



Formal Consultation Document

Proposal to close Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain (English Medium, Community School) as of 31st of August 2016 with pupils transferring to other schools in the local area subject to parental preference

October 2015

Table of Contents

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Development of School Organisation Proposal**
- 3. Background to the Proposal**
- 4. The Proposal**
- 5. Benefits, disadvantages and risks of the proposal**
- 6. What will be the impact of the proposal on the Quality and Standards in Education?**
- 7. Evaluation of the impact of the proposal on Quality and Standards in Education**
- 8. Alternative provision**
- 9. Adequacy of School Accommodation and Impact of the Proposal on the Quality of Accommodation**
- 10. What will be the impact of the proposal on financing of Schools?**
- 11. What will be the impact of the proposal on the land and buildings of the School?**
- 12. What issues have been considered in developing the proposal?**
- 13. Community, Equality and Welsh Language Impacts**
- 14. Impact of the Proposal on Teacher, Support Staff and Governing Body**
- 15. Impact of the Proposal on Pupils**
- 16. Additional Learning Needs (ALN) and Groups of Vulnerable Learners**
- 17. Transport Arrangements**
- 18. Admission Arrangements**
- 19. Impact of the Proposal on Secondary Provision**
- 20. How will the consultation take place?**

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Flintshire County Council wishes to seek the views of interested parties regarding the proposal to close Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain from 31st of August 2016 with existing pupils transferring to other schools in the local area, subject to parental preference.
- 1.2 This consultation document sets out information which consultees should consider to participate fully in the consultation process. The process follows regulatory guidance as set out in the Welsh Government's School Organisation Code 2013.
- 1.3 The formal consultation period commences on Wednesday 21st October 2015 and ends on Wednesday 2nd December 2015.

2. Development of School Organisation Proposals

- 2.1 Development of school organisation proposals should have regard to overarching national policies and principles, including:
 - United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child;
 - A Living Language : A Language for Living - Welsh Language Strategy 2012-2017;
 - Welsh Medium Education Strategy (WESP);
 - One Wales : One Planet, a new sustainable development scheme for Wales May 2009 or any successor strategy;
 - Child Poverty Strategy for Wales (issued February 2011 information document number 95/2011), or any successor strategy;
 - Faith in Education.
- 2.2 Additionally, the development of school organisation proposals should have regard to local plans, including;
 - Local plans for economic or housing development;
 - Welsh in education strategic plans;
 - Children and Young People's Partnership Plans; and
 - Schools Modernisation Strategy.
- 2.3 Regard should also be given to Welsh Government guidance on matters relating to school organisation, such as:
 - Learner travel operational guidance (April 2009);
 - Measuring capacity of schools in Wales (October 2011).
- 2.4 Factors that should be taken into account by relevant bodies when preparing, publishing, approving or determining school organisation proposals are as follows:

- Quality and standards in education - outcomes, provision and leadership and management;
 - Need for places and the impact on accessibility of schools; and
 - Resourcing of education and other financial implications.
- 2.5 Other factors are also taken into account, such as the impact of the proposal on children from economically deprived backgrounds, and any equality issues (including those identified through equality impact assessments).

3. Background to the Proposal

- 3.1 Our aim is that children and young people in Flintshire will develop essential life skills, a strong desire for lifelong learning and be very well prepared for the world of work. All children and young people will be supported to progress through the different stages of their education. Every child and young person will be entitled to a learning programme that will be personalised to make the most of his or her abilities. Children and young people will learn in an exciting and innovative range of styles and settings. These will include vocational, enterprising, voluntary, spiritual, cultural and sporting learning experiences. School organisation objectives will provide opportunities for Welsh and English medium provision, and also faith provision.

Flintshire County Council is committed to continuing to raise standards, with key tasks including securing:

- high expectations and a clear focus on improving teaching, learning and attainment in all school communities;
 - all resources available to schools focusing on improving outcomes for children and young people in a context of annual budget pressures;
 - a consistent approach to the collection, analysis and use of assessment information, including tracking systems, to target support and interventions; and
 - continued commitment to the development of school teaching and support staff.
- 3.2 Flintshire County Council's Cabinet approved the revised School Modernisation Strategy in January 2015, which was updated from the Council's previous strategy adopted by Cabinet in 2010. This document is available at:
- www.flintshire.gov.uk/schoolmodernisation
- 3.3 The School Modernisation Programme is required because we need to:
- Ensure education provision is both high quality and sustainable
 - Improve the quality of school buildings and facilities

- Provide the right number of school places, of the right type, in the right locations
 - Address unsustainable school buildings and supporting infrastructure
 - Recognise that doing nothing means higher pupil teacher ratios as funding reduces
 - Ensure that we maximise external funding through the Welsh Government's 21st Century Schools Programme
- 3.4 The key 'drivers' or criteria for modernisation which underpin the above are:
- Educational improvement
 - Resilient school leadership
 - Suitable buildings
 - Unfilled places
 - Diminishing resources
- 3.5 The primary school portfolio has 1967 (or 17.15%) unfilled places (based on January 2015 PLASC¹) whilst the national target set by Welsh Government is to reduce this level to under 10%.
- 3.6 The Council recognises there is a need to ensure that all schools and school sites are able to provide children with the widest possible opportunities. As a result the Council must consider the educational challenges faced by small schools, as referenced in the Estyn 2003 report 'Small Primary Schools in Wales'; which include:
- Teaching mixed age classes containing more than 2 or 3 age groups;
 - The restricted size of peer groups;
 - Limited opportunities for social interaction;
 - Difficulties with recruitment and retention of staff;
 - Excessive burdens on staff;
 - Increased expertise required to support pupils with additional learning needs.
- 3.7 The objectives of the schools modernisation strategy and the review of schools contained within the council's implementation plan are to address these challenges and ensure that the current standards and attainment within the primary sector are maintained for the future.
- 3.8 Future primary school provision will endeavour to follow one of the Council's recommended models described below. The models are:
- a) 1 form entry or more – primary school providing a minimum of 210 full - time places or more (approximately 30 pupils per year group) and with no

¹ PLASC – Pupil Level Annual School Census

more than 25% unfilled places. Other models of at least one form of entry, for example, 1.5, 2, 2.5 or 3 forms of entry are also efficient and effective.

- b) Schools with less than 1 form of entry, but with more than 0.5 forms of entry providing at least 105 full - time places (approximately 15 pupils per year group) where needed, may be considered for the formation of a federated school or an area school. Area schools would be formed in accordance with the Council's preferred operating model at (a) above.
- 3.9 Where the school is unable to sustain sufficient pupil numbers or an area review determines that a school is to be closed, statutory proposals need to be published in order to close any primary school, including those within a federation.
- 3.10 The Council is bringing forward these proposals as it is of the view that the changes proposed would be of long term benefit to all pupils within Flintshire.

4. The Proposal

- 4.1 The proposal is to close Ysgol Maes Edwin, School Lane, Flint Mountain, Flintshire, CH6 5QR (English Medium, community school) as of 31st August 2016 with the pupils transferring to the local network of schools based on parental preference.
- 4.2 The proposal is put forward on the basis of criteria laid down in the Council's School Modernisation Strategy, namely:-
- Unfilled places across the primary school portfolio – Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain as at January 2015 (PLASC) had 66 full time pupils with unfilled places of 13.16%. As of September 2015 the school population has 55 full time pupils with unfilled places at 27.63%;
 - Diminishing resource criteria (i.e. schools supported by pupils not from their local community and/or small numbers within the community raise concern regarding sustainability within the school's portfolio) - 83.63% of pupils attending Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain are not attending their local school;
 - Small School Criteria – The School population and capacity of Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain is lower than national designation of a small school, additionally school numbers do not meet the minimum requirements of primary school models as noted in the Council's School Modernisation Strategy, and
 - Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain is currently (July 2015) in Welsh Government categorisation 4, on a scale of 1 - 4, with 4 being the lowest for educational standards. Welsh Government review school categorisation annually in December.

- 4.3 This leads to higher costs per pupil; unnecessary building, leadership and administration costs. The proposal will enable the Council to focus spending on the classroom in a time of annual diminishing budgets for schools for the foreseeable future.
- 4.4 Within the nearby area to Flint Mountain/Flint/Northop there are currently 3 English medium community primary schools which have been identified as alternative schools should Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain close. The schools are listed below (together with their national school categorisation for standards):
- Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint (Category 2),
 - Cornist C.P. School, Flint (Category 1),
 - Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop (Category 1).

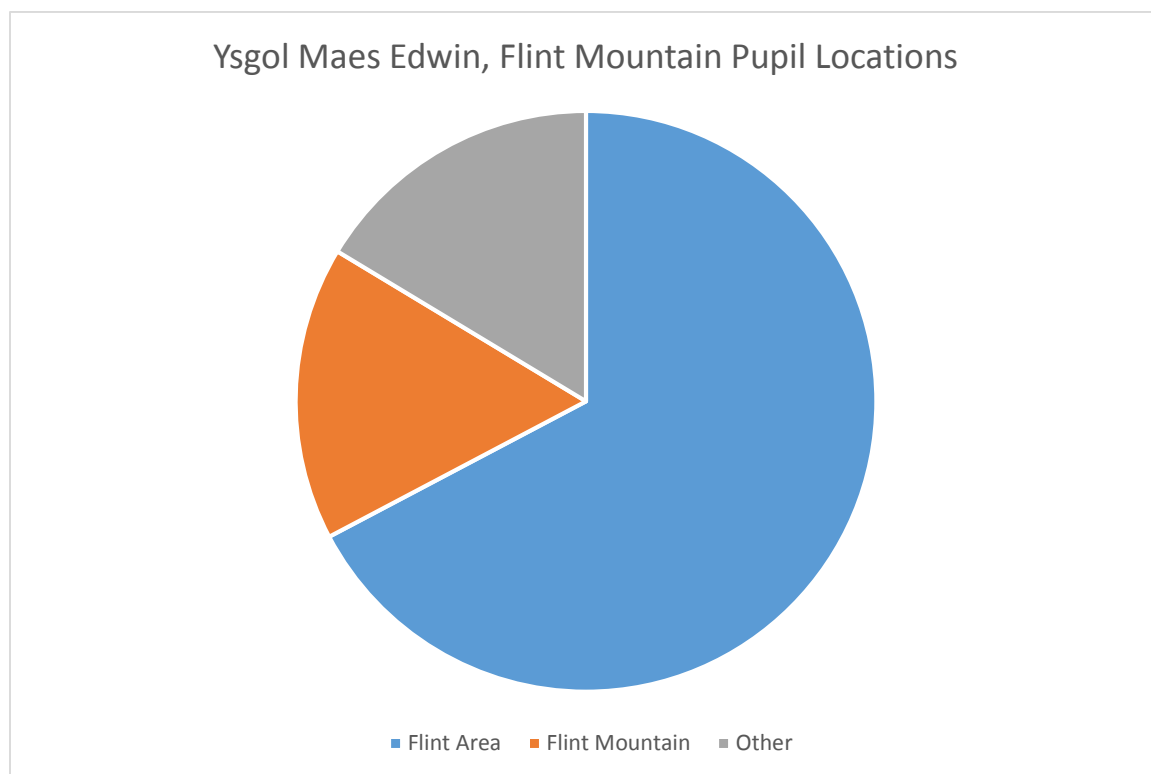
The National School Categorisation System has been introduced in Wales. The National School Categorisation System provides a clear and simple way of understanding how well a school is performing for all its pupils, how effectively it is led and managed, the quality of teaching and learning and the level of support and challenge it needs to do even better. Schools will be in one of four standards groups (1 to 4), with schools in standards group 1 demonstrating very good overall performance and those in standards group 4 demonstrating the greatest need for improved performance.

