- Detail RLDP population change and the potential impact on pupil numbers.
 - Detail current school provision and the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme.
 - Identify if strategic land allocations and safeguarded areas to meet new school provision are required.
 - Assess the impact of the proposed residential allocations and other housing sites on school capacity and recommend appropriate mitigation.
 - Review the current adopted LDP education policy and provide an overview of the amended policy approach for the RLDP.

2 National planning policy and guidance

- 2.1 Planning Policy Wales (PPW) has been revised in order to bring it in line with the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. PPW is split into four distinct themes, which bring the requirements of the Act into context for planning policy and show the inter-linkages between planning policies. Education falls in the Active and Social Places theme, under Community Facilities.

- 2.2 Para 4.4.1 states schools, and other community facilities, contribute towards a sense of place, which is important for health, well-being and amenity of local communities. Community facilities, such as schools, are often a key element of viable and sustainable places.
- 2.3 Local planning authorities should develop a strategic and long-term approach to the provision of community facilities, including schools. The needs of the local community should be taken into account when considering development proposals, to ensure that the provision continues to meet the requirements of local residents.
- 2.4 Schools are also included in the Strategic Placemaking Section of PPW, under accessibility. Major generators of travel demand, including schools, should be located in the existing urban areas or areas which are easily reached by walking or cycling, and served by public transport.
- 2.5 Sensitive uses, including schools, should not be located adjacent to busy roads or other transport routes where there are no connectivity benefits, and where the increased exposure to pollutants impacts health and amenity negatively (para 6.7.19). Mitigation and good design may be able to overcome the negative impact on health and well-being.

3 Current school provision

- 3.1 There are 51 primary schools, 7 secondary schools, 1 Special School and 4 Pupil Referral Education Centres in Conwy County Borough. Independent school education is also available in the County Borough at St David's College and Rydal Penrhos. Not all pupils will be Conwy County Borough residents.
- 3.2 Local Authorities have a statutory duty (School Standards and Organisation Act Wales (2013)) to prepare and submit the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan to the Welsh Government. These plans will run for a period of 10 years from September 2022 and outline how Local Authorities intend to achieve the Welsh Government's aims and targets set out in the Welsh-medium Education Strategy.

- 3.3 Conwy's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan has a target to increase Welsh-medium provision in the County Borough by 14% + over the next ten years in order to reach the Welsh Government's goal of 30% by 2031.
- 3.4 There are the following Welsh language schools in Conwy County Borough:
- 20 Welsh medium schools, where Welsh is the day to day language of the school;
 - one dual stream school, where Welsh and English are used as the day to day language of the school;
 - and one bilingual school, where 50-79% of the subjects are taught through both English and Welsh; and
 - 14 English schools with significant Welsh, where the day to day language or languages of the school are determined by the school's linguistic context.
- 3.5 There are five faith schools in the County Borough:
- St Josephs, a Catholic primary school in Colwyn Bay;
 - Y Plas, a Church in Wales primary school in Llanellian;
 - Ysgol San Sior, a voluntary aided Church in Wales primary school in Llandudno;
 - Ysgol Bodafon, a Church in Wales primary school in Llandudno; and,
 - Ysgol Blessed William Davies, a Catholic primary school in Llandudno.

4 Sustainable communities for learning programme

- 4.1 Welsh Government has a new programme for long-term investment in schools and colleges to develop them as hubs for learning and reduce buildings in poor condition.
- 4.2 Close working takes place between CCBC Education and the Strategic Planning Policy Service to support the delivery of these projects. For the RLDP, this includes provision for land for new schools or extensions to

existing (where required) and a policy approach to guide applications. See Section 6 for more details.

- 4.3 The first wave was delivered as Band A as part of the 21st Century Schools and Education programme and was completed in March 2019. Band A in Conwy County Borough delivered changes in four areas. A new dual stream primary school, Ysgol Awel y Mynydd, was built in Llandudno Junction, which brought pupils from Ysgol Maelgwn and Ysgol Nant y Coed together. The school was officially opened in November 2017.
- 4.4 A new all through primary school, Ysgol Nant y Groes has been built in Colwyn Bay, through refurbishment and extension on the existing school site. It brought pupils from Ysgol Glan y Mor Infant School and Ysgol Pendorlan Junior School together. The new school opened in January 2018.
- 4.5 The former Ysgol Tan y Marian site was redeveloped to bring pupils from Ysgol Babanod Penmaenrhos and Ysgol Iau Tan y Marian together in a newly established Ysgol Swn y Don. This is an all through primary school, which opened in January 2018.
- 4.6 A new school, Ysgol Dyffryn yr Enfys, was built in Dolgarrog, which replaces Ysgol Dolgarrog, Ysgol Tal y Bont and Ysgol Trefriw. The school opened in 2019.
- 4.7 The approach has since changed to reflect the findings of previous experience. It is now a rolling 9 year programme, with regular reviews. This is due to be presented to CCBC Cabinet on 16th July 2024. This section of the paper will then be updated.
- 4.8 The report suggests the following projects (subject to political endorsement):
 - **Years 1-3: Ysgol y Gogarth and Ysgol Eirias**
No additional land is required for these projects. The RLDP policy approach will support any planning applications, subject to other policy requirements.
 - **Years 4-6: Ysgol Deganwy and the Llanfairfechan area**

Ysgol Deganwy is currently over capacity and has a temporary classroom on site. Increasing capacity at the current school site through an extension could resolve these issues. Should a new school be considered necessary in future, the RLDP policy approach will support this, subject to other policy requirements.

The existing school sites in Llanfairfechan are constrained and options to extend current buildings are limited. Land was allocated to support a new school on the Strategic Site allocation at Preferred Strategy stage of the RLDP process. This land will continue to be allocated through the RLDP process.

- **Years 7-9: area review of Llandudno schools**

Close working with SPPS and Education will continue to take place to support this review. The proposed RLDP policy approach will support any refurbishment/extensions at existing sites, or new school sites depending on the outcome of the review.

5 Impact of projected growth during RLDP period on school capacity

5.1 Growth option 4 is the option progressed in the Deposit RLDP. Please see Background Paper 1 for more details. The table below shows a general summary of the impact across the County Borough on school age children.

Figure 1: Proposed growth option and potential impact on Education

Sources: 2018-based projections, Conwy CBC; jobs density figures, ONS

Impact indicator	Totals 2018	Potential change/impact of preferred option 2018-2033
Projection		
Population	114,400	4,950
Households	52,750	3,350
Education		
Pre school age (0-4)	5,350	-400
Primary school age (5-10)	7,350	-850

Impact indicator	Totals 2018	Potential change/impact of preferred option 2018-2033
Secondary school / FE places (11-17)	8,400	400

- 5.2 It predicts that there will be a significant decline in primary pupil numbers (850 fewer age 5-10 year olds), and an increase in secondary pupil numbers. Unfortunately, the accuracy of these projections at a smaller geography means that it would not be appropriate to split these figures into a smaller geographic area, as they cannot take the spatial distribution of new housing and changes at the individual settlement level into account.
- 5.3 For this reason, a review of school provision in each settlement was conducted. The starting point was to review current school capacity, pupil numbers and projected pupil numbers from the Pupil Level Annual Schools Census (PLASC) data. Five year projections for each school based on pupils who already attend and younger children who live in the catchment areas are produced.
- 5.4 These use a different methodology to the projections used in Background Paper 1: Growth Level Options Report. The PLASC projections are more appropriate to use at a small area (school) level than those in Background Paper 1, but do have their drawbacks. They do not make an allowance for in/out migration or for parental choice. Regular monitoring is therefore required to make sure the data used remains robust and relevant.
- 5.5 Detailed analysis was conducted to show how many pupils in each school live in the catchment area. This was to assess whether capacity could be created through applying the school catchment policy more rigidly.
- 5.6 The school projections do not take migration into consideration. For this reason, an estimated number of pupils resident in new dwellings, which have been granted permission and RLDP allocations in each school area has been included. The estimate is based on the average household occupancy of children that age from the 2021 Census.

