

Appendix 3

Impact Assessment Ysgol Nebo

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ASSESSMENT OF THE LIKELY IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY –

YSGOL NEBO

September 2026

1. INTRODUCTION

When developing proposals for the organisation of schools, the Authority is required to assess the likely impact on the community, in accordance with the School Organisation Code (011/2018).

Background

Ysgol Nebo is a community school located in the village of Nebo, which is about three miles from Penygroes, and which provides education for learners between the ages of 3-11. There has been a reduction in the numbers of learners at Ysgol Nebo over the past few years. By now, January 2026, only 11 Reception to Year 6 learners and 1 Nursery learner attend the school.

At their meeting on 11 February 2025, the Cabinet supported a recommendation to begin formal discussions with Ysgol Nebo stakeholders to consider options for the future. Between March and July 2025, 3 local meetings were held with Ysgol Nebo's stakeholders where several options were proposed and discussed.

On 14 October 2025, the Cyngor Gwynedd Cabinet decided to undertake a statutory consultation process on a proposal to close Ysgol Nebo on 31 December 2026, and to provide a place for learners at Ysgol Llanllyfni from 1 January 2027 onwards, in accordance with the requirements of Section 48 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013.

The consultation was held between 5 December 2025 and 23 January 2026, and 70 responses were received during the consultation period.

Cyngor Gwynedd's Cabinet considered the consultation report at its meeting on 19 May 2026 and resolved to publish a Statutory Notice on the proposal to close Ysgol Nebo on 31 December 2026 and offer places for learners at Ysgol Llanllyfni from 1 January 2027 onwards. The Statutory Notice was published on 3 June 2026, and a statutory objection period of 28 days was held between 3 June and 30 June 2026. The objection period came to an end on 30 June 2026, and 20 objections were received during that period. A petition was also received from the Governing Body of Ysgol Nebo objecting to the proposal, containing 358 signatures.

2. THE OPTIONS

The Authority considered and discussed several options for the future of Ysgol Nebo, including:

- *Do nothing - continue with the school's current structure*
- *Federate with a neighbouring school*

This option would ensure continuity in the school's presence in the village of Nebo through a collaborative arrangement with a nearby school or schools, led by a headteacher or headteachers and one governing body. The identity of the school in question (including name, ethos, and school uniform) would continue, and it would enable the possibility of sharing staff, resources, buildings, and expertise.

The possibility of federating with neighbouring schools was considered, specifically Ysgol Llanllyfni and Ysgol Bro Lleu.

- *Federating with another school adding a specialist unit for children with additional learning at Ysgol Nebo.*

This option would ensure continuity in the school's presence in the village of Nebo through a collaborative arrangement with a nearby school or schools, led by a headteacher or headteachers and one governing body. The identity of the school in question (including name, ethos, and school uniform) would continue, and it would enable the possibility of sharing staff, resources, buildings, and expertise.

The possibility of federating with neighbouring schools was considered, specifically Ysgol Llanllyfni and Ysgol Bro Lleu.

In addition to federating, this option would also include adding a location for a ALN unit on the school site.

- *Close Ysgol Nebo and offer the learners a place in a nearby school (Ysgol Llanllyfni)*

This option would mean that Ysgol Nebo would close, and that learners from the current catchment area of Ysgol Nebo would be offered a place at Ysgol Llanllyfni (the alternative school).

- *Ysgol Nebo to develop into a specialist location for some individual subjects (unique opportunities to carry out fieldwork)*

This option would mean that Ysgol Nebo would continue and develop into a specialist location for some individual subjects.

- *Ysgol Nebo to offer a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them.*

This option would mean adding an area for an ALN unit on the school site to offer provision for children with ALN.

- *Ysgol Nebo to offer a language unit for the Dyffryn Nantlle catchment area*

This option would mean adding a language immersion unit on the school site in order to offer an immersion service in Welsh to new speakers

- *Establishing a school on more than one site - Multi-site School*

This option would mean merging a number of local schools, by closing the schools and establishing one multi-site school which would include the Ysgol Nebo site. The option would enable the possibility of sharing resources, buildings, and expertise.

This model would ensure continuity in the presence of a school site in the village of Nebo by establishing a multi-site school, led by a headteacher and one governing body.

Reasonable alternative options considered following the statutory consultation:

- *"Ysgol Nebo to offer a site as provision to support and nurture children with social and emotional needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them, including pupils with IDP for social, emotional and behavioural needs and other young people with mental health needs including anxiety and neurodiversity."*

This option would mean retaining Ysgol Nebo and developing it as a site offering specialist provision for children and young people for whom mainstream education is challenging. The provision would support pupils with Additional Learning Needs, including social, emotional and behavioural needs, as well as young people with mental health needs such as anxiety and neurodiversity.