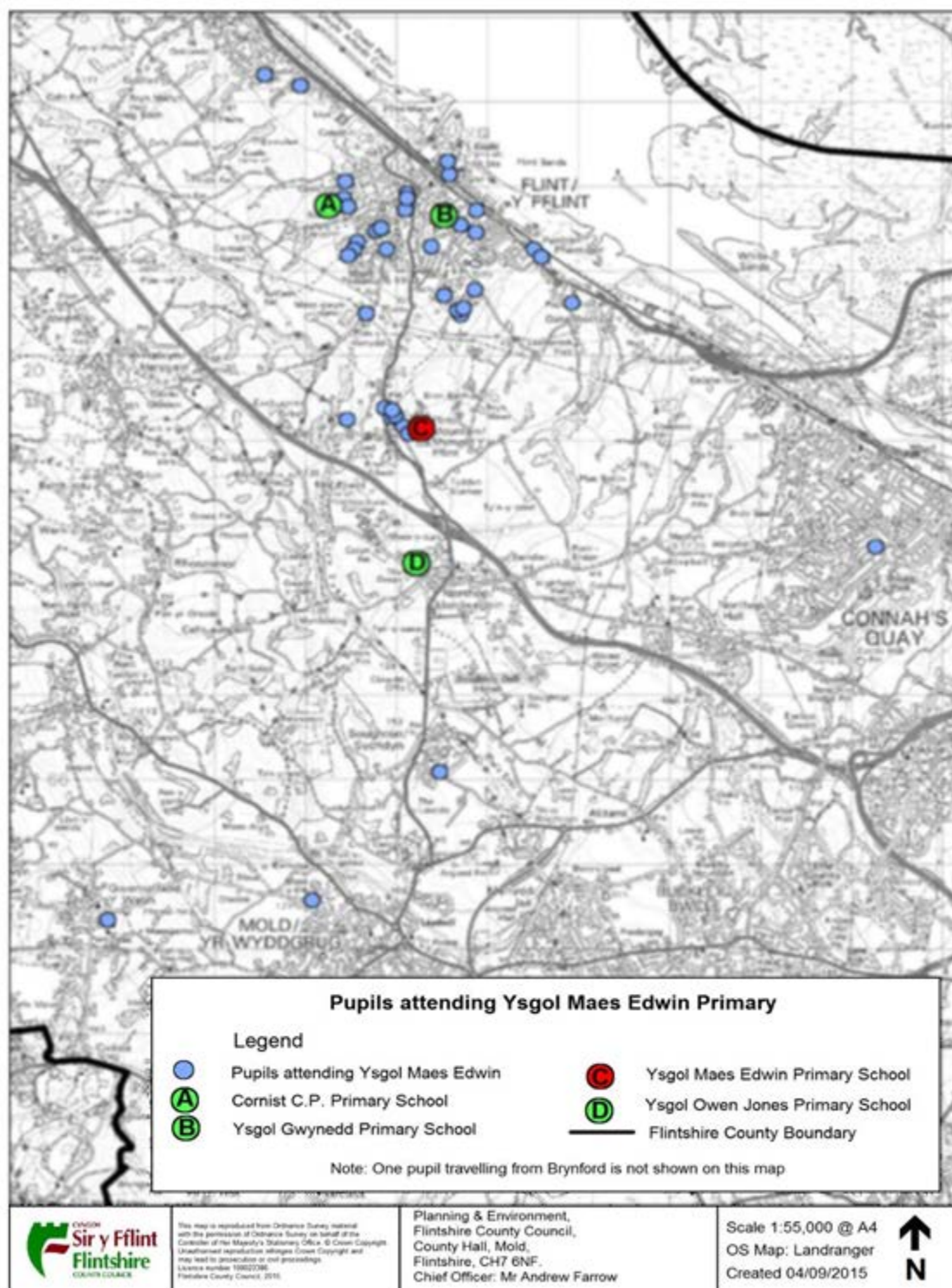
- 4.5 The Council has a statutory responsibility to ensure there is a sufficient number of school places, of the right type, in the right locations.
- 4.6 Until the recent drop in pupil numbers at Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain (as of September 2015) it is noted that from 2011, there had been an increase in pupil numbers at Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain. However, the school population is supported by pupils largely from the Flint area for whom Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain is not their nearest school. Additionally, the school has low numbers of pupils attending (29%) from the village and surrounding area, with a larger number of primary school pupils (71%) from the local community selecting other English medium community schools in the local network.

The Council acknowledges that Statutory Consultation around school organisational change will cause a level of uncertainty within the Local School community which can be a contributory factor in pupil number reduction.

4.7 The following pie chart and map display the current (September 2015) home location for Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain pupils.

**** Number of full time pupils (Reception to Year 6) as of September 2015 (Source ONE System). There is a difference in pupils numbers compared to January 2015 PLASC.***





4.8 **Percentage of pupils not attending Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain as their nearest school** (Source: snap shot of pupils from the ONE system, September 2015)

School	% of pupils not attending their nearest school	% of pupils who reside in Flint Mountain village	% of pupils who reside in Flint	% of pupils who reside in other areas
Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain	83.63%	16.36%	67.27%	16.36%

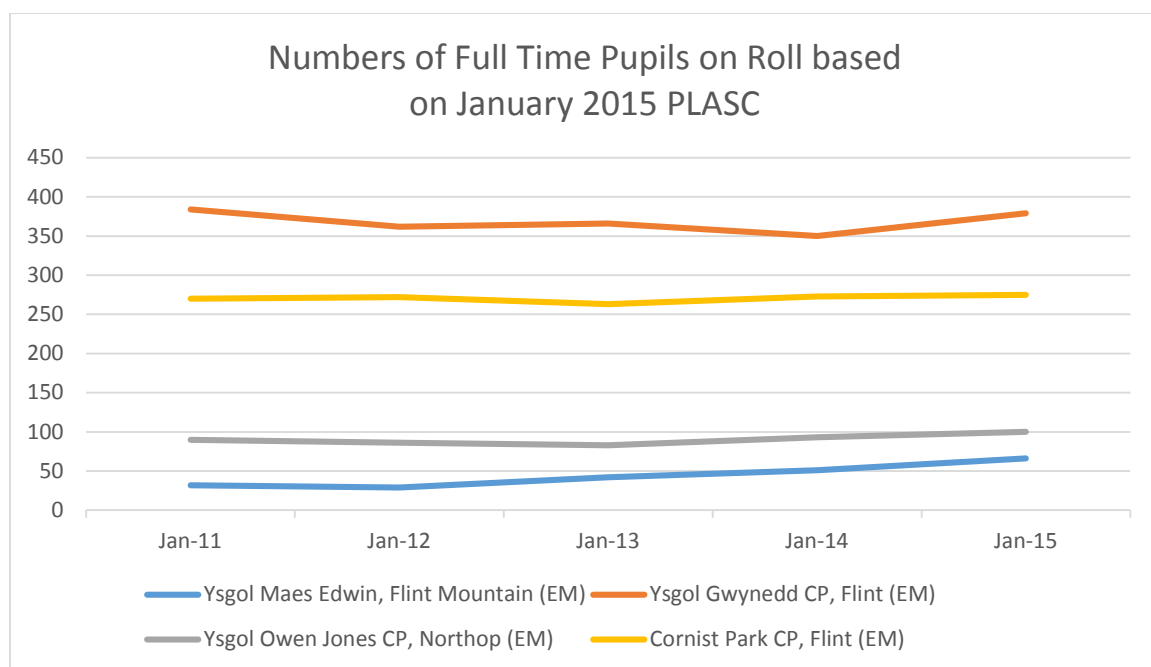
4.9 The table below provides the current full time number on roll (January PLASC 2015), current capacities of schools, admission number and unfilled places likely to be affected by the proposal.

Name of School	Total (FT) Pupils Jan 15	Capacity (FT)	Admission Number	Unfilled Places	% of Unfilled Places
Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain	66	76	10	10	13.16%
Ysgol Gwynedd CP, Flint	379	492	70	113	22.97%
Cornist CP, Flint	275	289	41	14	4.84%
Ysgol Owen Jones CP, Northop	100	138	19	38	27.54%
TOTAL	820	995		175	

4.10 Numbers of full time pupils on Roll (*Source: January Annual PLASC Data*) Jan 2011 - 2015 – Compared to Alternative Schools

School Name	Jan 11	Jan 12	Jan 13	Jan 14	Jan 15
Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain (EM)	32	29	42	51	66
Ysgol Gwynedd CP, Flint (EM)	384	362	366	350	379
Cornist CP, Flint (EM)	270	272	263	273	275
Ysgol Owen Jones CP, Northop (EM)	90	86	83	93	100
Totals	776	749	754	767	820
Capacity (Full Time)	995	995	995	995	995
Unfilled Numbers	219	246	241	228	175
Unfilled %	22.0%	24.72%	24.22%	22.9%	17.5%

(EM – English Medium)



4.11 Pupil projections for all primary schools are undertaken following the return of the official school return (i.e. January school PLASC). Pupil projections have been developed and aligned with other Local Authorities across the North Wales region.

Pupil Projections for English Medium schools in the Flint Mountain/Flint/Northop area based on PLASC Data January 2015 (Full Time Number on Roll)

Schools	Sept 2015	Sept 2016	Sept 2017	Sept 2018	Sept 2019	+/-
Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain	63	62	59	56	52	-11
Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint	401	409	412	418	415	+15
Cornist C.P. School, Flint	287	287	291	290	290	+3
Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop	104	112	113	117	118	+14
Totals	855	870	875	881	875	
Capacity	995	995	995	995	995	
Unfilled Numbers	140	125	120	114	120	
Unfilled %	14%	12.5%	12%	11.5%	12%	

(Source: May 2015 using Jan 15 PLASC)

- 4.12 The actual number of full time (FT) pupils on roll as at September 2015 for Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain is 55. (Source: The ONE system) This information has been recently verified with Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain and Flintshire's Schools Management Information Team.

Based on the new September pupil figures a reassessment of pupil projections at the school is as follows:

Schools	Actual Sept 2015	Sept 2016	Sept 2017	Sept 2018	Sept 2019	Sept 2020	+/-
Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain	55	49	44	40	35	30	-25
Unfilled Places	21	27	32	36	41	46	
Unfilled Places %	27.63%	35.52%	42.10%	47.36%	53.94%	60.52%	

Projected figures have reduced, primarily as a result in the loss of a large year 6 group moving to secondary school and low intake into the school. This results in a reduced average formula intake. The actual numbers of full time pupils on roll as at September 2015 has been verified with Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain and Flintshire's School Management Information Team. For ease of reference the official January 2015 PLASC figures will be primarily used in the remainder of the document.

The Council acknowledges that Statutory Consultation around school organisational change will cause a level of uncertainty within the Local School community which can be a contributory factor in pupil number reduction.

- 4.13 The table below displays the historic birth rate for the period 2008-2013 for the Flint/Northop Area. There has been no increase in birth rates since 2011, from 2012 there is an overall decline in births.

Ward	Historic Births					
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Flint Castle	36	40	30	33	21	32
Flint Coleshill	58	55	64	51	60	46
Flint Oakenholt	49	50	43	44	50	35
Flint Trelawny	24	37	36	29	26	26
Northop	24	30	19	26	15	34
TOTAL	191	212	192	183	172	173

(Source: provided by Schools Management Information Systems using MAPInfoStratus)

- 4.14 Where unfilled places in schools become disproportionate it can impact negatively on the resourcing of education. In 2012 Estyn² published 'How do surplus places affect the resources available for expenditure on improving outcomes for pupils?' This document is available at:

<http://www.estyn.gov.uk/english/docViewer/244416.9/how-do-surplus-places-affect-the-resources-available-for-expenditure-on-improving-outcomes-for-pupils-may-2012/?navmap=30,163>

Estyn commented that 'where there is a higher than necessary level of school places, resources are being deployed inefficiently that could be better used to improve the quality of education for all learners'.

- 4.15 The Welsh Government has set every Council in Wales a target of reducing unfilled places county wide to 10% across the primary and secondary sectors. However, it is necessary to have a certain level of unfilled places so that schools can respond accordingly to fluctuations in pupil numbers to meet parental demand sufficiently whilst maintaining a balance of provision.
- 4.16 Where unfilled places are reduced it allows for financial resource to be re-directed, specifically for teaching and learning within our schools. Reducing unfilled places is not solely an exercise in resource management but part of a wider strategy to improve outcomes and standards for all pupils in the longer term.
- 4.17 The development of school organisation proposals should also have regard to local plans, including housing. Potential pupils which could be generated from new housing developments is calculated using a housing yield formula. The

² Estyn is the office of Her Majesty's inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales. Estyn are independent of, but funded by, the National Assembly for Wales. The purpose of Estyn is to inspect quality and standards in education and training in Wales.

housing yield formula has been derived from researching the work of several authorities.

The current housing yield formula for primary is as follows:-

Number of housing units x 0.24 (primary school formula) = child/pupil yield

The current housing development planning applications approved for the Flint Mountain/Flint area are listed below, including the number of units planned to be released over the coming years. There are no current housing development planning applications approved within the village of Northop.

The housing yield figures are a maximum figure and do not take into account parental choice and/or pupil movement i.e. pupils moving into the new homes but who are already in the local education system.

Potential Housing Developments – Flint Mountain

Planning Reference	No of Units	Description	Total Potential Child Yield (Primary only)	No of Units Released in 2015	2015 Potential Child Yield (Primary only)	No of Units Released in 2016	2016 Potential Child Yield (Primary only)	No of Units Released in 2017	2017 Potential Child Yield (Primary only)
039153, 042853	14	Land at Pen Y Glyn Hall, Flint Mountain	3	3	1	3	1	2	1
Total			3		1		1		1

Potential Housing Developments – Flint

Planning Reference	No of Units	Description	Total Potential Child Yield (Primary only)	No of Units Released in 2015	2015 Potential Child Yield (Primary only)	No of Units Released in 2016	2016 Potential Child Yield (Primary only)	No of Units Released in 2017	2017 Potential Child Yield (Primary only)	No of Units Released in 2018	2018 Potential Child Yield (Primary only)
049312, 046595	637	Croes Atti	151 *	60	14	60	14	60	14	60	14
050304	38	Tyddyn Farm, Halkyn Road	9	19	5	19	4	-	-	-	-
046067	15	Flint Working Mens Club, Woodfield Avenue	4	8	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
046618	14	Former Leasowes Garag	3	7	2	7	1	-	-	-	-

		e Site, Walke rs Carpet Road, Holyw ell Road									
Total			167		23		18		14		14

The largest of the Flint housing developments is in Croes Atti, Oakenholt, the site will be developed over a period of time and commenced in 2014 and is currently in development, there are no specific timelines for completion of this site. However, the development of the site has been phased and was estimated as follows:-

- Phase 1 189 units
- Phase 2 132 units
- Phase 3 306 units

The pace of the housing developments will be constrained by the plans of the site owners/developers, the housing market, current economic climate and other factors which are unpredictable.

The number of units built during phase 1 site as at September 2015 is approximately 96.

The Council is satisfied that should Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain close, the local school network has the capacity to sustain the necessary potential impact of current and future housing developments.

In future should there be issues with capacity of schools in the local area, the Local Planning Guidance Note 23 provides clarification on the policies in the Flintshire Unitary Development Plan specifically in relation to developer contributions to educational facilities. Where a new housing development takes place the Council may require contributions from developers in order to mitigate against these impacts on the nearest suitable school to their development.

Additionally there is an agreement with Flintshire County Council and the developers regarding land at Croes Atti, Oakenholt. The agreement sets aside land for 10 years from the commencement of the development an area of land for the construction of a primary school by the Council under building licence.