- 5.7 The final step was to analyse where pupils living in each catchment area go to school. This helps to inform where the pupils living in new developments are likely to go to school. Faith, language and parental choice is considered in this assessment.
- 5.8 Another factor to note is that a proportion of the residents of the new dwellings will already be living in the County Borough. Pupils may, therefore, be attending a school locally, however, they may also change to attend the closest school to their new home. There is not data available to assess this in an accurate way, and so it has not been factored in to the impact assessment below.

6 RLDP policy approach

- 6.1 The adopted LDP includes policy CFS/15 which supports proposals for new schools, subject to the development principles policies. The policy has been applied successfully to assist with proposals for new schools granted planning permission during the plan period, it offers little guidance in two areas. Firstly for extensions to existing schools, which can be large scale. Secondly, there is no guidance for what would be considered an appropriate location for a new school.
- 6.2 The RLDP can allocate and safeguard land where necessary for new schools or extensions to existing ones. There will be a criteria based policy which guides the location of new school sites, permitting them adjacent to settlement boundaries where no appropriate location inside can be found.
- 6.3 Where major residential developments (whether on allocated or windfall sites) are likely to cause or exacerbate school capacity issues, financial contributions will be sought to help address these matters. Financial contributions towards schools will be collected in the form of a S106 planning obligation. In order for a planning permission to be granted, the S106 will need to be signed. National legislation places restrictions on the pooling of financial contributions from planning, where we can only seek the same obligation 5 times. In locations with significant school capacity issues, this must be

considered at an early stage in discussion with CCBC Education to ensure that S106 contributions are collected lawfully.

- 6.4 The financial contribution requested would need to be evidenced appropriately to meet the CIL Regulations and other planning requirements. Regulation 122 (2) states that an obligation sought must be:
- I. Necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms;
 - II. Directly related to the development; and
 - III. Fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development.
- 6.5 For seeking an obligation towards education provision, it must be demonstrated that there is a capacity issue due to the physical infrastructure (not staffing) and a funding gap that no other sources can cover.
- 6.6 The amount to be sought will be calculated based on the estimated pupil numbers and construction costs, which will be set out in Supplementary Planning Guidance to accompany the RLDP. Any obligation sought will need to relate to the proposed development in terms of estimated new pupil numbers, and cannot be used to remedy an existing shortfall in capacity.

7 Primary schools

7.1 West RLDP strategy area: Llanfairfechan, Penmaenmawr and Dwygyfylchi

- 7.1.1 Primary school provision in Llanfairfechan is currently covered by two schools, Ysgol Pant y Rhedyn (128 pupils) and Llanfairfechan Infants (87 pupils). Pupil numbers are projected to decrease over the next 5 years for both schools.
- 7.1.2 Ysgol Pencae in Penmaenmawr (123 pupils) provides Welsh language education for the strategy area. There is some capacity at Ysgol Pencae, with pupil numbers projected to increase over 5 years.
- 7.1.3 Primary school provision in Dwygyfylchi is covered mainly by Ysgol Capelulo (135 pupils). Penmaenmawr is also in its catchment area. The school is currently almost at capacity, with pupil numbers projected to increase.

Figure 2: capacity and pupil numbers in the West strategy area (ages 5-11)

Source: PLASC 2020 and PLASC 2024, Education, CCBC

School	Current capacity	Unfilled spaces	Pupil numbers 2024	Projected pupils 2029	Pupils attending from school catchment
Llanfairfechan infants	92	5	87	83	94%
Ysgol Pant y Rhedyn	173	45	128	116	94%
Ysgol Pencae, Penmaenmawr	183	60	123	168	95%
Ysgol Capelulo, Dwygyfylchi	133	3	135	140	97%

7.1.4 The table above also shows the proportion of current pupils who attend the schools that live within the official school catchment area for each school. For all schools in this area, the majority attending are from inside the school catchment area.

7.1.5 Not all children living in new developments proposed or committed in the area will attend their local catchment schools. Some will choose an out of catchment school for various reasons. Some will choose Welsh medium or faith schools.

7.1.6 The table below shows the school choice of pupils who live in the school catchment area for Llanfairfechan infants and Ysgol Pant y Rhedyn. It does not include any pupils accessing education in Gwynedd. The majority of pupils accessing Welsh language education were attending Ysgol Pencae in Penmaenmawr. Included in the other category is a very small number who attend Ysgol Gogarth.

Figure 3: School choice in Llanfairfechan infants and Pant y Rhedyn catchment areas (ages 5-11)

Source: PLASC 2020, Education, CCBC

School (Pant y Rhedyn catchment)	Pupil number	% of pupils
Total	250	100%
Llanfairfechan infants	85	33%
Ysgol Pant y Rhedyn	140	55%
Other CCBC	10	4%
Welsh language schools*	15	6%
Faith schools**	5	2%

Rounded to nearest 5. Totals may not add.

*Includes Category 1 Welsh Medium or Category 2 Dual stream schools

**Includes Voluntary Aided schools, including Church in Wales and Roman Catholic schools

- 7.1.7 The table below shows the school choice of pupils who live in the school catchment area for Ysgol Pencae in Penmaenmawr. The catchment covers all of the West area. 21% of children in this area access Welsh language education. 70% access local English medium schools. Included in the other category is a very small number who attend Ysgol Gogarth.

Figure 4: School choice in Ysgol Pencae catchment area (ages 5-11)

Source: PLASC 2020, Education, CCBC

School (Ysgol Pencae catchment)	Pupil number	% of pupils
Total	520	100%
Ysgol Pencae	110	21%
Ysgol Babanod Llanfairfechan or Ysgol Pant y Rhedyn	230	44%
Ysgol Capelulo	135	26%
Other CCBC	30	6%
Other Welsh language schools*	15	3%
Faith schools**	5	1%

Rounded to nearest 5. Totals may not add.

*Includes Category 1 Welsh Medium or Category 2 Dual stream schools

**Includes Voluntary Aided schools, including Church in Wales and Roman Catholic schools

8.1.8 The table below shows the school choice of pupils who live in the school catchment area for Ysgol Capelulo. Almost half of the children attended Ysgol Capelulo. 37% went to Penmaenmawr for Welsh medium education. A very small number who attend Ysgol Gogarth are included in the other category.

Figure 5: School choice in Ysgol Capelulo catchment areas (ages 5-11)

Source: PLASC 2020, Education, CCBC

School (Ysgol Capelulo catchment)	Pupil number	% of pupils
Total	270	100%
Ysgol Capelulo	130	49%
Ysgol Pencae	100	37%
Ysgol Porth Y Felin	10	4%
Llanfairfechan schools	10	3%
Other	10	4%
Other Welsh language schools*	10	3%
Faith schools**	-	0%

Rounded to nearest 5. Totals may not add.

*Includes Category 1 Welsh Medium or Category 2 Dual stream schools

**Includes Voluntary Aided schools, including Church in Wales and Roman Catholic schools

7.1.9 The table below shows the estimated number of pupils that could be resident at sites in the school catchment areas with planning permission granted. It is important to note that many of these pupils will already be resident in Conwy County Borough and not all will attend their local catchment school (see school choice tables above). The Strategic Site allocation at Llanfairfechan provides the majority of future residential development in this area.

