

4th February 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

RE: BRIDGEND POST 16 CONSULTATION

As you may be aware Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) is reviewing whether the current sixth form provision should be altered, and is inviting the public to have their say.

There are sixth forms in every secondary school in Bridgend County Borough, varying in size from 76 to 347 pupils. Around 40 pupils also attend the sixth form provision at each of the county borough's two special schools, while Bridgend College provides a range of 'vocational pathways'. In the new public consultation, which opened on Monday, December 3rd and closes on Friday, February 22nd 2019, parents, pupils, teachers and other interested parties will be asked to say whether they would prefer to retain and change the current sixth form system, or choose an alternative.

Separate arrangements are being proposed for Welsh-medium and faith education. It is suggested that the collaboration between Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd with Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llanhari in Rhondda Cynon Taf should continue to develop, with Archbishop McGrath Catholic School continuing to form relationships with other sixth forms and Bridgend College.

There are six concepts for consultation:

- Concept 1** - The retention of sixth forms in all schools – the 'status quo'
- Concept 2** - The closure of all sixth forms and the development of a local authority maintained sixth form centre
- Concept 3** - The closure of all sixth forms and the development of a further education (FE) college governed sixth form centre
- Concept 4** - A mix of school sixth forms with some mergers to create new local authority maintained sixth form centre(s)
- Concept 5** - A mix of school sixth forms with some mergers to create new FE college governed sixth form centre(s)
- Concept 6** - A full tertiary model governed by the FE sector

The council's preferred options are concepts four and five.

The online survey is available for all stakeholders at:

<https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/my-council/equalities-and-engagement/consultations/current-consultations/the-potential-re-organisation-of-post-16-provision>



BCBC will also be holding a series of interactive workshops at Bryntirion Comprehensive with students, staff and Governors on the **11th February**. A report on the outcomes of the consultation will be provided to Cabinet Members in April 2019, and further public consultation would then be held before any final decision is taken.

As such we would like to invite you to attend the aforementioned workshop on the 11th February in order that you can express your views on the proposed changes to sixth form provision. It will take place at 5pm in the Senior Hall. I look forward to seeing you there.

Yours sincerely



R K Pawar
Headteacher