- 4.18 Flintshire County Council seeks to maintain the current high quality provision within the Flint Mountain/Flint/Northop area, however should the status quo remain there is a risk that the quality and standard of education within the wider area could be adversely impacted as reducing resources would still need to be spent on maintaining buildings, administration and leadership, at the detriment to teaching and learning.
- 4.19 The level of austerity the Council faces in the coming years is unprecedented. The Council's priority is, and remains, sustaining the high quality of learning for children and young people across the County. Austerity is already having a direct impact on school budgets, resulting in loss of teaching posts and many Teaching Assistant hours being lost in schools this year, despite protecting schools above other services. With more expected in the coming years, doing nothing will lead to a rise in pupil teacher ratios, and inability to address the learning environment.

- 4.20 Placed in the context of challenges facing educational provision, level of austerity and sustainability of high quality educational provision, the Council is bringing forward this proposal to close Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain as of 31st August 2016 with existing pupils transferring to alternative schools subject to parental preference.

5.0 Benefits, disadvantages and risks of the proposal

- 5.1 Should the proposal be implemented it is expected that the following benefits would be realised.

1.	The proposals would maintain the current standards and quality of education for the future which the council are seeking to strengthen. The proposal would, in the view of the council, improve the current standards of education within the area and in the longer term would be to the benefit of all pupils within the area. (Covered in detail in section 7 of this document).
2.	The proposal to close Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain would result in a reduction of unfilled pupil places within the primary school network in line with National Policy.
3.	The proposal would lead to a reduction in the cost per pupil across the primary school network.
4.	The proposal would contribute to the greater efficiency and effectiveness of the school estate by re-directing resources to teaching and learning.
5.	The proposal protects all learners within Flintshire from reducing resources.
6.	The proposal would reduce travel to school for the majority of pupils attending the school (assuming they choose their local school).

- 5.2 Where school organisation proposals are brought forward there will be some disadvantages. The disadvantages of the proposal are as follows:

1.	The proposal would result in the closure of Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain, therefore English medium primary provision would cease in the village of Flint Mountain.
2.	A small percentage of pupils who live in Flint Mountain may be required to travel further to the nearest appropriate school and increase travel time.
3.	The proposal would impact on staff, who may be redeployed or made redundant as a result of the proposal.

- 5.3 Many of the risks associated with the proposal arise from the disadvantages of the proposal outlined above. The risks and measures required to minimise or negate the impact of these risks are outlined below:

Disadvantages/Risk	Risk Management
A small number of pupils may be required to travel further to school	Fewer than 10 pupils who reside in the Flint Mountain area will be required to travel further to school. For those pupils should they choose Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop, they would be eligible for free home to school transport under the current transport policy. Transport Costs will therefore increase to reflect the change in demography.
Staff may be redeployed or made redundant	Should the proposal be implemented, the Council will work with the current members of staff at Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain, should they wish to seek redeployment or retirement opportunities. The governing body of the school will apply its own organisational change and redundancy policy. Support for all staff will be provided during this time through the school's leadership team and the Council. Staff displaced by the proposal may have the opportunity to be employed in the local schools network.
Potential negative impact on the community of Flint Mountain.	The Council acknowledges that where a school closure is proposed it will have some impact on the community. The Community Impact Assessment completed for this proposal has shown that whilst there is some community use of the school it is not extensive. Should the proposal be implemented there may be an opportunity for the community to retain the use of the buildings. A separate exercise will be conducted by the Council once the future of the school has been determined. The Community Impact Assessment can be found on the Flintshire County Council website by following this link: www.flintshire.gov.uk/schoolmodernisation

- 5.4 All risks will be monitored by Flintshire County Council's, Education and Youth Programme Board. By monitoring and ensuring there is a robust approach to the above risks and disadvantages the impact on pupils/parents/carers/teachers and support staff can be minimised. An evaluation on the impact of pupils, teachers and support staff can be found in section 14 and 15 of this document respectively.
- 5.5 In view of the above advantages, risks and disadvantages, the council believe that the longer term benefits of the proposal outweigh any disadvantages.

- 5.6 Flintshire County Council has carefully considered a number of options when formulating school modernisation proposals for the Flint Mountain/Flint/Northop area. In considering these options, reference has been made to the main objectives of the School Modernisation Strategy and the key drivers for the Flint Mountain/Flint/Northop area review as detailed in section 2 and 3 of this document.
- 5.7 A number of options has been considered including maintaining the status quo, federation or amalgamation of Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain within another English Medium school.
- 5.8 The options that have been explored by the Council are detailed in section 12 of this document.
- 5.9 This proposal has been developed in line with Learner Travel Operational Guidance provided by the Welsh Government (guidance revised in 2014). Should the parents/carers choose to send their child/children to the school nearest to their home address, fewer than 10 pupils would be entitled to free school transport. The estimated annual cost of transport provision would be £9,120.
- 5.10 A large percentage of pupils will have a reduced home to school travel time and distance from their home location based on the assumption that they choose the school nearest to their home address. For those within the town of Flint and village of Northop available walking routes can be utilised.
- 5.11 The Transport Impact Assessment for this proposal can be found at the following link:-

www.flintshire.gov.uk/schoolmodernisation

6. What will be the impact of the proposals on the Quality and Standards in Education?

- 6.1 The formulation of this proposal has given careful consideration to the likely impact of the proposal on the quality of outcomes, provision and leadership and management. This section provides information for consultees regarding the current provision at Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain, Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint, Cornist C.P. School, Flint and Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop with an evaluation of the impact on quality and standards in education should the current proposal be implemented.

Current Provision: Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain, Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint, Cornist C.P. School, Flint and Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop

- 6.2 Ysgol Maes Edwin, is located in the village of Flint Mountain, it is an English Medium primary school for pupils aged 3-11 years of age. It is currently Category 4 for standards in the Welsh Government categorisation model.
- 6.3 Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint is located in the town of Flint, approximately 2.24 miles from Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain. Ysgol Gwynedd is an English Medium primary school for pupils aged 3-11 years of age and is currently Category 2 for standards in the Welsh Government categorisation model.
- 6.4 Cornist C.P. School, Flint is located in the town of Flint, approximately 2.73 miles from Ysgol Maes Edwin. Cornist C.P. School is an English primary school for pupils aged 3-11 years of age and is currently Category 1 for standards in the Welsh Government categorisation model.
- 6.5 Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop is located in the village of Northop, approximately 1.43 miles from Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain. Ysgol Owen Jones is an English Medium primary school for pupils aged 3-11 years of age and is currently Category 1 for standards in the Welsh Government categorisation model.
- 6.6 The table below displays the full and part time number of pupils on roll for the past 5 year period based on January PLASC.

	Jan 2011		Jan 2012		Jan 2013		Jan 2014		Jan 2015	
Pupils	FT	PT	FT	PT	FT	PT	FT	PT	FT	PT
Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain	32	8	29	5	42	8	51	10	66	4
Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint	384	51	362	67	366	47	350	56	379	64
Cornist C.P. School, Flint	270	40	272	41	263	40	273	42	275	41
Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop	90	12	86	15	83	19	93	12	100	19

(FT – Full Time, PT – Part Time)

- 6.7 The tables below display the breakdown of pupils by year group (January and September 2015 PLASC)

Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain								
Year group	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Jan 2015	4	9	11	11	9	10	9	7
Sept 2015	2	3	10	9	8	7	10	8

The breakdown of Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain pupils also includes pupil numbers as at September 2015.

Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint							
Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
64	59	52	63	55	57	50	43

January 2015 PLASC

Cornist C.P. School, Flint							
Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
41	44	41	41	42	37	41	29

January 2015 PLASC

Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop							
Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
19	13	19	16	13	15	9	15

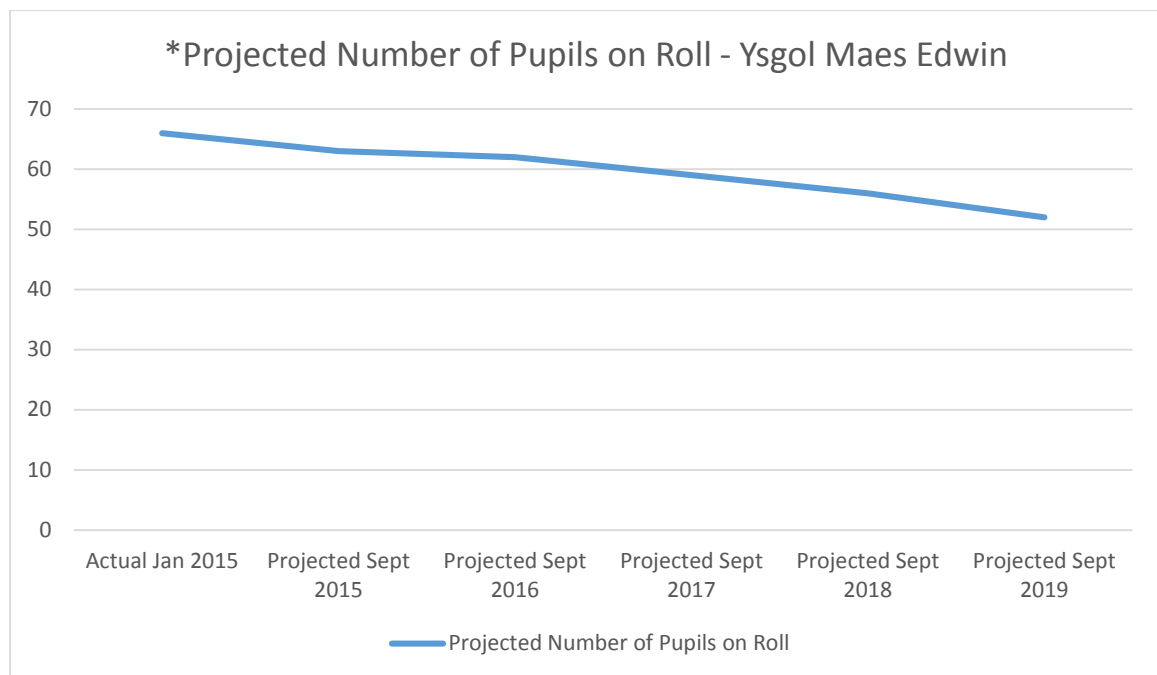
January 2015 PLASC

- 6.8 The tables on the following pages display more detailed pupil projections for Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain and the nearest appropriate schools named within the documents and provides pupil forecasts based on school census data.

Numbers of full time Pupils on Roll and Projected Number of Pupils – Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain

**Source: Actual figures Jan PLASC (2015) Projections (produced May 2015 using PLASC data Jan 2015) (Projection figures are rounded up/down)*

Age	Actual Jan 15	Projected Sept 15	Projected Sept 16	Projected Sept 17	Projected Sept 18	Projected Sept 19
Reception	9	4	8	7	6	7
Year 1	11	9	4	8	7	6
Year 2	11	11	9	4	8	7
Year 3	9	11	11	9	4	8
Year 4	10	9	11	11	9	4
Year 5	9	10	9	11	11	9
Year 6	7	9	10	9	11	11
Total NOR	66	63	62	59	56	52

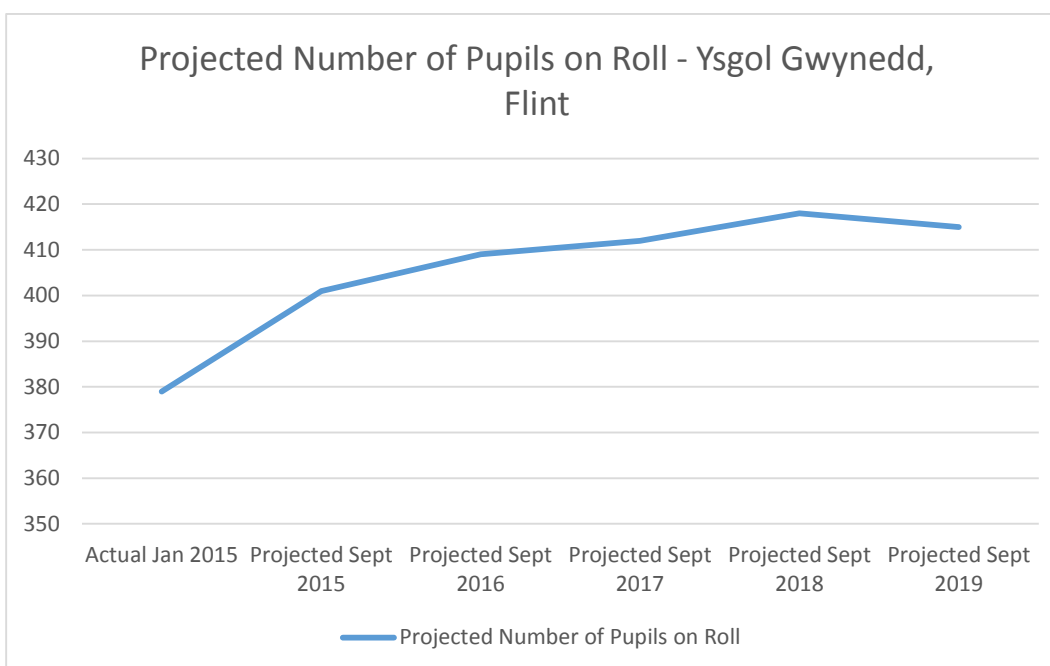


*Projected figures from September 2015 are not illustrated above as official school returns are not yet due. However, based on the number of pupils on the Council's ONE system, projections for Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain will reduce, this is a net result in the loss of a large year 6 group moving to secondary school and low number intake into the school, with a small number of parents choosing another school. The Council acknowledges that Statutory Consultation around school organisational change will cause a level of uncertainty within the Local School community which can be a contributory factor in pupil number reduction.