Figure 6: Proposed and committed residential sites in the West strategy area

Source: Strategic Planning Policy Service, CCBC

Site	Status	Dwellings	Pupil estimate number
Strategic site allocation, Llanfairfechan	Allocation	145	22
Other allocations (West area)	Pipeline site (planning application 0/51305)	56	8
Windfall for West	Various sites to end of plan period	75	11
Bluen Goch, Dwygyfylchi	Under construction. Forecast for completion in the next year.	20	3
Conway Road, Penmaenmawr	Under construction. Forecast for completion in the next year.	14	2

Recommendations

7.1.10 Capacity will be monitored through the RLDP process for all schools. A financial contribution will be sought from developments (subject to financial viability), should capacity indicate it is necessary.

7.1.11 Llanfairfechan Infants and Ysgol Pant y Rhedyn: CCBC Education

Services are proposing a new school, amalgamating primary provision in Llanfairfechan as part of the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme for the County Borough. Land will be allocated on part of the RLDP Llanfairfechan strategic site to accommodate this (subject to Cabinet decision 16/07/2024). Discussions with the developer and landowner are ongoing.

7.1.12A financial contribution will be required from sites in the area, dependent on school capacity at the time (and subject to viability).

7.1.13 **Ysgol Pencae:** there is currently anticipated to be sufficient capacity at this school to meet the Welsh language needs of the area. Should pupil numbers increase significantly, a financial contribution will be required from sites across the West area (subject to viability).

7.1.14 **Ysgol Capelulo:** this school is currently at capacity and projections are showing this will continue. The school offers English medium education for both Penmaenmawr and Dwygyfylchi. Based on these figures, a financial contribution will be required from sites in this area (subject to viability).

7.2 Creuddyn RLDP strategy area

7.2.1 Primary school provision in Llanrhos and Deganwy is currently covered by Ysgol Deganwy (298 pupils). There is some capacity available. Pupil numbers are projected to remain stable over the next 5 year period.

7.2.2 Ysgol Awel y Mynydd in Llandudno Junction is a dual stream primary school. The English stream catchment is for Llandudno Junction only. The Welsh stream catchment covers a larger area, including Deganwy, Conwy and Glan Conwy. It has a capacity of 460 pupils. 361 pupils currently attend, which leaves 98 unfilled spaces.

7.2.3 Ysgol Porth y Felin is the primary school serving Conwy. It has a capacity of 325 pupils. 310 pupils currently attend, which leaves 15 unfilled spaces. Ysgol Llangelynnin is also relevant for Welsh medium education here. There are currently 34 unfilled places here, with school numbers projected to remain steady.

7.2.4 Ysgol Glan Conwy has a capacity of 145 pupils. 115 pupils currently attend, which leaves 30 unfilled spaces. A small increase in pupil numbers is projected.

7.2.5 Ysgol Glanwydden is the primary school serving Penrhyn Bay. It has a capacity of 287 pupils. 276 pupils currently attend, which leaves 11 unfilled spaces. Ysgol Morfa Rhianedd in Llandudno provides Welsh medium education for this area.

7.2.6 Primary school provision in Llandudno is provided by Ysgol Tudno (161 pupils), Ysgol Ffordd Dyffryn (153 pupils), Ysgol Craig y Don (274 pupils) for English medium education and Ysgol Morfa Rhianedd (134 pupils) providing

Welsh medium education. Ysgol San Sior (212 pupils), Ysgol Bodafon (80 pupils) and Ysgol Blessed William Davies (116 pupils) provide faith education.

- 7.2.7 There is some capacity at all schools except for Ysgol San Sior. Projections show pupil numbers decreasing across most schools. Ysgol Morfa Rhiannedd and Ysgol Blessed William Davies are predicted to have stable pupil numbers.

Figure 7: capacity and pupil numbers in Creuddyn RLDP strategy area (ages 5-11)

Source: PLASC 2020 and PLASC 2024, Education, CCBC

School	Current capacity	Unfilled spaces	Pupil numbers 2024	Projected pupils 2029	Pupils attending from school catchment
Ysgol Deganwy	318	20	298	296	49%
Ysgol Awel y Mynydd, Llandudno Junction	459	98	361	306	77%*
Ysgol Porth y Felin, Conwy	323	30	293	245	64%
Ysgol Glan Conwy	147	47	100	109	80%
Ysol Glanwydden, Penrhyn Bay	287	11	276	253	55%
Ysgol Tudno, Llandudno	226	65	161	129	50%
Ysgol Ffordd Dyffryn, Llandudno	199	46	153	129	64%
Ysgol Craig y Don	366	92	274	210	47%
Ysgol Morfa Rhianedd, Llandudno	170	36	134	132	83%
Ysgol San Sior, Llandudno	212	0	212	204	63%
Ysgol Bodafon, Llandudno	108	28	80	53	58%
Ysgol Blessed William Davies, Llandudno	179	63	116	117	93%

*Note: based on the English stream catchment

- 7.2.8 The table above also shows the proportion of current pupils who attend the schools that live within the official school catchment area for each school. For Ysgol Deganwy, a significant proportion attend from outside of the school catchment area. The majority of these live just outside the catchment boundary in Llandudno Junction.

7.2.9 The Ysgol Awel y Mynydd figures are for the catchment for the English stream. The out of catchment pupil number includes those who live in the Welsh stream catchment (45 pupils or 11%), and so depending on which stream the pupils attend, the proportion could be higher from within the catchment.

7.2.10 Nearly two thirds (64%) of pupils attending Ysgol Porth y Felin are from within its catchment area. 15% attend from Llandudno Junction.

7.2.11 A large proportion (80%) of Ysgol Glan Conwy are from within the catchment area. For Ysgol Glanwydden, almost half of pupils attend from outside of the school catchment (45%). The majority are from neighbouring areas.

7.2.12 For Llandudno schools, although the percentage pupils attending outside of the school catchment is high for some, the majority are from the local area of Llandudno.

7.2.13 Not all children living in new developments proposed or committed in the area will attend their local catchment schools. Some will choose an out of catchment school for various reasons. Some will choose Welsh medium or faith schools.

7.2.14 The table below shows the school choice of pupils who live in the Ysgol Deganwy catchment area. Almost two thirds (65%) choose Ysgol Deganwy. There was also a very small number who attend Ysgol Gogarth.

Figure 8: School choice in Ysgol Deganwy catchment area (ages 5-11)

Source: PLASC 2020, Education, CCBC

School (Ysgol Deganwy catchment)	Pupil number	% of pupils
Total	220	100%
Ysgol Deganwy	145	65%
Welsh language schools*	15	8%
Faith schools**	20	9%
Other	40	19%

Rounded to nearest 5. Totals may not add.

*Includes Category 1 Welsh Medium or Category 2 Dual stream schools

**Includes Voluntary Aided schools, including Church in Wales and Roman Catholic schools

7.2.15 The table below shows the school choice of pupils who live in the English stream catchment of Ysgol Awel y Mynydd catchment area. It was not possible to separate the pupils into Welsh and English medium. Just over half of children attend Ysgol Awel y Mynydd.

Figure 9: School choice in Ysgol Awel y Mynydd catchment area (ages 5-11)

Source: PLASC 2020, Education, CCBC

School (Ysgol Awel y Mynydd catchment)	Pupil number	% of pupils
Total	615	100%
Ysgol Awel y Mynydd	325	53%
Ysgol Deganwy	100	16%
Ysgol Porth y Felin	50	8%
Ysgol Glanwydden	20	3%
Llandudno	25	4%
Bay of Colwyn	25	4%
Other CCBC	10	2%
Welsh language schools*	20	3%
Faith schools**	35	6%
Ysgol y Gogarth	10	2%

Rounded to nearest 5. Totals may not add.

*Includes Category 1 Welsh Medium or Category 2 Dual stream schools

**Includes Voluntary Aided schools, including Church in Wales and Roman Catholic schools

7.2.16 The table below shows the school choice of pupils who live in the Ysgol Porth y Felin catchment area. Around two thirds follow the catchment area. 55 children (19%) attend Welsh language schools.

