

Pennaeth Addysg Head of Education

Dewi R. Jones

Gofynnwch am/Ask for: **Dewi R Jones**

☎ (01286) 679467 Ein Cyf / Our Ref: **DRJ/AAS**

📄 (01286) 677347 Eich Cyf / Your Ref:

✉ dewirjones@gwynedd.gov.uk

14 January 2013

To Gwynedd primary school headteachers and chairs of governors

Dear Headteacher/Chair of Governors

Re: Consultation on the basis of distributing school organization savings

The contents of this letter are based on Gwynedd Council's decisions with regard to schools re-organization in the Tywyn and Berwyn catchment-areas.

Some of the plans decided upon will be implemented during the financial year 2013/14, namely:

1. Ysgol Craig y Deryn to open on 1 September 2013: closure of Abergynolwyn (already closed 1 April 2011), Brynchrug, Llanegryn and Llwyngwrl Schools on 31 August 2013.
2. Ysgol Aberdyfi : closure 31 August 2013
3. Ysgol Y Parc : closure 31 August 2013

Appendix 1 is enclosed that contains details of the original financial savings and the most recent that are a consequence of the plans.

During the financial year 2013/14, it appears that it will be possible to release £200,000 of the savings that are implemented from 1 September 2013 to the 98 Primary Schools that will exist in Gwynedd at that time.

Following deliberation over officers' comments, some Primary Headteachers and the Cabinet Member, consultation will now commence on the two distribution options below and **Appendix 2** is enclosed that draws attention to the financial impact on individual schools.

Option 1

- A. Distribute £98,000 by deleting the line "KS2 Large Classes Support Scheme" that will disseminate £1,000 to every school in order to delete the contribution. (This will not reduce the large classes support budget)
- B. Distribute £102,000 on the basis of pupil numbers (via the services and supplies heading)

Option 2

- A. Distribute £98,000 by deleting the line "KS2 Large Classes Support Scheme" that will disseminate £1,000 to every school in order to delete the contribution. (This will not reduce large classes support budget)
- C. Distribute £102,000 based on pupil numbers who are eligible for free meals (via the Additional Learning Needs and Deprivation heading).

By using statistics on free meals, the second option contains an element that seeks to target pupils from more deprived backgrounds, with the aim that this budget be added to the budget already received by the schools so that these pupils can be targeted in a positive manner that will impact their educational achievement.

In addition, the Cabinet Member for Education has requested that the following message be included:-

"As available evidence indicates an under-achievement in the performance of an increasing number of pupils who are eligible for free school meals, my wish is that this money be used to provide these children with further support. Effective targeting can make a difference."

Siân Gwenllian – Cabinet Member for Education

I will report to the Schools Finance Forum at their next meeting to be held on 4 February 2013. Due to the tight time-table, the report to the Forum will contain a summary of responses received **before Friday afternoon, 1 February 2013.**

May I kindly request that you respond by using the enclosed **Appendix 3.**

Yours sincerely

Dewi R Jones

**Dewi R Jones
Head of Education**

Copy: Education Department Management Team

Swyddfa'r Cyngor
Caernarfon
Gwynedd LL55 1SH
01766 771000
www.gwynedd.gov.uk

Parch • Gwasanaethu • Positif • Gweithio fel tîm • Gwerth am arian
Respect • Serving • Positive • Working as a team • Value for money