Numbers of full time Pupils on Roll and Projected Number of Pupils – Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint

Source: Actual figures Jan PLASC (2015) Projections (produced May 2015 using PLASC data Jan 2015) (Projection figures are rounded up/down)

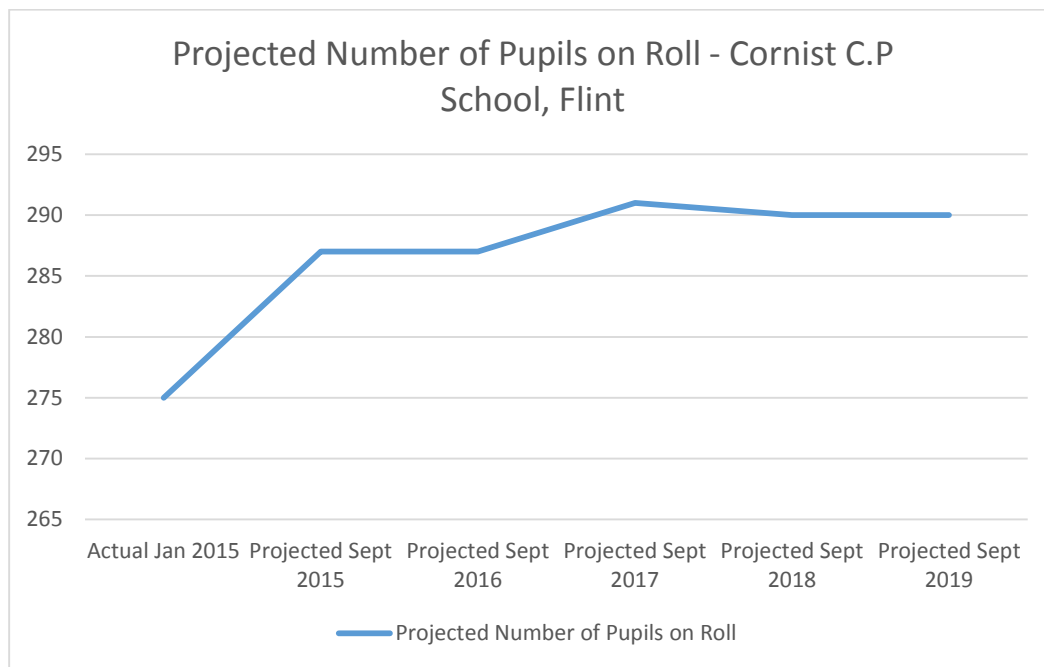
Age	Actual Jan 15	Projected Sept 15	Projected Sept 16	Projected Sept 17	Projected Sept 18	Projected Sept 19
Reception	59	64	58	60	61	60
Year 1	52	59	64	58	60	61
Year 2	63	52	59	64	58	60
Year 3	55	63	52	59	64	58
Year 4	57	55	63	52	59	64
Year 5	50	57	55	63	52	59
Year 6	43	50	57	55	63	52
Transfers from Other Schools		1	1	1	1	1
Total NOR	379	401	409	412	418	415



Numbers of full time Pupils on Roll and Projected Number of Pupils – Cornist C.P. School, Flint

Source: Actual figures Jan PLASC (2015) Projections (produced May 2015 using PLASC data Jan 2015) (Projection figures are rounded up/down)

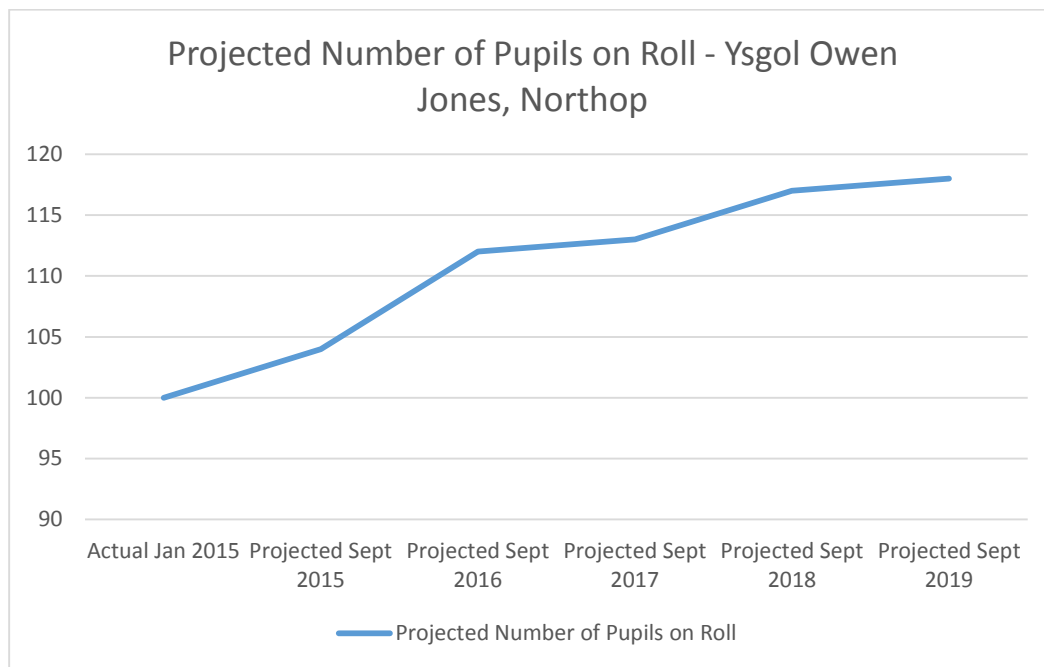
Age	Actual Jan 15	Projected Sept 15	Projected Sept 16	Projected Sept 17	Projected Sept 18	Projected Sept 19
Reception	44	41	41	41	41	41
Year 1	41	44	41	41	41	41
Year 2	41	41	44	41	41	41
Year 3	42	41	41	44	41	41
Year 4	37	42	41	41	44	41
Year 5	41	37	42	41	41	44
Year 6	29	41	37	42	41	41
Total NOR	275	287	287	291	290	290



Numbers of full time Pupils on Roll and Projected Number of Pupils – Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop

Source: Actual figures Jan PLASC (2015) Projections (produced May 2015 using PLASC data Jan 2015) (Projection figures are rounded up/down)

Age	Actual Jan 15	Projected Sept 15	Projected Sept 16	Projected Sept 17	Projected Sept 18	Projected Sept 19
Reception	13	19	17	16	17	17
Year 1	19	13	19	17	16	17
Year 2	16	19	13	19	17	16
Year 3	13	16	19	13	19	17
Year 4	15	13	16	19	13	19
Year 5	9	15	13	16	19	13
Year 6	15	9	15	13	16	19
Total NOR	100	104	112	113	117	118



- 6.9 The Additional Learning Needs averages for Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain and the nearest appropriate schools for the past 5 year period are provided in the table below alongside local and national averages. In some instances the data set is incomplete as this may lead to the identification of individual pupils due to low numbers (*fewer than 10 pupils) within the related cohort, therefore have been omitted.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain School Action	*	*	*	*	14.3%
Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint School Action	18.6%	18.9%	18.3%	18.3%	21.0%
Cornist C.P. School, Flint School Action	15.8%	13.6%	13.4%	15.8%	14.2%
Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop School Action	10.3%	8.0%	9.1%	*	*
Local Authority School Action Average	13.4%	13.0%	13.6%	12.6%	12.1%
Wales School Action Average	15.5%	15.2%	15.6%	15.2%	15.1%
Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain School Action Plus	*	*	*	*	*
Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint School Action Plus	12.3%	12.5%	14.8%	20.0%	17.7%
Cornist C.P. School, Flint School Action Plus	2.7%	5.1%	5.6%	4.1%	3.9%
Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop School Action Plus	*	*	*	*	*
Local Authority School Action Average Plus	7.2%	7.1%	6.7%	7.1%	7.0%
Wales School Action Average Plus	8.5%	8.7%	8.9%	9.2%	8.8%
Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain Statemented	*	*	*	*	*
Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint Statemented	*	*	*	*	*
Cornist C.P. School, Flint Statemented	*	*	*	*	*
Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop Statemented	*	*	*	*	*
Local Authority Statemented Average	1.9%	1.6%	1.4%	1.2%	1.3%
Wales Statemented Average	2.0%	1.9%	1.8%	1.7%	1.7%

Source: *mylocalschool wales gov* – July 2015

- 6.10 There are currently no pupils with English as an Additional Language (EAL) at Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain. The table below displays the percentages of EAL pupils over the past 5 year period. In some instances the data set is

incomplete as this may lead to the identification of individual pupils due to low numbers (*fewer than 10 pupils) within the related cohort therefore have been omitted.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain	*	*	*	*	*
Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint	*	1.5%	2.9%	5.0%	6.3%
Cornist C.P. School, Flint	*	*	*	*	*
Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop	*	*	*	*	*

Source: January PLASC

- 6.11 The table below displays the pupil teacher ratios for the last academic year (2014).

School	Ratio
Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain	23.9
Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint	23.3
Cornist C.P. School, Flint	21.4
Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop	19.5

Source: mylocalschool wales gov – July 2015

- 6.12 Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain was last inspected by Estyn in January 2014.

The Estyn report summarised as follows:

The school's current performance	Good
The school's prospects for improvement	Good

Judgement	Meaning
Excellent	Many strengths, including significant examples of sector-leading practice
Good	Many strengths and no important areas requiring significant improvement
Adequate	Strengths outweigh areas for improvement
Unsatisfactory	Important areas for improvement outweigh strengths

Key Question	School's Performance
KS1 - How good are outcomes?	Good
Standards	Good
Wellbeing	Adequate
KS2- How good is provision?	Good
Learning experiences	Good

Teaching	Good
Care, support and guidance	Good
Learning environment	Good
KS3 - How good are leadership and management?	Good
Leadership	Good
Improving quality	Good
Partnership working	Good
Resource management	Good

Current Performance
<p>The school's current performance is good because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nearly all pupils make good progress in many aspects of their work; • pupils are well behaved and have positive attitudes to learning; • pupils respond well to an interesting and varied curriculum that supports their learning effectively; • the quality of teaching is good and teachers use assessment appropriately to ensure pupils build well on their skills and learning; and • the school provides very effective support for pupils' individual needs.

Prospects for improvement
<p>The school's prospects for improvement are good because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the headteacher and deputy headteacher provide strong leadership and a clear direction for the school; • they have the support of a committed staff and an effective governing body; • there are strong partnerships with a range of other providers and staff use these links well to raise standards; • the self-evaluation processes provide a clear and accurate appraisal of the school's strengths and areas for improvement; and • senior managers ensure that the school's planning for improvement has a positive impact on improving the quality of teaching and learning.

Recommendations	
R1	Improve pupils' Welsh language skills in key stage 2
R2	Ensure that pupils in key stage 2 achieve good standards in information and communication technology
R3	Develop the independent learning skills of key stage 2 pupils
R4	Provide more opportunities for pupils in key stage 2 to use their numeracy skills to support their work across the curriculum
R5	Improve attendance

Full Estyn Report is available at the following link:

<http://www.estyn.gov.uk/english/provider/6642017>

6.13 Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint was last inspected by Estyn in September 2014.

The Estyn report summarised as follows:

The school's current performance	Good
The school's prospects for improvement	Good

Judgement	Meaning
Excellent	Many strengths, including significant examples of sector-leading practice
Good	Many strengths and no important areas requiring significant improvement
Adequate	Strengths outweigh areas for improvement
Unsatisfactory	Important areas for improvement outweigh strengths

Key Question	School's Performance
KS1 - How good are outcomes?	Good
Standards	Good
Wellbeing	Good
KS2 - How good is provision?	Good
Learning experiences	Good
Teaching	Adequate
Care, support and guidance	Good
Learning environment	Good
KS3 - How good are leadership and management?	Good
Leadership	Good
Improving quality	Adequate
Partnership working	Good
Resource management	Good

Current Performance
<p>The school's current performance is good because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • most pupils make good progress as they move through the school; • most pupils' speaking and listening and reading skills are strong;

- behaviour is good and nearly all pupils have a very positive attitude to their work;
- the school is a very inclusive community, where all pupils are treated equally and with respect;
- teachers are good role models and have good working relationships with their pupils'
- teaching assistants contribute effectively to pupils learning and wellbeing;
- progress of pupils with additional needs is good; and
- a recent initiative, introducing a structured phonics programme, has helped raise pupils' performance in reading and spelling

Prospects for improvement

The school's prospects for improvement are good because:

- the headteacher provides strong leadership and direction for the school;
- there are effective systems to gather first-hand evidence about its performance;
- staff feel valued and work well together;
- the governing body supports the school well; and
- the school has a wide range of worthwhile partnerships that support the school effectively.