Figure 10: School choice in Ysgol Porth y Felin catchment area (ages 5-11)

Source: PLASC 2020, Education, CCBC

School (Ysgol Porth y Felin catchment)	Pupil number	% of pupils
Total	295	100%
Ysgol Porth Y Felin	195	67%
Ysgol Llangelynnin (Welsh language)	30	11%
Ysgol Awel y Mynydd (Dual stream)	20	8%
Ysgol Deganwy	10	3%
Other CCBC	20	8%
Other Welsh language schools*	5	1%
Faith schools**	5	1%
Ysgol y Gogarth	5	1%

Rounded to nearest 5. Totals may not add.

*Includes Category 1 Welsh Medium or Category 2 Dual stream schools

**Includes Voluntary Aided schools, including Church in Wales and Roman Catholic schools

7.2.17 The table below shows the school choice of pupils who live in the Ysgol Glan Conwy catchment area. 67% attend the local school.

Figure 11: School choice in Ysgol Glan Conwy catchment area (ages 5-11)

Source: PLASC 2020, Education, CCBC

School (Ysgol Glan Conwy catchment)	Pupil number	% of pupils
Total	140	100%
Ysgol Glan Conwy	90	67%
Ysgol Awel y Mynydd (Dual Stream)	10	9%
Other CCBC	20	13%
Other Welsh language schools*	10	7%
Faith schools**	5	2%
Ysgol y Gogarth	5	2%

Rounded to nearest 5. Totals may not add.

*Includes Category 1 Welsh Medium or Category 2 Dual stream schools

**Includes Voluntary Aided schools, including Church in Wales and Roman Catholic schools

7.2.18 The table below shows the school choice of pupils who live in the each catchment area for Ysgol Tudno, Ysgol Ffordd Dyffryn and Ysgol Craig y Don.

There is a lot of overlap in school choice in Llandudno, which is to be expected in an urban area and easily accessible schools.

Figure 12: School choice in Llandudno by school catchment areas (ages 5-11)

Source: PLASC 2020, Education, CCBC

School	Ysgol Tudno No	Ysgol Tudno %	Ysgol Ffordd Dyffryn No	Ysgol Ffordd Dyffryn %	Ysgol Craig y Don No	Ysgol Craig y Don %
Total	405	100%	380	100%	285	100%
Ysgol Craig y Don	55	14%	60	15%	155	54%
Ysgol Ffordd Dyffryn	40	10%	105	27%	10	3%
Ysgol Tudno	90	22%	60	16%	10	4%
Ysgol Morfa Rhianedd*	55	14%	40	10%	25	9%
Ysgol San Sior**	95	24%	45	12%	25	9%
Ysgol Bodafon**	10	3%	5	2%	20	7%
Ysgol Blessed William Davies**	20	5%	40	11%	15	5%
Ysgol Glanwydden	5	1%	5	1%	10	3%
Other schools	25	6%	20	5%	15	5%
Ysgol Y Gogarth	5	1%	5	1%	5	1%

Rounded to nearest 5. Totals may not add.

*Includes Category 1 Welsh Medium or Category 2 Dual stream schools

**Includes Voluntary Aided schools, including Church in Wales and Roman Catholic schools

7.2.19 The table below shows where pupils in Ysgol Morfa Rhianedd catchment area attend school. It should be noted that this is the Welsh medium catchment, which covers a large area.

Figure 13: School choice in Ysgol Morfa Rhianedd catchment area (ages 5-11)

Source: PLASC 2020, Education, CCBC

School (Ysgol Morfa Rhianedd catchment)	Pupil number	% of pupils
Total	1,315	100%
Ysgol Morfa Rhianedd*	125	9%

School (Ysgol Morfa Rhianedd catchment)	Pupil number	% of pupils
Ysgol Tudno	165	13%
Ysgol Ffordd Dyffryn	150	12%
Ysgol Craig y Don	280	21%
Ysgol San Sior***	175	13%
Ysgol Blessed William Davies***	80	6%
Ysgol Bodafon***	55	4%
Ysgol Glanwydden	170	13%
Ysgol Llandrillo yn Rhos	30	2%
Ysgol Deganwy	15	1%
Other Welsh schools**	25	2%
Other CCBC schools	30	2%
Ysgol Y Gogarth	15	1%

Rounded to nearest 5. Totals may not add.

*Includes Category 1 Welsh Medium

**Includes Category 1 Welsh Medium or Category 2 Dual stream schools

***Includes Voluntary Aided schools, including Church in Wales and Roman Catholic schools

7.2.20 The table below shows the school choice of pupils who live in the Ysgol Glanwydden catchment area. 62% attend their local school in this area.

Figure 14: School choice in Ysgol Glanwydden catchment area (ages 5-11)

Source: PLASC 2020, Education, CCBC

School (Ysgol Glanwydden catchment)	Pupil number	% of pupils
Total	240	100%
Ysgol Glanwydden	150	62%
Ysgol Llandrillo yn Rhos	20	9%
Ysgol Bodafon (Faith)	15	6%
Ysgol Craig y Don	10	4%

School (Ysgol Glanwydden catchment)	Pupil number	% of pupils
Ysgol Pen Y Bryn	10	4%
Other CCBC	15	6%
Welsh language schools*	5	3%
Other Faith schools**	10	5%
Ysgol y Gogarth	5	1%

Rounded to nearest 5. Totals may not add.

*Includes Category 1 Welsh Medium or Category 2 Dual stream schools

**Includes Voluntary Aided schools, including Church in Wales and Roman Catholic schools

7.2.21 The table below shows the estimated number of pupils that could be resident at sites in the school catchment areas with planning permission granted. It is important to note that many of these pupils will already be resident in Conwy County Borough and not all will attend their catchment school (see school choice tables above. The Llanrhos Strategic Site allocation will provide a large proportion of the remaining new homes for this area. Other allocations will also be required. There is also a large windfall level predicted for this area.

Figure 15: Proposed and committed residential sites in Creuddyn

Source: Strategic Planning Policy Service, CCBC

Site	Status	Dwellings	Estimated no. of pupils (age 5-11)
Llanrhos Strategic Site	Allocation	140	21
Other allocations	Nant y Coed, Queen's Road, pipeline site (planning application 0/51939)	272	41
Windfall for Creuddyn	Various sites to end of Plan period	195	29
Plas Penrhyn, Penrhyn Bay	Development completed since April 2025	21	3
Top Llan Road, Glan Conwy	Planning permission granted. Development commenced.	107	16
Nant y Gamar, Llandudno	Under construction	32	5
Goods Yard, Llandudno	Under construction	77	12

Recommendations

7.2.22 Capacity will be monitored through the RLDP process for all schools. A financial contribution will be sought from developments (subject to financial viability), should capacity indicate it is necessary.

7.2.23 **Ysgol Deganwy:** land was allocated for education as part of the strategic site allocation at Llanrhos for Preferred Strategy stage of the RLDP. Due to changes to the site size and number of new homes, it is now considered that the additional capacity required can be accommodated on the existing school site. Should it be considered that a new school is required, the RLDP policy framework for new schools will support this on land outside the settlement boundary, subject to other policies. A commuted sum will be required from the Strategic Site allocation and other sites within the catchment area should there be a capacity issue in future (subject to viability).

7.2.24 **Ysgol Awel y Mynydd:** Current school capacity is currently considered sufficient to accommodate any increase in pupils attending the school.

7.2.25 **Ysgol Porth y Felin:** Current school capacity is currently considered sufficient to accommodate any increase in pupils attending the school.