- *Develop Ysgol Nebo as a Transition Unit to Support the Integration of ALN Pupils into Mainstream Education*

This option would mean retaining Ysgol Nebo and developing it as a Transition Unit to provide temporary support for pupils with Additional Learning Needs before or during their integration into mainstream education. The provision would focus on structured support to facilitate an effective transition.

- *Federalisation of Ysgol Nebo and Ysgol Baladeulyn*

This option would ensure the continued presence of Ysgol Nebo through a federation arrangement with Ysgol Baladeulyn. The schools would operate under the leadership of a single headteacher or leadership team and a single federal governing body. The identity of each school—including name, ethos and uniform—would remain, with the possibility of sharing staff, resources and expertise.

- *Federal Governing Body across Catchment Area Schools*

This option would involve establishing a federal governing body across the schools in the catchment to strengthen collaboration and strategic oversight. The arrangement would enable the sharing of expertise and a common strategic direction while maintaining the presence and identity of individual schools.

3. SUMMARY OF THE CATCHMENT AREA

3.1 The Area

Ysgol Nebo is located in the rural village of Nebo, which is about three miles from Penygroes in Gwynedd within Clynnog Ward. According to the 2021 census, 1,300 people live in Clynnog ward. The catchment area of Ysgol Nebo includes part of the Clynnog ward as well as part of the Llanllyfni ward.

3.2 The Economy

According to the 2021 census, there are 55.1% of people aged between 16 and 74 within the Clynnog ward are economically active, and 1.1% of these are unemployed. There are 43.4% of people in the same age group are economically inactive with 3.4% of these ill or disabled for a long period.

According to the 2021 census, there are 52.8% of people aged between 16 and 74 within the Llanllyfni ward are economically active, and 3.8% of these are unemployed. There are 43.4% of people in the same age group are economically inactive with 3.4% of these ill or disabled for a long period.

The type of industry in which the population is active is varied in the area, with the highest rate (16.5%) working in the health and social work field. (2021 Census)

According to data from the 'Index of Multiple Deprivation Wales (2025)' the employment rate of Llanllyfni and Clynnog ward compared to other wards in Wales gives a rank of 1152 out of 1917 wards. Therefore, Llanllyfni and Clynnog ward is within the 50% least deprived in Wales.

3.3 Deprivation

Llanllyfni and Chlynnog Ward is ranked within the most deprived 20%-30% in Wales (rank 546 out of 1917 wards).

A number of areas make up this overall index, including income, employment, health, education, access to services, community safety, physical environment, and housing.

It is noted that Llanllyfni and Chlynnog ward is within the 10% most deprived areas in Wales in the 'Housing' field. The indicators in this area are the proportion of people living in overcrowded homes (use of bedrooms), and the proportion of people living in homes without central heating.

In addition, the ward of Llanllyfni and Chlynnog is within the 10% of the most deprived areas in Wales in the area of 'access to services', i.e. deprivation because people are unable to access a variety of services that are considered essential for day-to-day living. The indicators include average public and private travel times to a number of services such as food shops, doctor's surgery, primary and secondary schools, post office, public library, pharmacy, leisure centre and private travel time to a petrol station.

Below is a summary of how the Llanllyfni and Clynnog area is situated in the context of other areas in Wales according to the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (2025):

Area	Rank in Wales, out of 1909 areas. (1 = most deprived and 1909 = least deprived)	Most deprived % in Wales
Employment	1152	
Income	778	
Health	1247	
Education	835	

Housing	47	Within the most deprived 10%
Physical environment	448	
Access to services	86	Within the most deprived 10%
Community safety	767	

3.4 The Community

There is no community center in the village of Nebo. The residents of Nebo and Nasareth regularly make use of the 'community room' located at Ysgol Nebo to hold community events and occasions. Here are some of the social events and occasions held in the community room at Ysgol Nebo:

- Monthly meetings of the Nebo and Nasareth Area Committee
- Local Clubs (Monday Club, Knitting and Crochet Club, Social Evenings, Gardening Club)
- First Aid with St John Ambulance: Training on CPR and the use of defibrillators at the School and Nasareth Chapel
- Welsh lessons for learners
- Refreshments after local trips and the Craig Goch Mountain Race
- Remembrance Sunday service
- Protecting the environment: Organising litter-picking sessions and taking action to prevent dog fouling

4. YSGOL NEBO AND NEARBY SCHOOLS

4.1 The context of the schools according to the Estyn Inspection Reports

As part of Estyn's reports, the schools are placed in context, and their community relations are detailed. This is the context given to Ysgol Nebo, Ysgol Llanllyfni and Ysgol Bro Lleu by Estyn inspectors.