Recommendations

R1	Improve the standard of pupils' literacy, numeracy and information and communication technology (ICT) skills in work across the curriculum.
R2	Improve the consistency and quality of feedback to pupils
R3	Ensure that teachers use pupil assessment more effectively, to plan learning opportunities that provide effective challenge to all pupils
R4	Improve the quality of school development planning
R5	Use the findings from self-evaluation processes more effectively to identify trends in pupil outcomes and assess the impact of initiatives on teaching and learning

Full Estyn Report is available at the following link:

<http://www.estyn.gov.wales/provider/6642015>

6.14 Cornist C.P. School, Flint was last inspected by Estyn in February 2015.

The Estyn report summarised as follows:

The school's current performance	Good
The school's prospects for improvement	Good

Judgement	Meaning
Excellent	Many strengths, including significant examples of sector-leading practice
Good	Many strengths and no important areas requiring significant improvement
Adequate	Strengths outweigh areas for improvement
Unsatisfactory	Important areas for improvement outweigh strengths

Key Question	School's Performance
KS1 - How good are outcomes?	Good
Standards	Good
Wellbeing	Good
KS2 - How good is provision?	Good
Learning experiences	Good
Teaching	Good
Care, support and guidance	Good
Learning environment	Good
KS3 - How good are leadership and management?	Good
Leadership	Good
Improving quality	Good
Partnership working	Good
Resource management	Good

Current Performance
<p>The school's current performance is good because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most pupils make strong progress and a few achieve very well • Most pupils have high standards of literacy and numeracy and use these skills well in other subjects • Standards in information and communication technology (ICT) are outstanding • Almost all pupils have good levels of wellbeing • Teachers plan a wide range of effective learning experiences • Most teaching contributes successfully to pupil outcomes • Staff provide a beneficial level of care and support for pupils

Prospects for improvement
<p>The school's prospects for improvement are good because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership is effective and makes effective use of staff skills and expertise

- Staff work well together to bring about the school's vision, 'Living and learning'
- There are well-established and suitable process for self-evaluation
- Governors fulfil their roles effectively
- Training supports the development of all staff well and helps to raise standards
- The school has a proven track record of making improvements

Recommendations	
R1	Provide support programmes of high quality for pupils who have extra help with their literacy skills so that they make rapid progress
R2	Improve the effectiveness of marking so that pupils' targets for improvement have more impact on raising standards
R3	Set school improvement targets in terms of pupil outcomes so that leaders can measure effectively the impact of all initiatives on standards

Full Estyn Report is available at the following link:

<http://www.estyn.gov.wales/provider/6642091>

- 6.15 Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop was last inspected by Estyn in May 2010. This inspection took place under the previous Estyn framework which has since been revised. It is anticipated that an inspection of the school will take place during the academic year 2015/16, based on a 6 year cycle of inspections. The Council acknowledges that the findings of the Estyn report may not reflect the current situation at the school, however the School Organisation Code requires us to refer to the most recent inspection report.

The Estyn report summarised as follows:

'Ysgol Owen Jones Community Primary School is a good school. This is a happy school where all learners benefit from the dedication and commitment of teachers and support staff. There are outstanding features in the way in which learners are cared for, guided and supported. Good working relationships exist throughout the school. This creates a positive and encouraging approach to learning that has a positive effect on learners' achievement. They make good progress and achieve well. Good progress has been made since the previous inspection. '

Key Question	Inspection grade
1 How well do learners achieve?	Grade 2
2 How effective are teaching, training and assessment?	Grade 2

3 How well do the learning experiences meet the needs and interests of learners and the wider community?	Grade 2
4 How well are learners cared for, guided and supported?	Grade 1
5 How effective are leadership and strategic management?	Grade 2
6 How well do leaders and managers evaluate and improve quality and standards?	Grade 2
7 How efficient are leaders and managers in using resources?	Grade 2

Judgement	Meaning
Grade 1	Good with outstanding features
Grade 2	Good features and no important shortcomings
Grade 3	Good features outweigh shortcomings
Grade 4	Some good features, but shortcomings in important areas
Grade 5	Many important shortcomings

Recommendations	
R1	Improve learners' capacity to work independently so that they become increasingly responsible for their own learning.
R2	Further develop assessment for learning so that learners clearly understand what they need to do to improve; and
R3	Create more structured opportunities for staff to make judgements about how well learners achieve in order to inform school improvement

Full Estyn Report is available at the following link:

<http://www.estyn.gov.wales/provider/6642094>

- 6.16 The data included within the tables below provides the outcomes at the end of the Foundation Phase (7 year olds) and Key Stage 2 (11 year olds) for Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain; Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint, Cornist C.P. School, Flint and

Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop against local, national and their respective family averages for the last three years of verified data (2012-2014).

The Foundation Phase Outcome Indicator is achieved when the national benchmark for 7 year olds (Outcome 5 or above) is reached by a pupil in the three core areas of learning of Language, Literacy & Communication; Mathematical Development and Personal & Social Development, Well-Being & Cultural Diversity.

The Core Subject Indicator is achieved when the national benchmark for 11 year olds (National Curriculum Level 4 or above) is reached by a pupil in the three core subjects of English, Maths and Science.

As a small school, Flint Mountain size of pupil cohorts in the statutory assessment year at Ysgol Maes Edwin have regularly been below the number where they are required to share data in the public domain and would account for it being absent from websites such as My Local School. This is a Welsh Government agreed procedure to protect individual pupils who may be easily identified. However, for the purposes of this consultation document it is included below.

As a small school with very small pupil cohorts, where one pupil can represent a large percentage or even all of the cohort, it needs to be acknowledged that comparisons of performance year on year are statistically unreliable and need to be treated with caution.

7 year olds	Foundation Phase Outcome Indicator		
	2012	2013	2014
Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain	100.0%	77.8%	75.0%
Family Average	81.1%	82.6%	83.0%
Local Average	79.7%	84.4%	84.5%
National Average	80.5%	83.0%	85.2%

7 year olds	Foundation Phase Outcome Indicator		
	2012	2013	2014
Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint	88.9%	96.2%	88.9%
Family Average	77.8%	79.1%	83.3%
Local Average	79.7%	84.4%	84.5%
National Average	80.5%	83.0%	85.2%

7 year olds	Foundation Phase Outcome Indicator		
	2012	2013	2014
Cornist C.P., Flint	86.4%	91.2%	97.6%
Family Average	89.4%	86.3%	88.3%
Local Average	79.7%	84.4%	84.5%
National Average	80.5%	83.0%	85.2%

7 year olds	Foundation Phase Outcome Indicator		
	2012	2013	2014
Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop	90.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Family Average	79.4%	87.4%	89.7%
Local Average	79.7%	84.4%	84.5%
National Average	80.5%	83.0%	85.2%

11 year olds	Core Subject Indicator		
	2012	2013	2014
Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain	66.7%	66.7%	100%
Family Average	87.5%	86.5%	91.1%
Local Average	81.3%	85.0%	86.1%
National Average	82.6%	84.3%	86.1%

11 year olds	Core Subject Indicator		
	2012	2013	2014
Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint	82.1%	81.0%	83.3%
Family Average	78.3%	78.9%	82.4%
Local Average	81.3%	85.0%	86.1%
National Average	82.6%	84.3%	86.1%

11 year olds	Core Subject Indicator		
	2012	2013	2014
Cornist C.P., Flint	93.0%	92.9%	87.0%
Family Average	88.9%	89.9%	92.0%
Local Average	81.3%	85.0%	86.1%
National Average	82.6%	84.3%	86.1%

11 year olds	Core Subject Indicator		
	2012	2013	2014
Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop	92.3%	92.3%	100.0%

Family Average	90.2%	87.1%	92.6%
Local Average	81.3%	85.0%	86.1%
National Average	82.6%	84.3%	86.1%

Source : My Local School

- 6.17 The National School Categorisation System has now been introduced in Wales. The National School Categorisation System provides a clear and simple way of understanding how well a school is performing for all its pupils, how effectively it is led and managed, the quality of teaching and learning and the level of support and challenge it needs to do even better.

Further information regarding the National School Categorisation System for schools can be found in the guidance document published by the Welsh Government which provides definitions for each of the outcomes.

The categorisation of each school will be published annually; the most recent categorisation information from January 2014 for Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain, Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint, Cornist C.P. School, Flint and Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop is displayed below:

Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain	
Standards Group	4
Improvement Capacity	B
Support Category	Amber

Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint	
Standards Group	2
Improvement Capacity	B
Support Category	Yellow

Cornist C.P. School, Flint	
Standards Group	1
Improvement Capacity	B
Support Category	Green

Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop	
Standards Group	1
Improvement Capacity	B
Support Category	Yellow

Summary of Data: Local Primary schools (Jan 2014) Source: My local school:-

	Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain	Ysgol Gwynedd CP, Flint	Cornist CP, Flint	Ysgol Owen Jones CP, Northop
Number of pupils on roll (Year: 2014) Includes Nursery Pupils	61	406	315	105
Free school meals (FSM) - 3 year average (Year: 2014)	15.2%	26.7%	16.8%	9%
Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR) (Year: 2014)	23.9	23.3	21.4	19.5
% Attendance during the year (Year: 2014)	93.5	93.5	95	97.6
School budget per pupil (Year: 2015)	3,690	3,100	3,016	3,381
Support category (Year: 2014)	Amber	Yellow	Green	Yellow
% Pupils achieving the expected level in the Foundation Phase Areas of learning (Year: 2014)	75%	88.9%	97.6%	100%
% Pupils achieving the expected level in the core subjects in core subjects at Key Stage 2 (Year: 2014)	-	83.3%	87%	100%

6.18 Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain; Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint, Cornist C.P. School, Flint and Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop currently have permanent Headteachers.

6.19 Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain does not offer wrap-around care³.

Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint does not offer wrap-around care directly but there is an independent playgroup called 'Busy Bees' for children aged 2 and half and over co-located on the school site. The school also has good links with local independent provision.

Cornist C.P. School, Flint does not offer wrap-around care but has good links with independent playgroups in the local area.

³ Wrap-around care is defined as Childcare which is provided at the school outside of core early years hours offered as pre nursery sessions

Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop does not offer wrap-around care but have good relationships with local providers.

7. Evaluation of the Impact of the Proposal on the Quality and Standards of Education

7.1 It is the view of the council that should the current proposal be implemented it would improve the current standard and quality of education within the area and more specifically for the pupils of Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain. The review has set out to address challenges within the area that have the potential to impact upon the sustainability of high quality provision in the future. This proposal and related proposals seek to maintain the current standard with a view to strengthening and improving educational provision within the area for the following reasons:

- Outcomes (standards and wellbeing)
- Provision (learning experiences, teaching, care, support and guidance, and learning environment)
- Leadership and Management (Leadership, improving quality, partnership working and resource management)

Impact on Outcomes – Standards and Wellbeing and Curriculum Delivery

7.2 It is the view of the Council that the proposal would at least maintain the current standard of outcomes and attainment should the proposal be implemented. Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint, Cornist C.P. School, Flint and Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop would continue to provide all pupils with a broad and balanced curriculum at both Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2.

7.3 The outcomes of pupils at Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint, Cornist C.P. School, Flint and Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop are set out in section 6 of this document against family, local and national averages. The outcomes for the Flint/Northop area as a whole are above the local and national average and indicate that there is high quality educational provision within the area as a whole. Should the proposal be implemented the current pupils at Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain would have access to alternative provision that has higher standards to that the pupils currently receive.

7.4 Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint, Cornist C.P. School, Flint and Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop offer a full, broad and balanced curriculum. Should the current proposal be implemented Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint, Cornist C.P. School, Flint and Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop would be able to continue delivering the curriculum at both foundation phase and key stage should they receive pupils as a result of this

proposal being implemented. Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint, Cornist C.P. School, Flint and Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop would not be adversely impacted in terms of curriculum delivery should they receive pupils as a result of this proposal being implemented.

- 7.5 Should pupil numbers rise in any of the alternative identified schools as a result of the proposal this would not negatively impact on the capability of any school to deliver the curriculum.
- 7.6 Pupils in Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain are taught in mixed age year groups and taught within their appropriate key stage.

At Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint Nursery and Reception are single age classes. Year 1 and 2, 3 and 4 and 5 and 6 are all mixed age classes for team planning etc. with setting for some subjects.

Pupils in Cornist C.P. School, Flint are taught in mixed age year groups and taught within their appropriate key stage.

Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop are mostly taught in mixed age classes but in the current academic year due to variances in pupil numbers have a stand-alone Year 4.

In December 2013 Estyn published a report 'School size and educational effectiveness'. The study found that small schools faced greater challenges in terms of curriculum delivery. This is linked to the financial constraints faced by small schools as school funding is linked to pupil numbers. Where pupil numbers are small, schools are restricted by these funding issues when establishing a staffing body.

- 7.7 Schools with higher pupil numbers, such as Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint and Cornist C.P. School, Flint are able to recruit a broader range of teaching staff and middle management teams to establish subject and curriculum leads. Staff have more opportunity to specialise in different knowledge and subject areas which helps drive standards and outcomes. In small schools staff must adequately plan for a wide range of pupils of differing ages and abilities; staff development opportunities are reduced where staff are fewer within a school.

8.0 Alternative provision

- 8.1 The Council acknowledges that parents/carers/pupils may wish to choose a school other than their nearest appropriate school should the current proposal be implemented. This section contains information relating to the identified

alternative schools within the area that may be impacted should this proposal progress. Relevant information relating to these schools including the most recent Estyn reports, outcomes at the end of the Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2, numbers of pupils on roll, pupil forecasts can be found in section 4 and 6 of this document.

8.2 The Council has identified the following schools which may be affected by this proposal for Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain as follows:-

- Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint, Cornist C.P. School, and
- Cornist CP School, Flint
- Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop

These schools are included for comparative purposes.

Schools	Location	Approximate Distance from Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain	Type	Language Category
Ysgol Gwynedd, Prince of Wales Avenue, Flint, Flintshire, CH6 5NF	Flint	2.24 Miles	Community	English Medium
Cornist C.P. School, Ffordd yr Ysgol, Flint, Flintshire, CH6 5ET	Flint	2.73 Miles	Community	English Medium
Ysgol Owen Jones, Ffordd Owen, Northop, Flintshire, CH7 6AU	Northop	1.43 Miles	Community	English Medium

Distance Source: Route Finder 3.41 Flintshire County Council Mapping System

9.0 Adequacy of School Accommodation and Impact of the Proposal on the Quality of Accommodation

Asset Management

- 9.1 It is a Welsh Government requirement that Local Authorities keep asset management data for their school's portfolio. Asset Management data is an essential tool to inform strategic decision making (along with other criteria) with regard to school building management for issues such as prioritisation of maintenance programme, capital projects and School Organisational Change.
- 9.2 Asset Management guidance from CLAW (Consortium of Local Authorities in Wales) makes the following Statement:

The main practical ways in which the operational estate can adversely affect service delivery are as follows:

- a) Operating from too many buildings
- b) Under-spending on planned maintenance
- c) Operating from inefficient property
- d) Under-investment in appropriate buildings/facilities

When reviewing school buildings and premises, the Council will take into account Statutory requirements and relevant building bulletin guidance.