7.2.26 **Ysgol Glan Conwy:** Current school capacity is currently considered sufficient to accommodate any increase in pupils attending the school.

7.2.27 **Ysgol Glanwydden:** Current school capacity is currently considered sufficient to accommodate any increase in pupils attending the school.

7.2.28 **Ysgol Morfa Rhianedd:** Current school capacity is currently considered sufficient to accommodate any increase in pupils attending the school and accommodate Welsh medium education for the area.

7.2.29 **Ysgol Tudno:** Current school capacity is currently considered sufficient to accommodate any increase in pupils attending the school.

7.2.30 **Ysgol Ffordd Dyffryn:** Current school capacity is currently considered sufficient to accommodate any increase in pupils attending the school.

7.2.31 **Ysgol Craig y Don:** Current school capacity is currently considered sufficient to accommodate any increase in pupils attending the school.

7.2.32 **Ysgol Blessed William Davies:** Current school capacity is currently considered sufficient to accommodate any increase in pupils attending the school.

7.2.33 **Ysgol Bodafon:** Current school capacity is currently considered sufficient to accommodate any increase in pupils attending the school.

7.2.34 **Ysgol San Sior:** Current school capacity is not sufficient to accommodate pupils attending the school. A financial contribution will be sought in future from schools in this catchment area (subject to viability).

7.3 Central RLDP strategy area: Rhos on Sea, Colwyn Bay, Old Colwyn, Mochdre and Llysfaen

7.3.1 Primary school provision in Rhos on Sea is currently covered mainly by Ysgol Llandrillo yn Rhos (400 pupils). There is some capacity available at the school currently. Pupil projections are estimating a decrease.

7.3.2 Primary school provision in Colwyn Bay is currently covered mainly by Ysgol Pen y Bryn (398 pupils), Ysgol Nant y Groes (223 pupils) and Ysgol Bod Alaw (280 pupils), which offers Welsh medium education for the strategy area. Ysgol St Joseph (208 pupils) and Ysgol y Plas (69 pupils) offering faith options are also relevant. There is some capacity available at Ysgol Pen y Bryn, Ysgol Nant y Groes and Ysgol Bod Alaw. Ysgol St Joseph is currently at capacity.

7.3.3 Primary school provision in Old Colwyn is currently covered mainly by Ysgol Swyn y Don (116 pupils), Ysgol Hen Golwyn (205 pupils) and Ysgol T Gwynn Jones (149 pupils). There is some capacity available at all three schools, but only 13 spaces at Ysgol Hen Golwyn.

7.3.4 Primary school provision in Mochdre is covered mainly by Ysgol Cystennin providing education for junior age children and Mochdre infants (108 pupils for both schools). There is some capacity available at Ysgol Cystennin and

Mochdre infants. CCBC Cabinet has approved the amalgamation of these two schools in January 2024. The analysis in this chapter has been combined on this basis.

7.3.5 Primary school provision in Llysfaen is currently covered by Ysgol Cynfran (159 pupils). There is capacity available at Ysgol Cynfran.

Figure 16: capacity and pupil numbers in Central RLDP strategy area (age 5-11)

Source: PLASC 2020, PLASC 2024, Education, CCBC

School	Current capacity	Unfilled spaces	Pupil numbers 2024	Projected pupils 2029	Pupils attending from school catchment
Ysgol Llandrillo yn Rhos	423	23	400	325	59%
Ysgol Pen y Bryn, Colwyn Bay	414	16	398	368	44%
Nant y Groes, Colwyn Bay	316	93	223	193	74%
Bod Alaw, Colwyn Bay	315	35	280	312	87%
St Joseph, Colwyn Bay	210	2	208	208	80%
Y Plas	85	16	69	46	68%
Ysgol Cystennin & Mochdre Infants	163	55	108	164	73%
Ysgol Swn y Don, Old Colwyn	149	33	116	85	88%
Hen Golwyn (juniors only), Old Colwyn	218	13	205	195	49%
T Gwynn Jones (infants only), Old Colwyn	181	32	149	142	56%
Ysgol Cynfran, Llysfaen	212	53	159	132	50%

- 7.3.6 The table above also shows the proportion of current pupils who attend the schools that live within the official school catchment area for each school. Almost 60% live inside the school catchment area for Ysgol Llandrillo yn Rhos. Pupils attending from outside live mostly in the neighbouring electoral wards.
- 7.3.7 Ysgol Pen y Bryn has a significant number attending from outside of its catchment area. The majority of pupils live in the Bay of Colwyn area. Ysgol Nant y Groes by comparison has a higher proportion of pupils living within its catchment area. For Ysgol Bod Alaw, the majority live within the catchment, which covers a large area as the Welsh medium provider for this area.
- 7.3.8 Almost three quarters of pupils attending school in Mochdre live inside the catchment area of both schools. Pupils attending from outside of the catchment live mostly in the neighbouring areas.
- 7.3.9 A high proportion (88%) of pupils attending Ysgol Swn y Don live inside the catchment area. Around half of pupils attending Ysgol T Gwynn Jones or Ysgol Hen Golwyn live inside the catchments. The majority of pupils live in Old Colwyn.
- 7.3.10 For Ysgol Cynfran around half of the pupils attending the school live outside of its catchment area. A large proportion attend from Old Colwyn.
- 7.3.11 Not all children living in new developments proposed or committed in the area will attend their local catchment schools. Some will choose an out of catchment school for various reasons. Some will choose Welsh medium or faith schools.
- 7.3.12 The table below shows the school choice of pupils who live in Ysgol Llandrillo yn Rhos catchment area. 60% of pupils in this area attend their local catchment school. There was also a small number who attend Ysgol Gogarth.

Figure 17: School choice in Llandrillo yn Rhos catchment areas (ages 5-11)

Source: PLASC 2020, Education, CCBC

School (Ysgol Llandrillo yn Rhos catchment)	Pupil number	% of pupils
Total	410	100%
Ysgol Llandrillo yn Rhos	245	60%
Ysgol Glanwydden	40	10%
Ysgol Pen Y Bryn	30	7%
Ysgol Sant Joseph	20	5%
Ysgol Bod Alaw	15	3%
Ysgol Nant Y Groes	10	2%
Ysgol Babanod Mochdre & Ysgol Cystennin	10	2%
Other CCBC	20	4%
Other Welsh language schools*	10	2%
Other Faith schools**	10	2%
Ysgol Y Gogarth	5	1%

Rounded to nearest 5. Totals may not add.

*Includes Category 1 Welsh Medium or Category 2 Dual stream schools

**Includes Voluntary Aided schools, including Church in Wales and Roman Catholic schools

7.3.13 The table below shows the school choice of pupils who live in Ysgol Cystennin and Mochdre infants catchment area. Almost half of pupils in this area attend their local catchment schools. There was also a small number who attend Ysgol Gogarth.

Figure 18: School choice in Mochdre schools catchment areas (ages 5-11)

Source: PLASC 2020, Education, CCBC

School (Ysgol Cystennin and Ysgol Mochdre)	Pupil number	% of pupils
Total	200	100%
Ysgol Cystennin and Mochdre infants	90	46%
Ysgol Pen Y Bryn	20	10%
Ysgol Llandrillo yn Rhos	20	9%
Ysgol Bod Alaw	20	9%
Other Colwyn Bay & Old Colwyn	10	5%
Other CCBC	20	10%
Other Welsh language schools*	5	3%
Faith schools**	10	4%

School (Ysgol Cystennin and Ysgol Mochdre)	Pupil number	% of pupils
Ysgol Y Gogarth	5	1%

Rounded to nearest 5. Totals may not add.