Ysgol Nebo

"Ysgol Nebo is about three miles from Penygroes in Gwynedd. Welsh is the main medium and life of the school."

Source: Estyn Report, November 2017

Ysgol Llanllyfni

"The school is an inclusive learning community that fosters the values of Welshness, courtesy and respect successfully, by supporting pupils to achieve well. Staff use the Welsh language purposefully which has a positive effect on the development of pupils' oral skills from an early age."

Source: Estyn Report, October 2025

Ysgol Bro Lleu

"Ysgol Bro Lleu is a happy, friendly and inclusive school that places a strong emphasis on respecting every member of the community. Its vision of giving every pupil the best opportunity permeates all the school's activities. As a result, the pupils' attitudes to their learning are firm and their behaviour is excellent."

Source: Estyn Report, April 2023

4.2 Statistical information

The table below shows the numbers of Ysgol Nebo and the other schools within the catchment area of Ysgol Dyffryn Nantlle. This table also shows the school's capacity and number on the roll in January 2026. All schools teach through the medium of Welsh.

School	Full Capacity (N – Bl6)	Number on the register January 2026 (N – Bl6)	Legal Category	Language Category
Baladeulyn	62	8	Community School	Welsh Medium, Category 3
Talysarn	104	98	Community School	Welsh Medium, Category 3
Bro Lleu	207	189	Community School	Welsh Medium, Category 3
Llanllyfni	117	71	Community School	Welsh Medium, Category 3
Nebo	58	12	Community School	Welsh Medium, Category 3
Brynaerau	81	54	Community School	Welsh Medium, Category 3
Bro Llifon	196	149	Community School	Welsh Medium, Category 3

Source: PLASC January 2026 Census

4.3 Catchment information and learners' choice of schools

Each school has a specific catchment area which it serves, and which is important in terms of the Council's access and transport policy. Learners do not have to attend their catchment area school; the choice is up to parents (in accordance with the admission policy).

The latest data (January 2026 data) shows that 78% of children who live in Ysgol Nebo's catchment area attend schools outside the catchment area. The table below indicates the proportion of learners (Nursery – Yr. 6) who live in the catchment area and attend the catchment area school, and the proportion of learners from outside the catchment area who attend the school.

School	Proportion of catchment area learners who attend the catchment area school	Proportion of the school's learners who live within the school catchment area	Proportion of learners from outside the catchment area who attend the school
Nebo	22%	17%	83%
Llanllyfni	55%	73%	27%

Source: January 2026 GIS Data

4.4 Summary of the various facilities in the community of Nebo and Llanllyfni (September 2025)

	Nebo	Llanllyfni
Village Hall / Community Centre		
Chapel/Church		✓
Public Transport	✓	✓
Shop		
Café/Pub		
Post Office		
Pharmacy		
Library		
Children's Playing Field	✓	
Bank		
Residential Home for the Elderly		

Leisure Centre		
Garage		
Tourism Attraction	✓	
Cylch Ti a Fi + Cylch Meithrin		✓

*Added as a result of the responses received to the consultation

4.5 A summary of the schools' use outside the school's core hours:

A summary of community or extra-curricular use of the local school buildings is provided below:

	Nebo	Llanllyfni	Baladeulyn	Bro Lleu	Bro Llifon	Brynaerau	Talysarn
Playgroups (School Holidays)							
Aelwyd yr Urdd		✓					
Plays							
Voluntary Groups	✓	✓					
Morning/Evening Coffee	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
Community Auction							
Choir Practice							
Welsh for Adults							
Town/Community Council Meeting							
Nursery School		✓					
Club/Sports Activity		✓			✓		
After School Club		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Local Interest Club	✓						

As there is no community center in the village of Nebo, the residents of Nebo and Nasareth make regular use of Ysgol Nebo's 'community room' for community occasions and events (as noted in 3.4 above).

A Cylch Meithrin is located on the site of Ysgol Llanllyfni, providing early years care and education through the medium of Welsh for pre-school children. The collaboration with Ysgol Llanllyfni ensures a smooth transition for children from the Cylch to the nursery class. The Cylch provides places for children aged 2 to 4, and offers 'Dechrau'n Deg' provisions, the 10-hour Early Years Education (Foundation Learning) program, along with wraparound care for nursery-aged children of Ysgol Llanllyfni and nearby schools. The Cylch Meithrin is also part of the Childcare Scheme, a program offering up to 30 hours per week of free early years childcare. Children can take advantage of the Childcare Offer from the start of the term following their third birthday until September after they turn 4.