Condition Information

- 9.3 Flintshire's school Condition surveys are carried out by external consultants using Asset Management DfEE guidelines and include for work required within the next 5 years to bring the property/building up to a good standard. However, minor day-to-day maintenance (e.g. replacement of locks, broken glass, tap washers, etc.) and minor routine works (e.g. inspection, testing, cleaning, servicing, adjusting, overhauling etc.) are generally excluded unless they present a danger to life and limb or would involve a significant risk to health and safety if not carried out. Surveys are graded as follows:

- A - **Good**. Performing as intended and operating efficiently
- B - **Satisfactory**. Performing as intended but exhibiting minor deterioration
- C - **Poor**. Exhibiting major defects and/ or not operating as intended
- D - **Bad**. Life expired and/or serious risk of imminent failure.

Suitability Information

- 9.4 Flintshire's school suitability surveys are carried out by Council Officers following DfEE national asset management guidance and are graded as follows:

- A - **Good**. Facilities suitable for teaching, learning and well-being in schools.
- B - **Satisfactory**. Performing as intended but does not support the curriculum in some areas.
- C - **Poor**. Teaching methods inhibited/adverse impact on school organisation.
- D - **Bad**. Buildings seriously inhibit the staff's ability to deliver the curriculum

Measuring the Capacity of Schools

- 9.5 All Local Authorities are required to use the mandatory Welsh Government method of measuring school capacity using the Measuring Capacity of schools in Wales Assessment form.
- 9.6 Unfilled places are derived from comparing the full time capacity of the school against full time pupil number returns (actual pupil numbers) and are categorised as follows on the Council's Asset Management System:

A - less than 10% unfilled places or 3% over capacity

B -10-25% unfilled places or 4 -10% over capacity

C - more than 10% over capacity

D - more than 25% unfilled places or

D - small schools with fewer than 90 places and more than 25% and 30 unfilled places

Condition and Suitability scores

School	Overall Condition	Overall Suitability
Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain	B	B
Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint	C	B
Cornist C.P. School, Flint	B	B
Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop	B	C

- 9.7 Compared to the Department for Education and Skills - Building Bulletin 99, Briefing Framework for Primary School Projects the following suitability issues were identified:-

The Building Bulletin 99 document is available at the following link:-

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/288108/building_bulletin_99_-_briefing_framework_for_primary_school_projects.pdf

Suitability Summary

- 9.8 Ysgol Maes Edwin, Suitability Issues

- Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain was surveyed on 7th March 2008 by Flintshire County Council, and reviewed on 14th December 2009 by EC Harris, Built Asset Consultancy. Roof of the library is Perspex and requires blinds to prevent sun-damage to the books, it also leaks, necessitating shelves to be moved
- Lack of medical room
- Lack of Planning Preparation and Assessment room
- Hall is a unsuitable size and shape

Since the last Suitability Survey, the following suitability issues have been addressed/identified:-

- Roof of the library is Perspex and requires blinds to prevent sun-damage to the books, it also leaks, necessitating shelves to be moved
- Due to the relocation of the Headteachers room to a Planning, Preparation and Assessment room. The Headteacher now shares an office with the Secretary. Due to the working hours of the Headteacher/Secretary this is not deemed an issue with the school.
- Lack of Planning, Preparation and Assessment Room

9.9 Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint

Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint was surveyed on 29th February 2008 by Flintshire County Council, and reviewed on 14th December 2009 by EC Harris, Built Asset Consultancy.

- Assembly Hall lacks suitable storage
- A number of classrooms are slightly below the minimum size but have large sized storerooms
- Work surfaces in 2 practical areas need lowering
- Staffroom is below the minimum standard for size
- There are no staff changing facilities
- No specialist practical areas in junior department
- Infant library is below the minimum standard

9.10 Cornist C.P. School, Flint

Cornist CP School, Flint was surveyed on 6th March 2008 by Flintshire County Council, and reviewed on 14th December 2009 by EC Harris, Built Asset Consultancy.

- Some classrooms have ventilation issues
- Pupils do not have changing rooms
- Headteacher and admin offices below minimum standard
- Access to the hall– narrow circulation

- Playgrounds are below building bulletin guidelines– playtimes are staggered
- Staffroom is below building bulletin guidelines
- No Planning, Preparation and Assessment room
- No dedicated medical room
- No cooks office
- Narrow access from outside to the kitchen

9.11 Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop

Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop was surveyed on 25th January 2008 by Flintshire County Council, and reviewed on 18th December 2009 by EC Harris, Built Asset Consultancy.

- Headteacher and secretary share office space
- No meeting/Planning, Preparation and Assessment/Special Educational Needs room
- Staffroom is below building bulletin guidelines
- There is no pupil changing rooms
- Classrooms are below the minimum standards, but not felt to be a problem
- One practical area is a corridor and does not meet minimum standard
- The library does not meet minimum standard
- Pupil playgrounds are not separated from vehicular access for service vehicles – school management in place
- DDA deficiencies in the building

Backlog Maintenance Information

9.12 Priority Codes for backlog maintenance [definition] are as follows:-

Priority 1: Urgent work required to be undertaken within 1 year

Priority 2: Essential work required to be undertaken within 2 years

Priority 3: Desirable work [deemed as] required to be undertaken within 3 to 5 years

Priority 4: Long term work [deemed as] required to be undertaken outside the 5 year [cycle] period

9.13 The element Total 1 - 3 defines a five year financial investment and element 4 defines a six - ten year financial investment.

Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain (survey date 30th June 2014)

Element	Priority 1 cost estimates (£)	Priority 2 cost estimates (£)	Priority 3 cost estimates (£)	Priority 4 (£)	TOTAL
01 Roofs	0	2,577	0	0	2,577
02 Floors and stairs	0	6,123	10,036	0	16,159
03 Ceilings	0	1,846	1,975	0	3,821
04 External Walls, windows and Doors	0	0	98	0	98
05 Internal Walls and Doors	0	635	1,266	0	1,901
06 Sanitary Services	0	9,400	0	0	9,400
07 Mechanical Services	0	0	990	63,800	64,790
08 Electrical services	0	10,659	0	0	10,659
09 Redecorations	0	870	19,419	0	20,289
11 External Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	32,110	33,784	63,800	129,694

9.14 Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint (survey date 23rd April 2013)

Element	Priority 1 cost estimates (£)	Priority 2 cost estimates (£)	Priority 3 cost estimates (£)	Priority 4 (£)	TOTAL
01 Roofs	0	8,555	201,350	0	209,904
02 Floors and stairs	0	18,875	0	0	18,875
03 Ceilings	0	9,246	0	0	9,246
04 External Walls, windows and Doors	0	116,311	0	0	116,311
05 Internal Walls and Doors	0	22,988	0	0	22,988
06 Sanitary Services	0	640	11,000	0	11,640
07 Mechanical Services	0	5,371	0	0	5,371
08 Electrical Services	0	58,866	0	0	58,886
09 Redecorations	0	38,312	88,247	0	126,559
10 Fixed Furniture & Equipment	0	2,640	0	0	2,640
11 External Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	281,803	300,597	0	582,400

9.15 Cornist CP School, Flint (Survey date 18th September 2013)

Element	Priority 1 cost estimates (£)	Priority 2 cost estimates (£)	Priority 3 cost estimates (£)	Priority 4 (£)	TOTAL
01 Roofs	0	352	1,527	0	1,879
02 Floors and stairs	0	0	814	0	814
03 Ceilings	0	305	3,710	0	4,015
04 External Walls, windows and Doors	0	248	0	0	248
05 Internal Walls and Doors	0	391	0	0	391
06 Sanitary Services	0	220	0	0	220
09 Redecorations	0	464	45,886	0	46,350
10 Fixed Furniture & Equipment	0	264	385	0	649
11 External Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	2,244	52,322	0	54,566

9.16 Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop (Survey date 4th July 2013)

Element	Priority 1 cost estimates (£)	Priority 2 cost estimates (£)	Priority 3 cost estimates (£)	Priority 4 (£)	TOTAL
01 Roofs	0	2,530	0	0	2,530
03 Ceilings	0	660	0	0	660
04 External Walls,	0	809	0	0	809

windows and Doors					
05 Internal Walls and Doors	0	250	0	0	250
07 Mechanical Services	0	484	0	0	484
08 Electricals	0	2,200	0	0	2,200
09 Redecorations	0	2,687	19,045	0	21,733
10 Fixed Furniture & Equipment	0	550	0	0	550
11 External Areas	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	10,171	19,045	0	29,216

Diminishing Resources

- 9.17 The percentage of unfilled places in Flintshire schools is 17% which remains above the Welsh Government target of 10%.
- 9.18 An excessive number of unfilled places unproductively ties up resources. As school funding and provision are largely driven by pupil numbers, surplus capacity means a disproportionate amount of funding is spent on infrastructure (such as buildings) and the “fixed costs” of running a school (such as leadership and administration).
- 9.19 This funding could be better used to ensure that pupil teacher ratios are maximised to make a direct difference to learners. As public service funding reduces over forthcoming years the case for reprioritisation and change becomes even more compelling.
- 9.20 All alternative schools in the local area provide appropriate building environments to support learning. Therefore, it is the view of the Council that if the proposal is implemented there would be no adverse impact on any of the alternative provision in terms of building adequacy. There is sufficient capacity within the local school network to accommodate pupils displaced from Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain.

10. What will be the impact of the proposal on financing of Schools?

- 10.1 Inefficient school organisation can result in uneven and unfair funding patterns where some schools receive a disproportionate share of funding at the expense of pupils attending other schools in the area, this is mostly the case of schools that are classified as small schools. Any school proposals should contribute towards establishing a more equitable pattern of school funding.
- 10.2 In line with regulatory requirements Flintshire County Council has a schools' funding formula which is the methodology by which the budget share for each school in the County is determined. Each year the formula is reviewed and in consultation with relevant stakeholders amendments are made to reflect changes in funding and policy. (The detailed methodology and the budget shares are sent to all schools and a summary is published in what is referred to as the section 52 budget statement).
- 10.3 Schools receive a budget for a financial year from April to March and this is based on the pupils in each school in the September preceding the financial year. The 2015/16 section 52 budget statement has been used as the basis of analysis.
- 10.4 In 2015/16 Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain received a formula funding allocation of £272,819 which represents £3,954 per pupil, ranking the school as 13th highest funded per pupil in Flintshire, and £685 higher than the average funding per pupil in Flintshire.
- 10.5 The table below contains the per pupil funding for each of the schools affected by the proposal.

School	Per Pupil Funding 2015/16	Budget Allocation 15/16 (£)
Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain	£3,954	£272,819
Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint	£3,081	£1,260,194
Cornist C.P. School, Flint	£3,087	£908,986
Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop	£3,294	£360,700

- 10.6 There are significant cost pressures facing schools such as an increase in the employers pension contribution, the introduction of the Single Tier Pension resulting in higher employer NI contributions, pay awards and general inflation. Due to austerity measures school budgets are under increasing pressure, the Schools' Budget will be uplifted by 1% in 2016/17 which in real terms means that schools will have to make efficiencies of around 2% to absorb costs pressures.

- 10.7 Using the 2015/16 funding model and based on pupil numbers as at September 2015 and estimated pupil numbers for September 2016 Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain would receive the following formula allocation:

Financial Year	Pupil Numbers	Estimated Formula Allocation*	Per Pupil Funding	Reduction in Budget compared with 2015/16	2% Inflationary pressure	Real Terms Reduction in budget
2016/17	56	£238,304	£4,255	£34,515	£4,766	£39,281
2017/18	51.5	£234,304	£4,558	£38,088	£4,695	£42,783

*Based on 2015/16 Funding Model – Includes Part Time Nursery pupils

- 10.8 With reduced funding due to falling pupil numbers and a reduction in real term budgets due to inflationary pressures, the financial resilience of the school is a significant concern.
- 10.9 The table below shows the estimated impact on funding for each of the identified schools should the proposal be implemented. Should Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain close, pupil-led funding would follow pupils to the school of their choice. As parental preference cannot be predicted at this stage, the following table has been generated for modeling purposes. The model assumes simply that 30% of the pupils would transfer to Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop, 6 % to Cornist CP School, Flint, and 64% to Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint. The impact on the formula allocations on those schools is shown in the table below.

School	Per Pupil Funding 2015/16	Budget Allocation (£)	Increase in Funding
Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint	£3,037	£1,375,548	£115,355
Cornist C.P. School, Flint	£3,078	£918,788	£9,803
Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop	£3,154	£411,559	£50,858

- 10.10 Due to the availability of alternative school places in the area there would be no requirement for capital investment in other schools as a consequence of the proposal.

- 10.11 Other savings which can also be achieved are reduction in the Council's backlog maintenance of £129,694 and reduction in cyclic maintenance servicing costs for legionella, gas and electric testing.
- 10.12 Current transport cost to Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain are £5,510 per annum which is based on shared transport provision with another primary school. Should the proposal be implemented fewer than 10 pupils would be entitled to free home to school transport to their nearest school Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop on the grounds that the route is deemed to be hazardous. The estimated annual cost of home to transport provision would increase in the region of £9,120.
- 10.13 School meals to Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain are provided on a transported basis from Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop. This means that the food is prepared by Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop and then transported over to the school ready for service at lunch times. The estimated annual catering savings should the school close would be approximately £5,000.
- 10.14 The net saving that could be achieved if the proposal to close the Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain goes ahead is as follows:-

Saving/Costs	Amount
Formula Funding Saving	£106,606
Backlog Maintenance Saving	£129,694
Transport Costs	-£9,120
Catering Saving	£5,000
Total Net Saving	£232,180

- 10.15 Flintshire County Council has a Carbon Reduction Strategy that seeks to reduce the County's Carbon emissions by 60% from 2007/08 levels by 2021. Within this strategy are four defined areas of action,

- Good housekeeping, i.e. minimise wasteful/inappropriate use of energy
- Technical upgrades - install new and more energy efficient equipment and controls
- Asset rationalisation - the closure/mothballing of unsuitable or excess buildings
- Renewable Energy generation - invest in low carbon generation technologies.