*Includes Category 1 Welsh Medium or Category 2 Dual stream schools

**Includes Voluntary Aided schools, including Church in Wales and Roman Catholic schools

7.3.14 The table below shows the school choice of pupils who live in Ysgol Pen y Bryn and Ysgol Nant y Groes catchment area. A large proportion (77%) attend Ysgol Pen y Bryn from their local catchment school. This is lower at 34% for Ysgol Nant y Groes.

Figure 19: School choice in Colwyn Bay catchment areas (ages 5-11)

Source: PLASC 2020, Education, CCBC

School	Ysgol Pen y Bryn No pupils	Ysgol Pen y Bryn %	Ysgol Nant y Groes No pupils	Ysgol Nant y Groes %
Total	230	100%	620	100%
Ysgol Pen Y Bryn	180	77%	65	10%
Ysgol Nant Y Groes	-	1%	210	34%
Ysgol Bod Alaw	15	6%	85	14%
Ysgol Llandrillo yn Rhos	-	0%	55	9%
Ysgol Saint Joseph	15	6%	100	16%
Other Bay of Colwyn	5	3%	40	6%
Other CCBC schools	5	3%	30	5%
Other Welsh language schools	5	3%	10	2%
Other faith schools	-	0%	15	3%
Ysgol Y Gogarth	-	0%	5	0%

Rounded to nearest 5. Totals may not add.

*Includes Category 1 Welsh Medium or Category 2 Dual stream schools

**Includes Voluntary Aided schools, including Church in Wales and Roman Catholic schools

7.3.15 The table below shows where pupils living in Ysgol Bod Alaw catchment go to school. It has a large catchment area due to offering Welsh medium education for the Bay of Colwyn area. 9% of pupils in this area choose Welsh medium

education at their local catchment school. A further 3% attend other Welsh language schools.

Figure 20: School choice in Ysgol Bod Alaw catchment areas (ages 5-11)

Source: PLASC 2020, Education, CCBC

School (Ysgol Bod Alaw catchment)	Pupil number	% of pupils
Total	2,540	100%
Ysgol Bod Alaw	225	9%
Ysgol Pen Y Bryn	350	14%
Ysgol Nant Y Groes	260	10%
Ysgol Llandrillo yn Rhos	345	14%
Ysgol Iau Hen Golwyn	220	9%
Ysgol T. Gwynn Jones	165	7%
Mochdre infants & Ysgol Cystennin	110	4%
Ysgol Swn y Don	105	4%
Ysgol Saint Joseph	175	7%
Ysgol Cynfran	160	6%
Ysgol Llanddulas	105	4%
Ysgol Glanwydden	60	2%
Ysgol y Plas	60	2%
Other faith schools	20	1%
Other Welsh language schools	70	3%
Other CCBC schools	75	3%
Ysgol Y Gogarth	25	1%

Rounded to nearest 5. Totals may not add.

*Includes Category 1 Welsh Medium or Category 2 Dual stream schools

**Includes Voluntary Aided schools, including Church in Wales and Roman Catholic schools

7.3.16 The table below shows the school choice of pupils who live in the Ysgol Cynfran catchment area. 59% chose Ysgol Cynfran. There was also a very small number who attend Ysgol Gogarth.

Figure 21: School choice in Ysgol Cynfran catchment area (ages 5-11)

Source: PLASC 2020, Education, CCBC

School (Ysgol Cynfran catchment)	Pupil number	% of pupils
Total	155	100%
Ysgol Cynfran	90	59%
Other Bay of Colwyn	20	14%
Other CCBC	15	8%
Welsh language schools*	15	9%
Faith schools**	15	10%

Rounded to nearest 5. Totals may not add.

*Includes Category 1 Welsh Medium or Category 2 Dual stream schools

**Includes Voluntary Aided schools, including Church in Wales and Roman Catholic schools

7.3.17 The table below shows the school choice of pupils who live in Ysgol Swyn y Don and Ysgol Iau Hen Golwyn / T Gwynn Jones catchment areas. Around one third of children in Ysgol Swyn y Don catchment attend their local school. This is higher for Ysgol Iau Hen Golwyn and Ysgol T Gwynn Jones at 45%. There was also a small number who attend Ysgol Gogarth.

Figure 22: School choice in Old Colwyn catchment areas (ages 5-11)

Source: PLASC 2020, Education, CCBC

School	Ysgol Swyn y Don catchment No pupils	Ysgol Swyn y Don catchment %	Ysgol Iau Hen Golwyn & T Gwynn Jones catchment No pupils	Ysgol Iau Hen Golwyn & T Gwynn Jones catchment %
Total	370	100%	450	100%
Ysgol Iau Hen Golwyn & T Gwynn Jones	125	34%	205	45%
Ysgol Swyn Y Don	100	26%	5	1%
Ysgol Cynfran	35	10%	20	5%
Other Bay of Colwyn	35	9%	75	16%
Other CCBC	30	8%	20	4%
Welsh language schools*	20	5%	80	18%
Faith schools**	25	6%	45	10%
Ysgol Y Gogarth	5	2%	5	1%

Rounded to nearest 5. Totals may not add.

*Includes Category 1 Welsh Medium or Category 2 Dual stream schools

**Includes Voluntary Aided schools, including Church in Wales and Roman Catholic schools

7.3.18 The table below shows the estimated number of pupils that could be resident at sites in the school catchment areas with planning permission granted. It is important to note that many of these pupils will already be resident in Conwy County Borough and not all will attend their catchment school (see school choice tables above). The RLDP Strategic Site allocation at Old Colwyn will provide the majority of new homes in this area. A substantial amount is also expected through windfall sites.

Figure 23: Proposed and committed residential sites in Central

Source: Strategic Planning Policy Service, CCBC

Site	Status	Dwellings	Estimated no. of pupils (age 5-11)
Old Colwyn Strategic Allocation	Allocation	250	38
Other allocations	Dinerth Road	50	8
Windfall for Central	Various sites to end of Plan period	330	50
3-8 Bay View Road, Colwyn Bay	Under construction.	54	0 – supported living
Imperial Buildings, Colwyn Bay	Under construction	21	3
Former Rydal Penrhos, Colwyn Bay	Under construction	94	14
Former Mary Bamber & John Braddock convalescent home, Colwyn Bay	Under construction.	57	9
228 Abergele Road, Colwyn Bay	Under construction	14	0 (1-bedroom)

Recommendations

7.3.19 Capacity will be monitored through the RLDP process for all schools. A financial contribution will be sought from developments (subject to financial viability), should capacity indicate it is necessary.

- 7.3.20 **Ysgol Llandrillo yn Rhos:** there is currently anticipated to be sufficient capacity at the school to meet the education needs of the area. Should pupil numbers increase significantly, a financial contribution will be required from sites in the catchment area (subject to viability).
- 7.3.21 **Ysgol Cystennin and Mochdre infants:** there is currently anticipated to be sufficient capacity at the school to meet the education needs of the area.
- 7.3.22 **Ysgol Pen y Bryn:** there is currently anticipated to be sufficient capacity at the school to meet the education needs of the area.
- 7.3.23 **Ysgol Nant y Groes:** there is currently anticipated to be sufficient capacity at the school to meet the education needs of the area.
- 7.3.24 **Ysgol Bod Alaw:** there is currently anticipated to be sufficient capacity at the school to meet the Welsh medium education needs of the area. Should pupil numbers increase significantly, a financial contribution will be required from sites in the catchment area (subject to viability).
- 7.3.25 **Ysgol Y Plas:** there is currently anticipated to be sufficient capacity at the school to meet the education needs of the area. Should pupil numbers increase, a pro rata financial contribution to reflect the school choice in the area may be required from sites in the catchment area (subject to viability).
- 7.3.26 **Ysgol St Joseph:** the school is currently at capacity. A pro rata financial contribution to reflect the school choice in the area may be required from sites in the catchment area (subject to viability).
- 7.3.27 **Ysgol Swn y Don:** there is currently some capacity in the school and pupil numbers are projected to fall. The large strategic site allocation falls into the catchment area for this school, however, this is not the only school that pupils in the area go to. These schools also have some capacity. There is Council owned land adjacent to Ysgol Swn y Don, which could be used for an extension to accommodate more pupils if required. This land will be safeguarded for this purpose in the RLDP. Should the school reach capacity,

a financial contribution will be required from sites in the catchment area (subject to viability).

