

Modernising Education Programme Newsletter – March 2011

Consultation on ‘The Federation of Ysgol Bryn Clwyd and Ysgol Gellifor’

Since September 2010, Ysgol Bryn Clwyd, Llandyrnog and Ysgol Gellifor have been part of a shared headship pilot with Mrs Sue Roberts acting as headteacher for both schools.

A number of meetings have been held with parents at both schools to discuss how the pilot was progressing. The feedback received from parents at these meetings has been very positive.

The governors at both schools have been considering the way forward given that the current arrangements are temporary until the end of the school year. On Wednesday 9th March both Governing Bodies agreed to publish a proposal to federate.

The proposal would see the current arrangements formalised with Mrs Sue Roberts becoming the headteacher of the federation. The only major change will be that instead of two Governing Bodies a new joint Governing Body will be in place as of September 2011.

The governors of both schools believe this is a fantastic opportunity to formalise the collaborative arrangements between both schools and become the first federation in Denbighshire under the new regulations. This consultation period starts on Wednesday 16th March and will end on Friday 6th May. At the end of this period the governors of both schools will meet to consider the responses and make a final decision.

Edeyrnion Area Review

The Initial Consultation on the ‘Review of primary school provision in the Edeyrnion Area’ finished on the 10th March 2011. The Council would like to thank the headteachers, governors and local communities for working with us and contributing positively during this initial consultation.

Officers from Denbighshire County Council are now considering all the consultation responses and all available data in order to develop specific recommendations to be presented to Denbighshire’s Cabinet on the 24th May 2011.

At the Cabinet meeting on the 24th May, Members will consider the recommendations and decide whether to:-

- Approve commencement of formal consultation based on the recommendations
- Approve commencement of formal consultation based on alternative proposals
- Reject the recommendations

Should Cabinet approve the commencement of formal consultation this would take place during the Summer Term 2011.



Ysgol Bryn Collen / Gwernant Project

Work has been underway since late November 2010 at the shared site of Ysgol Bryn Collen / Ysgol Y Gwernant in Llangollen that will see Denbighshire County Council investing £700,000 to extend & refurbish areas of the existing site.

To date work has progressed well on Phase 1 – Ysgol Y Gwernant New Build and Phase 2 – New Extension to Ysgol Bryn Collen. These phases should be completed by early June 2011 before commencement of the final Phase 3 – Ysgol Y Gwernant Refurbishment which is due to complete late August 2011.



Ysgol Dyffryn Ial Update

A feasibility study has been completed and a design team has started to work up some possible options around an extension to the back of the Llandegla Memorial Hall. A stakeholder consultation group meets every month to keep track of developments and progress. It is expected that a preferred design option will emerge in the very near future.

Bodnant Amalgamation Update

The amalgamation of Bodnant Infants and Bodnant Juniors is progressing and as of 1st January 2012 will exist as a single primary school on two sites. A Temporary Governing Body to oversee this process has been established and they have commenced the process of recruiting a new Headteacher and considering the range of issues to be addressed before the end of the year.

An application for capital funding to move the school to a single site was included in Denbighshire's Band A proposals for the 21st Century Schools Programme.

Tranche 3 Funding Update

The Council were notified in July 2010 about the award of capital funding to the value of £3m from the Welsh Assembly Government (to be matched by £1.3m of the Council's resources) to assist in the expansion of Welsh Medium provision in the North of Denbighshire. However in March 2011 it was announced that the funding from the Assembly had been deferred from 2011-12 to 2012-13 as a result of the UK Government's Spending Review. The Council are seeking urgent discussions with the Assembly regarding the implications of this decision.

21st Century Schools Programme Update

The Council submitted its Strategic Outline Programme for the 21st Century Schools Programme to the Assembly on the 10th December 2010. The programmes for all 22 local authorities are presently being evaluated by officials from the Welsh Assembly Government. A ministerial statement is expected in June / July.

For more information please visit:

www.denbighshire.gov.uk/modernisingeducation