All the above elements contribute to the important goal of reduced emissions, leading to a better environment and lower costs to the Council, particularly in relation to energy costs and various carbon taxes.

11. What will be the impact of the proposal on the land and buildings of the School?

- 11.1 The Council have no plans for the site, and will not consider the future of the site until such time as the school's future is determined.
- 11.2 Should the proposal be implemented Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain (building and site) would be declared surplus to Education and transferred to the Property Asset Team at Flintshire County Council.
- 11.3 Legal Land ownership issues are still being investigated, it has been noted that some of the site at Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain is part of the Bryn Edwin Trust. Dependant on the formalisation of such matters, the Council could consider transferring the asset or part of the asset to a constituted community group where it can demonstrate a need and ability to take over the running of the site.

12. What issues have been considered in developing the proposal?

Alternative Options

- 12.1 The Council has given careful consideration to a range of alternative options as part of the development of the current proposal. In considering these options reference has been made to the main investment objectives of the school modernisation strategy which are as follows:
- continuing to raise educational standards;
 - creating the conditions for school leaders to succeed;
 - ensuring that school buildings are attractive learning and working environments;
 - reducing the number of unfilled places and the inequity of variation in cost per pupil; and
 - providing resilience against falling revenue funding.
- 12.2 Additionally, all options have been analysed against the key drivers for the review, these are:
- Educational improvement
 - Resilient School Leadership

- Suitable Buildings
- Unfilled places
- Diminishing Resources

12.3 The alternatives considered by the council with regard to Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain are outlined below alongside associated advantages and disadvantages for each option.

Option 1 : Retain the Status Quo	
Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain would remain open. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council would be unable to make progress towards the national 10% target for unfilled places across all school sectors. • It would not reduce the cost per pupil for the school, with this smaller school receiving subsidy from the Council in order to maintain it. • This option would not lead to a more balanced distribution of pupil-led funding. • This option would not lead to greater efficiency and effectiveness of the school estate. • The Council would still have to support building maintenance and capital improvement costs.

Option 2 : Federation	
Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain would remain open. • One headteacher across two sites, would provide an opportunity to strengthen leadership and management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unfilled places would remain an issue – pupil forecasts suggest unfilled places above the national target of 10% across English medium provision in the Flint

<p>and a result in a Headteacher salary saving.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There would be greater opportunity to share resources than the status quo and share best practice and staff expertise would be broader. 	<p>Mountain/Flint/Northop area in 2017.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There would still be a requirement to finance and maintain two school buildings and staffing bodies (excluding Headteacher). • There may be increased staffing costs due to additional staff requirements as a consequence of revised leadership and management structures. • Pupils would remain in mixed age cohorts in Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain – although some opportunities would be presented to undertake activities with pupils of a federated partner. • Would not result in any significant revenue efficiency • This option would not lead to a more balanced distribution of pupil led funding. • This option would not lead to greater efficiency and effectiveness of the school estate. • The Council would still have to support building maintenance and capital improvement costs.
---	--

Option 3 : Closure	
Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuity would be provided for pupils in alternative school. Pupils would be able to access at least an equivalent standard of education in a number of schools within the area. • Unfilled places would be reduced in line with National and Local guidance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary educational provision within the village of Flint Mountain would cease. • Staff may be redeployed or made redundant. • Under 10 pupils would see a marginal increase in travel time..

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cost per pupil range will be reduced in the primary sector • Reactive, cyclical and planned Building maintenance activities and costs will be reduced. • A revenue saving would be realised on staffing and leadership. • Per pupil funding would become more evenly distributed across the area and would impact more widely across the school estate. • Resources could be implemented more efficiently and effectively to maintain and strengthen educational improvement in remaining schools. • The Council would not have to expend capital resources to address suitability and sufficiency issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential Impacts on friendship groups. • Impact on the community of Flint Mountain..
---	--

Following assessment of the benefits and disadvantages to the available options, the Council is proposing to close Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain (English Medium, community school) as of 31st August 2016 with the pupils transferring to the local network of schools based on parental preference.

13. Community, Equality and Welsh Language Impacts

- 13.1 The Council acknowledges that where a school closure is proposed it will have some impact on the local community. The community impact assessment can be found via the following link:

www.flintshire.gov.uk/schoolmodernisation

- 13.2 The impact assessment has identified a number of possible areas where the proposal could have some negative impact on a small number of local families and on the local community.

- 13.3 The loss of the school would impact on the small number of community activities taking place and the community facilities within Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain such as:

- Women's Institute
- Polling Station
- Children's birthday parties
- Little Dragons toddler and parent group

- 13.4 As stated earlier in the document, the Council has no plans for the school site should the school close. Planning for the school will only take place once the future of the school has been determined.

- 13.5 Legal Land ownership issues are still being investigated. Dependant on the formalisation of such matters, the Council could consider transferring the asset or part of the asset to a constituted community group where they can demonstrate a need and ability to take over the running of the site.

- 13.6 The equality and Welsh language impact assessment has also been completed for this proposal. The impact assessment has been completed to consider the potential impact of policy in respect of all areas of equality and Welsh language and the potential ways in which the impact can be limited and a positive impact can be promoted.

- 13.7 The impact assessment has identified a number of possible areas where the proposal could have some negative impact on some protected characteristic groups, and has identified ways to promote a positive impact. The equality and Welsh language impact assessment can be found at the following link:-

www.flintshire.gov.uk/schoolmodernisation

14. Impact of the Proposal on Teachers, Support Staff and Governing Body

- 14.1 Should the proposal be implemented this will result in change for the staffing body. Should the proposal be implemented the Council's Human Resources Business Partner team would provide advice and guidance to governing body and members of teaching and support staff with respect to the redundancy process and associated activities.
- 14.2 As part of the formal consultation process the appropriate teaching and support staff trade unions will be consulted. Named representative from Flintshire County Council's Human Resources team will be allocated to undertake consultation meetings.
- 14.3 Should the proposal be implemented, the Council will work with the current members of staff at Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain, including teaching and support staff, should they wish to seek redeployment or retirement opportunities.
- 14.4 The governing body of the school will apply its own organisational change and redundancy policy when it is required and appropriate support to teaching and support staff will be provided during this time through the Schools Leadership Team and the Council.
- 14.5 Staff displaced by the proposal may have the opportunity to be employed in the Council's schools network
- 14.6 It is not expected that there will be any significant staffing changes in the alternative schools named within this document as a result of the proposal.
- 14.7 Should this proposal be implemented the Governing body of Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain would cease on the proposed date of closure.

15. Impact of the Proposal on Pupils

- 15.1 When proposing changes to school organisation it is acknowledged that there will be some changes for pupils. Should the proposal be implemented and Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain be closed it would result in changes for the existing pupils such as:
- Shorter journey time to school for pupils who reside in the Flint area
 - A marginally longer route to school for fewer than 10 pupils who live in the Flint Mountain area
 - A new school uniform
 - New teachers and support staff
 - New learning environment
 - Friendship groups may be affected

- 15.2 The Council would take all practicable steps to ease the transition for all pupils, most especially for vulnerable groups of learners such as Additional Learning Needs (ALN). Should the proposal be implemented the Council would work alongside pupils, their parents, and the relevant schools to make appropriate transition arrangements for pupils to familiarise themselves with their new environments (subject to parental preference).
- 15.3 Where pupils have specific ALN needs the resource and support they require would be replicated in their new learning environments.

16. Additional Learning Needs (ALN) and Groups of Vulnerable Learners

- 16.1 If the current proposal is implemented, it would result in a change in the learning environment for all pupils. It is acknowledged by the Council that although the change will be experienced by all pupils, it may prove more challenging for pupils with additional learning needs. The Council will take all practicable steps to minimise disruption to all pupils with specific consideration given to pupils with additional learning needs.
- 16.2 All schools in Wales are required to pay due regard to the Welsh Government documents 'The Special Educational Needs Code of Practice for Wales (2002) and the Inclusion and Pupil Support, Circular No.: 47/2006'. These documents categorise groups of pupils who may be deemed to have additional learning needs. They specify the need for schools to have processes in place to support identification and place a requirement on schools to make appropriate provision in response to this. Any alternative school identified for pupils with additional learning needs as a result of this proposal would need to take into account the pupils' needs and offer appropriate support in response to these.
- 16.3 Where a pupil has significant additional learning needs and has been issued with a Statement of Special Educational Need, they will continue to have access to the additional resources identified within the Statement in the new school. For some pupils a Service Level Agreement (SLA) may be in place providing individual intervention from central services, or financial resources for the school to provide fulltime support. Where this is the case, the resources/provision will also transfer to the new school. For pupils with an SLA or Statement, the named officer would offer support to parents/carers and pupils during the period of transition.
- 16.4 Careful planning will take place where pupils have needs that require adaptations to the new physical environment to make it accessible. Flintshire County Council is aware of the duties placed on it by the Equality Act 2010 and works within the confines of the Act to secure accessible school buildings for its pupils. Officers will therefore work closely with parents/carers and other relevant professionals to secure a smooth transition into the new environment where adaptations are required. For some pupils, suitable facilities may already exist and each pupil will be considered on an individual basis, taking into consideration parental preference.

- 16.5 Schools have reported the categories of educational needs for their full time pupils in the January 2015 PLASC. The educational needs categories for Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain and the alternative schools, are displayed below.

In some instances the data set is incomplete and shown as (*) as this may lead to identification of individual pupils due to low numbers within the related cohort.

School Name	School Action	School Action Plus	Statemented
Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain	11	*	0
Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint	69	55	*
Cornist CP School, Flint	32	*	*
Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop	*	*	*

- 16.6 Provision for ALN is subject to external verification by the Estyn Inspection process. The following comments have been made in relation to Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain and also each of the relevant schools:

Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain (Estyn Inspection Date: January 2014)

‘Good arrangements exist to meet the needs of pupils with additional learning needs and more able pupils in classes and withdrawal groups.

Staff have a detailed understanding of pupils’ additional learning needs. They identify these needs at an early stage and provide pupils with appropriate intervention programmes that enable them to make good progress.’

‘The school’s involvement with a range of agencies to support pupils with additional learning needs is particularly effective in securing good outcomes for these pupils in terms of their learning and wellbeing.’

Ysgol Gwynedd, Flint (Estyn Inspection Date: September 2014)

‘The school is a very inclusive community, where all pupils are treated equally and with respect. Progress of pupils with additional needs is good.’

‘The school provide a good range of intervention programmes to support the needs of pupils with additional learning needs. The additional needs co-ordinator support staff well to set specific targets for pupils’ learning needs. Staff monitor and review

these regularly. The school makes suitable arrangements for parents to contribute to reviews of their child's progress. There are good relationships with external agencies and other professionals to provide effective support to pupils and their pupils'.

Cornist C.P. School, Flint (Estyn Inspection Date: February 2015)

'The school provides a safe, caring and orderly environment for pupils. Staff provide a beneficial level of care and support for pupils'.

'Teachers identify pupils in need of additional support as a result of careful tracking of pupil's progress. Pupils' individual education plans usually contain appropriate targets. These are reviewed by parents and meet requirements. The school works with specialist support agencies successfully, such as the speech and language team and occupational health, to improve pupil outcomes appropriately'.

Ysgol Owen Jones, Northop (Estyn Inspection Date: May 2010)

'The quality of care, guidance and support provided for the wellbeing of learners is an outstanding feature of the school. The school is an exceptionally inclusive community'.

'The school has established appropriate arrangements that contribute to the healthy development, safety and wellbeing of all learners. The quality of provision for additional learning needs (ALN) is good. Special needs are identified at an early stage and support is well matched to individual needs. The way the school embraces diversity is an outstanding feature of school life'.

- 16.7 As at January 2015 PLASC the Free School Meal percentage for Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain was 19.69%, this is slightly above the national average of 17.1%. It is the Councils view that the proposal will not have a disproportionate impact on pupils from an economically deprived background.

17. Transport Arrangements

- 17.1 The current transport cost to Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain are £5,510 per annum which is based on shared transport provision with another primary school.
- 17.2 The Council will provide transport in accordance with its Transport Policy.

<http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/PDFFiles/Lifelong-Learning/Schools/School-Transport/Transport-Eligibility-Criteria-.pdf>

In summary, the Council provides free transport for children of compulsory school age, where a child receiving primary education lives over two miles from the nearest appropriate school.

The Council also provides free transport for pupils of statutory school age:-

- where the route to school is considered to be hazardous by the Local Authority;
- where transport to a named school is identified in a pupil's Statement of Special Educational Needs. This would normally be on medical or educational grounds and would be deemed essential in the context of other criteria identified in this policy
- where a child requires transport on medical grounds and no suitable public transport exists;

Free transport is also provided for pupils of statutory school age:

- where a child whose parents are in receipt of Income Support or Working Tax Credit resides more than 2.5 miles from the nearest appropriate school;
- to the nearest Welsh medium school under the criteria identified above;
- to the nearest voluntary aided school where the admission to the school is on denominational grounds, subject to the distance criteria. Consultation with individual schools will take place to confirm the admission criteria under which pupils are admitted. Suitable evidence of adherence to the faith of the school such as a baptismal certificate or a letter from a priest may be requested.