7.3.28 Ysgol T Gwynn Jones and Ysgol Iau Hen Golwyn: there is currently some capacity in the school and pupil numbers are projected to fall slightly.

Although the large strategic site allocation falls outside of the catchment area for these two schools, they are a school of choice for current pupils in the area. Should pupil numbers increase, a financial contribution will be required from sites in the catchment area (subject to viability).

7.3.29 Ysgol Cynfran: there is currently anticipated to be sufficient capacity at the school to meet the education needs of the area.

7.4 East RLDP strategy area: Abergele, Towyn and Kinmel Bay and Llanddulas

7.4.1 Primary school provision in Abergele is currently covered mainly by Ysgol Babanod Glan Gele (215 pupils) and Ysgol Iau Sant Elfod (288 pupils) for English medium education. Ysgol Glan Morfa (225 pupils) provides Welsh medium education for the East area. There is some capacity at all three schools currently. Ysgol Glan Gele and Ysgol Sant Elfod are projected to have a small fall in pupil numbers. Ysgol Glan Morfa is projected to have a small increase.

7.4.2 Ysgol St George (62 pupils) is also relevant to the East area. The catchment of this school is small and covers part of the Gele ward that falls outside of the settlement boundary of Abergele.

7.4.3 Primary school provision in Towyn and Kinmel Bay is currently covered mainly by Ysgol y Foryd (165 pupils) and Ysgol Maes Owen (208 pupils). Welsh medium education is provided by Ysgol Glan Morfa in Abergele. Both schools have capacity and pupil numbers are projected to decrease.

7.4.4 Primary school provision in Llanddulas is currently covered mainly by Ysgol Llanddulas (131 pupils). The school is currently at capacity. Pupil numbers are projected to fall.

Figure 24: capacity and pupil numbers in the East RLDP strategy area (ages 5-11)

Source: PLASC 2020 and PLASC 2024, Education, CCBC

School	Current capacity	Unfilled spaces	Pupil numbers 2024	Projected pupils 2029	Pupils attending from school catchment
Ysgol Babanod Glan Gele, Abergele	242	27	215	205	76%
Ysgol Iau Sant Elfod, Abergele	300	12	288	276	76%
Ysgol Glan Morfa, Abergele	260	35	225	232	87%
Ysgol St George	71	9	62	53	6%
Ysgol y Foryd, Towyn and Kinmel Bay	201	36	165	143	85%
Ysgol Maes Owen, Towyn and Kinmel Bay	265	57	208	201	85%
Ysgol Llanddulas	131	0	131	111	50%

7.4.5 The table above also shows the proportion of current pupils who attend the schools that live within the official school catchment area for each school.

7.4.6 The majority of pupils attending Ysgol Glan Gele, Ysgol Sant Elfod, Ysgol Glan Morfa, Ysgol y Foryd and Ysgol Maes Owen are from within the school catchment areas. For Ysgol St George, a very small amount attend from within the catchment area. Around half of pupils at Ysgol Llanddulas live within the catchment.

7.4.7 Not all children living in new developments proposed or committed in the area will attend their local catchment schools. Some will choose an out of catchment school for various reasons. Some will choose Welsh medium or faith schools. For pupils living in Abergele, the majority attend one of the three schools there.

Figure 25: School choice in Abergele schools catchment areas (ages 5-11)

Source: PLASC 2020, Education, CCBC

School (Ysgol Sant Elfod / Ysgol Glan Gele catchment)	Pupil number	% of pupils
Total	700	100%
Ysgol Sant Elfod & Glan Gele	395	57%
Ysgol Glan Morfa	160	23%
Ysgol Llanddulas	30	4%
Ysgol St. George	25	4%
Towyn	15	2%
Other CCBC	30	4%
Welsh language schools*	10	1%
Faith schools**	20	3%
Ysgol Y Gogarth	10	1%

Rounded to nearest 5. Totals may not add.

*Includes Category 1 Welsh Medium or Category 2 Dual stream schools

**Includes Voluntary Aided schools, including Church in Wales and Roman Catholic schools

7.4.8 The table below shows the school choice of pupils who live in Ysgol Llanddulas catchment.

Figure 26: School choice in Ysgol Llanddulas catchment area (ages 5-11)

Source: PLASC 2020, Education, CCBC

School (Ysgol Llanddulas catchment)	Pupil number	% of pupils
Total	110	100%
Ysgol Llanddulas	75	69%
Abergele schools	10	9%
Bay of Colwyn schools	10	8%
Other CCBC	5	4%

School (Ysgol Llanddulas catchment)	Pupil number	% of pupils
Welsh language schools*	10	9%
Faith schools**	0	0%

Rounded to nearest 5. Totals may not add.

*Includes Category 1 Welsh Medium or Category 2 Dual stream schools

**Includes Voluntary Aided schools, including Church in Wales and Roman Catholic schools

7.4.9 No further analysis of school choice in Towyn and Kinmel Bay and St George have been considered necessary, as it is highly unlikely that there will be significant residential development in these areas.

7.4.10 The table below shows the estimated number of pupils that could be resident at sites in the school catchment areas with planning permission granted. It is important to note that many of these pupils will already be resident in Conwy County Borough and not all will attend their local catchment school (see school choice tables above). No allocations are proposed through the RLDP for the East area, as it is considered that existing commitments and windfall sites will deliver the housing need over the Plan period.

Figure 27: Proposed and committed residential sites in East

Source: Strategic Planning Policy, CCBC

Site	Status	Dwellings	Estimated no. of pupils (age 5-11)
Windfall	Various sites to end of plan period	60	7
Plas Dulas, Llanddulas	Planning permission granted. Forecast for completion in next 10 years.	15	2
Interleisure, Abergele	Under construction	128	19
Llys Onnen, Water Street, Abergele	Under construction	43	0 – over 55s apartments
Tandderwen Farm, St George Road, Abergele*	Planning application submitted, not yet determined	277	42

*This site has been included for information only. It does not have planning permission currently.

Recommendations

- 7.4.1 Capacity will be monitored through the RLDP process for all schools. A financial contribution will be sought from developments (subject to financial viability), should capacity indicate it is necessary.
- 7.4.2 **Ysgol Glan Gele and Ysgol Sant Elfod:** A financial contribution will be required from sites in the area, dependent on school capacity at the time (subject to viability).
- 7.4.3 **Ysgol Glan Morfa:** A financial contribution will be required from sites in the area, dependent on school capacity at the time (subject to viability).
- 7.4.4 **Ysgol y Foryd and Ysgol Maes Owen:** National planning policy currently restricts the level of house building that is permitted in Towyn and Kinmel Bay. For this reason, no large developments are proposed as part of the RLDP. It is highly unlikely that the RLDP will lead to an increase in school pupil numbers, there is sufficient capacity in the current school provision, and pupil projections show a decrease in the number of pupils.
- 7.4.5 **Ysgol St George:** National and local planning policy restrict the level of house building that is permitted in the Ysgol St George catchment area. For this reason, no large developments are proposed in this area as part of the RLDP and therefore, no obligations can be sought.
- 7.4.6 **Ysgol Llanddulas:** A financial contribution will be required from windfall sites in the area, dependent on school capacity at the time (subject to viability).

7.5 Rural RLDP area: Llanrwst

- 7.5.1 Primary school provision in Llanrwst is currently covered mainly by Ysgol Bro Gwydir (294 pupils). The school currently has a small amount of capacity. Ysgol Llanddoged (36 pupils) is also relevant, and also has capacity.

Figure 28: capacity and pupil numbers in Llanrwst (ages 5-11)

Source: PLASC 2020 and PLASC 2024, Education, CCBC

School	Current capacity	Unfilled spaces	Pupil numbers 2024	Projected pupils 2029	Pupils attending from school catchment
Ysgol Bro Gwydir, Llanrwst	311	17	294	266	80%
Ysgol Llanddoged	97	61	36	35	42%

7.5.2 The table above also shows the proportion of current pupils who attend the schools that live within the official school catchment area for each school. The majority of pupils (80%) attending Ysgol Bro Gwydir live inside the catchment area.

7.5.3 Not all children living in new developments proposed or committed in the area will attend their local catchment schools. Some will choose an out of catchment school for various reasons. Some will choose Welsh medium or faith schools. The table below shows the school choice of pupils who live in Ysgol Bro Gwydir catchment. A large proportion (89%) choose their local school.

Figure 29: School choice in Ysgol Bro Gwydir catchment area (ages 5-11)

Source: PLASC 2020, Education, CCBC

School (Ysgol Bro Gwydir catchment)	Pupil number	% of pupils
Total	313	100%
Ysgol Bro Gwydir	280	89%
Ysgol Llanddoged	10	4%
Ysgol Dyffryn Yr Enfys	5	2%
Other Rural area	5	2%
Other CCBC	5	1%
Faith schools*	Less than 5	1%
Ysgol Gogarth	5	1%

Rounded to nearest 5. Totals may not add.

*Includes Voluntary Aided schools, including Church in Wales and Roman Catholic schools

7.5.4 The table below shows the estimated number of pupils that could be resident at sites in the school catchment areas with planning permission granted. It is important to note that many of these pupils will already be resident in Conwy County Borough and not all will attend their local catchment school (see school choice table above). The Llanrwst Strategic Site allocation is expected to meet the majority of remaining housing need for Llanrwst. The current adopted LDP allocation at Llanrwst is also relevant. The windfall figure is for sites across the whole rural area, which are likely to be small in size.

Figure 30: Proposed and committed residential sites in Llanrwst

Source: Strategic Planning Policy, CCBC

Site	Status	Dwellings	Estimated no. of pupils (age 5-11)
Llanrwst Strategic Allocation	Allocation	100	15
Windfall for Rural	Various sites to end of plan period	81	12
Bryn Hyfryd, Llanrwst	Under construction	14	2

Recommendations

- 7.5.5 Capacity will be monitored through the RLDP process for all schools. A financial contribution will be sought from developments (subject to financial viability), should capacity indicate it is necessary.
- 7.5.6 **Ysgol Bro Gwydir:** there is currently anticipated to be sufficient capacity at the school to meet the education needs of the area. Should pupil numbers increase significantly, a financial contribution may be required from sites in the catchment area (subject to viability).
- 7.5.7 Other schools in the Rural strategy area have not been included as it is unlikely that any residential development will meet the site threshold of 10 dwellings needed before an obligation towards schools is sought.

8 Secondary schools

- 8.1 Unlike for primary pupils, the population projections for the RLDP show an increase of 400 residents in the 11-17 age group. This has been split by RLDP growth strategy area below.

Figure 31: Projected population increase for 11-17 year olds by RLDP spatial area (2018-33)

Source: 2018-based projections, Conwy CBC

RLDP strategy area	% of growth	Population increase (age 11-17)
West Llanfairfechan, Penmaenmawr, Dwygyfylchi	10	40
Creuddyn Llandudno, Penrhyn Bay, Deganwy, Llandudno Junction, Conwy	30	120
Central Colwyn Bay, Rhos on Sea, Mochdre, Old Colwyn, Llysfaen	35	140
East Abergele, Towyn, Kinmel Bay, Llanddulas	15	60
Rural	10	40
Total	100	400

Note: population is for all of Conwy County Borough, including parts in Eryri National Park

- 8.2 Although there are soundness concerns over using these projections at a smaller area, it does help indicate where growth could occur. PLASC data projections are included in the table below, which provide a second indicator of change for each of the secondary schools in the County Borough.
- 8.3 The table below shows current and projected pupil numbers compared with capacity. Most secondary schools have sufficient capacity to accommodate the projected pupil increase. There may be a capacity issue at Bryn Elan in the future. The catchment area for this school covers Betws yn Rhos, Eirias and Colwyn wards, Llysfaen and Llanddulas. 63% (585 pupils) live in these areas. 36% (335 pupils) live outside of the catchment area.

- 8.4 Ysgol Creuddyn is currently under capacity with some space, however, pupil projections are estimating a significant increase.

Figure 32: capacity and pupil numbers in secondary schools (2024)

Source: PLASC 2024, Education, CCBC

School	Current capacity	Unfilled spaces	Pupil numbers 2024	Pupil numbers 2029
Bryn Elian, Old Colwyn	1,037	15	1,022	1,068
Eirias, Colwyn Bay	1,497	272	1,225	1,099
John Bright, Llandudno	1,469	351	1,118	1,025
Emrys ap Iwan, Abergele	1,196	234	962	964
Dyffryn Conwy, Llanrwst	813	166	647	660
Creuddyn, Penrhyn Bay	716	43	673	773
Aberconwy, Conwy	1,244	179	1,065	1,107

Recommendations

- 8.5 It is anticipated that the current school provision will be able to accommodate the growth in this age group during the RLDP period for English medium education. Capacity will be monitored for all schools through the RLDP process.
- 8.6 **Ysgol Bryn Elian:** Safeguarding land adjacent to the Ysgol Bryn Elian site was considered due to capacity constraints there. Due to uncertainty over potential funding of any extensions, however, it is considered that deliverability of any scheme cannot be demonstrated to justify this. In addition, the land is outside of the settlement boundary, where development is not normally permitted. The new RLDP schools policy approach supports an extension to the school on this land, subject to other policy requirements. A financial contribution may be required from sites, dependent on school capacity at the time (subject to viability).
- 8.7 **Ysgol Creuddyn:** additional capacity may be needed here in future, if pupil numbers continue to increase. The new RLDP schools policy approach supports an extension to the school on this land, subject to other policy

requirements. A pro rata contribution reflecting an estimated number choosing Welsh language education will be sought (subject to viability).

9 Additional learning need provision

- 9.1 An extension to Ysgol Gogarth is proposed as part of the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme for delivery in years 1-3. It is anticipated that this will meet the short term needs of the school. Further monitoring will be required through the RLDP process.
- 9.2 It is anticipated that there will be sufficient capacity at the Pupil Referral Units to accommodate the growth options proposed in the RLDP. This will be monitored through the RLDP process.

10 Conclusion

- 10.1 This paper sets out the Council's approach for mitigating for the impact of the predicated population change over the RLDP period on schools in the plan area. It is aligned with the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme. The paper and proposed approach was prepared jointly by the CCBC Strategic Planning Policy Service and Education Services, who support the approach proposed, as shown in the accompanying Statement of Common Ground. This close working will continue through the RLDP period to monitor capacity and other school needs, so that appropriate mitigation can be sought as required.
- 10.2 The RLDP proposes to allocated land for a new school at Llanfairfechan, on the Strategic Site allocation. It also proposed to safeguard land adjacent to Ysgol Swn y Don to accommodate an extension, should this be required in future. Financial contributions will be sought where evidence shows that it is required to mitigate the impact of any proposed residential development.
- 10.3 The proposed RLDP policy approach for schools will include a criteria based approach to guide proposals for new schools and extensions to existing ones.