- 17.3 Most pupils at Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain would have a reduced distance from their home to the alternative school and could utilise walking routes within their local communities.

Flint area

Should Ysgol Maes Edwin Close, the eligibility of pupils for free home to school transport would be as follows:

- Ysgol Gwynedd – not eligible under distance criteria < 2 miles
- Cornist C.P School – not eligible under distance criteria < 2 miles
- Ysgol Owen Jones – not eligible (not the nearest school)

- 17.4 For a small number pupils currently living in Flint Mountain the distance travelled would increase, however this would not be in excess of the learner travel guidelines. The distance from Flint Mountain village to Northop School is under 2 miles, it is likely that pupils in the Flint Mountain area would be eligible for transport under the criteria that the route to their new schools would be considered as hazardous.

Flint Mountain

- Ysgol Gwynedd – not eligible, not the nearest school

- Cornist C.P School – not eligible, not the nearest school
- Ysgol Owen Jones – not eligible, under distance criteria < 2 miles, but eligible under hazardous route to school criteria

- 17.5 Detailed mapping and transport information for Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain pupils and other alternative schools can be viewed in the Transport Impact Assessment via the following link:-

www.flintshire.gov.uk/schoolmodernisation

18. Admission Arrangements

- 18.1 Should the current proposal be implemented admission arrangements for alternative schools will be dealt with in line with Flintshire County Council's School Admissions Policy. This policy can be found on the website via the following link:

<http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions>

Flintshire County Council is the admissions authority for Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain and the other alternative nearest schools identified within this document. Should the proposal be implemented, parents/carers would be required to apply for a school place at an alternative school.

- 18.2 Flintshire County Council's admissions team will liaise with parents/carers should the proposal be implemented to ensure a stable transition for pupils who are transferring to an alternative school. The admissions service would write to individual parents to outline the options available to them and assist parents/carers to identify suitable alternative provision taking into consideration individual pupil needs.
- 18.3 Parents/carers can complete an online form or paper copy of the form for admissions to the alternative schools from the Flintshire school admissions department at the following link:-

<http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions>

19. Impact of the Proposal on Secondary Provision

- 19.1 As most of the pupils at Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain are from the Flint area, the proposal will not have a significant impact on secondary provision within the area. The pupils of Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain typically transfer to Flint High School almost without exception. If the pupils of Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain choose their next nearest Primary School this would not have a negative impact on Flint High School.

20. How will the consultation take place?

20.1 This consultation will take place between Wednesday 21st October 2015 and Wednesday 2nd December 2015. The consultation is required to take place for at least 42 days with at least 20 of these days being school days.

20.2 As part of the consultation, Flintshire County Council has produced this consultation document containing information set out in the Welsh Government Guidance. The consultation document follows that guidance and sets out the information people will need to fully participate in the consultation process. Hard copies are available on request by contacting the School Modernisation Team, 01352 704134 or 01352 704015 or email 21stcenturyschools@flintshire.gov.uk.

20.3 This formal consultation document has been sent to a wide range of stakeholders, including:

- The Governing Body of Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain
- Pupils, School Council, Parents, Carers, Guardians, Support Staff and Teachers of Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain
- Other Governing Bodies, Headteachers and School Councils of neighbouring primary schools
- Little Dragons Toddler and Parent Group (prospective parents)
- Members of Parliament
- Assembly Members
- Estyn
- Teaching and staff trade unions
- Gwasanaeth Effeithiolrwydd Ysgolion (GwE)
- Denbighshire County Council
- Conwy County Borough Council
- Wrexham County Borough Council
- Flint Mountain Community Association,
- Northop Community Council
- Flint Town Council
- Flint High School
- Assembly Members for Flintshire County Council and regional Assembly Members for the area
- Flintshire Transportation Officer and neighbouring Local Authority Transport Officers
- Police and Crime Commissioner
- The local Communities First Partnership
- Betsi Cadwaladr Health Board
- Urdd
- Church in Wales and Roman Catholic Diocesan Authorities
- Welsh Minister for Education and Skills
- Flintshire Children and Young People's Partnership and the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnerships
- Flintshire County Councillors who represent Flint Mountain, Flint and Northop.

20.4 This document has been published on the Flintshire County Council website and can be found by following this link:-

www.flintshire.gov.uk/schoolmodernisation

20.5 A supplementary version of this consultation document has been produced for children and young people who are likely to be affected by the proposal. This document will be made available at the schools named within this proposal. The document is also available on Flintshire County Council's website using the link provided above. The children and young people's document has been specifically written and presented to enable children and young people to understand and engage with the consultation process. Hard copies are available on request by contacting the School Modernisation Team, 01352 704134 or 01352 704015 or email 21stcenturyschools@flintshire.gov.uk.

20.6 Other relevant supporting documentation, such as the Community, Transport, Equality and Welsh Impact Assessments can also be found on the Flintshire County Council website using the link provided above.

20.7 Within 13 weeks of the end of the period of consultation a formal consultation report must be published. The formal consultation report must contain the following:

- A summary of each of the issues raised by consultees;
- A response to each of the issues raised by consultees by means of clarification together with supporting reasons;
- Estyn's view in full (as it is provided in its consultation response) of the overall merits of the proposal; and
- Any proposer must ensure that any views expressed by children and young people affected by the proposals are highlighted within the consultation report and that it is accessible to them.

20.8 Responses to the consultation stage are not counted as formal objections.

20.9 The formal consultation report will be considered by Cabinet, who will decide whether to proceed with the proposal. Should Cabinet decide to proceed the proposal must then be published by way of a Statutory Notice.

20.10 The statutory objection period lasts for 28 days (of which 15 days must be school days). To be considered as a statutory objection, objections must be made in writing or by email and sent to the proposer (Flintshire County Council).

20.11 Following the statutory objection period a summary of the statutory objections and the proposer's response to the objections must be published. The Objection Report must be published before the end of 7 days beginning with the day of the proposal's determination.

- 21.12 Please note that responses submitted as part of the formal consultation period will not be counted as objections to the proposal. Statutory objections can only be made if a Statutory Notice is published. If a Statutory Notice is published objections can then be registered. Consultees may submit a request during the statutory objection period that their response submitted at the consultation stage should be treated as an objection.
- 20.13 Flintshire County Council has 16 weeks from the end of the objection period to decide whether or not to implement the proposal. This is known as ‘determining the proposal’.
- 20.14 Flintshire County Council will make and issue its decision in relation to the proposal in writing, setting out the reasons for the decision. The decision will be published on Flintshire County Council’s website.
- 20.15 Under section 54 of the 2013 Act the following bodies may within 28 days refer the proposal to the Welsh Ministers for consideration;
- Another local authority affected by the proposal;
 - The appropriate religious body for any school affected;
 - The governing body of a voluntary or foundation school subject to the proposals;
 - A trust holding property on behalf of voluntary or foundation school subject to the proposals; and
 - A further education institution affected by the proposals
- 20.16 The bodies making the referral will need to set out why they believe that the decision reached by the local authority is wrong.
- 20.17 There are a number of ways in which you can make your views known to us or ask any questions that you have regarding the proposal. Details are included below on how you can submit responses in a number of ways:

By Post

School Modernisation Team, Flintshire County Council, County Hall, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 6ND

By email

21stcenturyschools@flintshire.gov.uk
Online

www.surveymonkey.com/r/53G2H6J

20.18 A response form is also attached in hardcopy at the end of this document. This can be returned either by post or email to the above addresses. Additionally the form can be completed electronically using the following link:

www.surveymonkey.com/r/53G2H6J

20.19 A consultation event will be offered for children and young people with members of the Ysgol Maes Edwin's School Council. This will be facilitated by an officer from Flintshire County Council whose roles includes engagement and consultation specifically tailored for children and young people. Children and young people also have the opportunity to respond to the consultation using the children and young people's version of the consultation document. Those schools likely to be affected by the proposal will also be provided with the consultation information through their School Council.

20.20 A consultation event will be offered for parents/carers of Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain. This will be facilitated by Officers from Flintshire County Council. Parents/Carers will have the opportunity to discuss the proposal with Officers.

20.21 A consultation event will be offered for Teachers/Support Staff and the Governing Body of Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain. This will be facilitated by Officers from Flintshire County Council. Teachers/Support Staff and the Governing Body of Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain will have the opportunity to discuss the proposal with Officers.

20.22 At the close of the formal consultation process all views received will be collated and summarised within a formal consultation report alongside responses and clarification of issues by the local authority. This report will be presented to Cabinet for consideration.

20.23 All views are submitted to the above addresses by Wednesday 2nd December 2015. Responses/views/comments on the proposal sent to third parties may not be included within the analysis although every effort will be made to capture these views. Any late submissions may not be included within analysis that will be presented as part of the formal consultation report.

Consultation Response Form

(Please note that a consultation response will not be counted as a formal objection)

The consultation for Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain per the Welsh Government's School Organisation Code (July 2013) will commence Wednesday 21st October 2015 and close on Wednesday 2nd December 2015.

Proposal to close Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain (English Medium, Community School) as of 31st of August 2016 with pupils transferring to other schools in the local area subject to parental preference

Before you begin – if you would like to fill this form in on-line please go to:

www.surveymonkey.com/r/53G2H6J

Based on the information you have been given in this booklet, at the consultation event and from other documents available on Flintshire County Council's website, please tell us your views on the Council's preferred option in the Flint Mountain area.

1. Do you agree with the proposal to close Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain (by 31 August 2016)?

☐ Yes ☐ No

2. Please tell us if you are responding as:

- ☐ A pupil of Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain
☐ A parent/carer of a pupil at Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain
☐ A Governor of Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain
☐ A Teacher of Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain
☐ A member of Support Staff of Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain
☐ Local Resident
☐ Other (Please specify)

3. Please tell us do you have any alternative suggestions for sustainable education provision in Flint Mountain?

4. Please let us have your additional comments or views regarding the proposal. Please tell us why you feel this way.

5. Would you like us to acknowledge receipt of your response?

☐ Yes ☐ No

6. Would you like to receive an email link to the formal consultation report when it is published on the Flintshire County Council website?

☐ Yes ☐ No

7. If you have answered yes to either of the above questions please provide an email address. If you do not provide an email address we cannot keep you up to date

8. How we use your personal information

Under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1988 we must inform you of the following:

Flintshire County Council is seeking your views to help inform the decision on the current proposal. The information you have provided will be used only for this purpose, and may be shared with other internal agencies who are involved in the Consultation, however only to inform decision makers of your views and to address any issues you raise. If you do not wish to provide personal details your view will still be considered, but we will not be able to acknowledge receipt of your response personally.

Flintshire County Council is the data controller for the purpose of the Data Protection Act 1998. Your personal information will be processed in accordance with that Act and is being collected for the purpose stated above only, and will not be shared with any other party. In order to monitor the inclusiveness of our engagement, we would appreciate your co-operation in providing, on an entirely voluntary basis, the information as requested below. The information is confidential and anonymous, and will be used solely for statistical monitoring purposes. It will be securely destroyed after we have captured the information.

Age: Please provide your date of birth (DD/MM/YYYY):	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/>						

Sex:	Male	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Female	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer Not To Say	<input type="checkbox"/>

National identity:	How would you describe your national identity?		
	Welsh	<input type="checkbox"/>	British <input type="checkbox"/>
	English	<input type="checkbox"/>	Irish <input type="checkbox"/>
	Scottish	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please describe) <input type="checkbox"/>
	Northern Irish	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer Not To Say <input type="checkbox"/>

Ethnic Group:	What is your ethnic group? Choose one option that best describes your ethnic group or background.					
	White		Black/Black British		Asian/Asian British	
	British	<input type="checkbox"/>	Caribbean	<input type="checkbox"/>	Indian	<input type="checkbox"/>
	English	<input type="checkbox"/>	African	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bangladeshi	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Northern Irish	<input type="checkbox"/>	Any other Black	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pakistani	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Scottish	<input type="checkbox"/>	Background		Chinese	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Welsh	<input type="checkbox"/>			Asian other	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Irish	<input type="checkbox"/>				
	Gypsy or Irish Traveller	<input type="checkbox"/>				
	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>				
	Mixed/Mixed British				Other / Other British	
	White / Black Caribbean	<input type="checkbox"/>			Arab	<input type="checkbox"/>
	White / Black African	<input type="checkbox"/>			Other (state if required)	<input type="checkbox"/>

White / Asian	<input type="checkbox"/>	Any other Mixed background	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/>
---------------	--------------------------	----------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------	--------------------------

Sexual Orientation:	Which of the following options best describes how you think of yourself?			
	Heterosexual/Straight	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bisexual	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gay Man	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (state if desired)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gay Woman/Lesbian	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/>
Note: This question should only be asked of people age over 16.				

Religion or Belief:	What is your religion?			
	Christian (all denominations)	<input type="checkbox"/>	No religion	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Buddhist	<input type="checkbox"/>	Muslim	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Jewish	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (State)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Hindu	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sikh	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Atheist	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/>

Marital Status:	
Are you married or in a same-sex civil partnership?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say <input type="checkbox"/>

Disability:	Section 6(1) of the Equality Act 2010 states that a person has a disability if:	
	(a) That person has a physical or mental impairment, and	
	(b) The impairment has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on that person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.	
Using this definition do you consider yourself to be disabled?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/>

Language:	What is your preferred language?
	English <input type="checkbox"/>
	Welsh <input type="checkbox"/>
	Other (including British Sign Language) <input type="checkbox"/>
	Prefer not to say <input type="checkbox"/>

Caring Responsibilities:	Do you look after or give help or support to family members, friends, neighbours or others because of either:
---------------------------------	---

• Long term physical or mental ill-health/disability; or	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Problems related to old age	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/>