There are no early years provisions at Ysgol Nebo, except for the school's nursery class.

4.6 Summary of activities or groups that the schools are regularly involved with:

	Nebo	Llanllyfni
Cylch Meithrin/Ti a Fi		✓
Eisteddfodau (Local/County/National)	✓	✓
Urdd	✓	

Other activities (sports/clubs)		✓
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4.7 If buildings, rooms, facilities or services are provided by a school on behalf of the community, where would they be provided if the school is closed?

School	Where will facilities be provided if it closes
Nebo	A number of community events are held in the Ysgol Nebo building. If the Cabinet decided to proceed with the proposal to close Ysgol Nebo, options for the post-use of the school building would have to be considered, taking into account the community activities that are currently being held at the school.

4.8 Information about distance and travel time to other schools in the catchment area

The table below indicates the distance and travel time between schools in the area. We see that Ysgol Llanllyfni is the closest to Ysgol Nebo. The journey times below consider the nature of the lanes and the effect this can have on journey times in a rural area.

Ysgol		Nebo
Llanllyfni	Miles	1.6
	Minutes	5
Bro Lleu	Miles	2.6
	Minutes	9
Talysarn	Miles	3.8
	Minutes	11
Baladeulyn	Miles	5.8
	Minutes	14
Brynaerau	Miles	5.3
	Minutes	14
Bro Llifon	Miles	5.5
	Minutes	11

Source: Google Maps 2025

5. ASSESSMENT OF THE LIKELY IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY

In order to assess the community impact of the possible models, it was decided to create criteria in accordance with the recommendations of the community assessment considerations of the School Organisation Code 011/2018.

OPTION 1: NO CHANGE – CONTINUE WITH THE CURRENT STRUCTURE

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and well-being	There would be no change to the current provision – as a result no impact is anticipated on health and well-being.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	As there would be no change to the current provision no impact on public transport provision is anticipated. Any transport required to Ysgol Nebo for eligible catchment area learners would continue in accordance with the County's Transport Policy.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	There would be no change to the provision, therefore no impact on the current use of the school is anticipated.	Neutral
Impact on wider community safety	There would be no change to the provision, therefore no impact is anticipated on wider community safety.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community	There would be no change to the provision. As a result, it is not expected that the option would encourage families with school-age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community.	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	There would be no change to what is currently provided, therefore no impact on other local services is anticipated.	Neutral
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	There would be no change to what is currently being provided therefore no adverse impact on the wider economy of the community is anticipated.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	There would be no change to what is currently provided therefore no impact on the local community is anticipated.	Neutral

OPTION 2: FEDERATING WITH A NEARBY SCHOOL

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and well-being	As federation would mean that Ysgol Nebo would remain open there would be no change to the current provision, as a result, no impact on health and well-being is anticipated.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	As federation would mean that Ysgol Nebo would remain open, no impact on the provision of public transport is anticipated. Any transport required to Ysgol Nebo for eligible catchment area learners would continue in accordance with the County's Transport Policy.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	As federation would mean that Ysgol Nebo would remain open, no change to the current use of the school is foreseen.	Neutral
Impact on wider community safety	As federation would mean that Ysgol Nebo would remain open no change is anticipated to impact on wider community safety.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community	As federation would mean that Ysgol Nebo would remain open, no impact is foreseen on how parents choose a school for their children or affect the choice of living in the catchment area or not. A high proportion of children in the catchment area already attend schools outside the catchment area (78%). As a result, it is not expected that the option would encourage families with school-age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community.	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	As federation would mean that Ysgol Nebo would remain open, no impact is foreseen to what is currently being provided, therefore no impact on other local services is foreseen.	Neutral
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	As federation would mean that Ysgol Nebo would remain open, no impact is foreseen on what is currently being provided, therefore no adverse effect on the wider economy of the community is anticipated.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	As federation would mean that Ysgol Nebo would remain open, no impact is foreseen to what is currently being provided, as a result no impact on the local community is anticipated. However, opportunities are identified for the community of Nebo and the communities of the schools that would be part of the federation to come together.	Neutral

OPTION 3: FEDERATING WITH A NEARBY SCHOOL ADDING A SPECIALIST UNIT FOR CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS AT YSGOL NEBO

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and well-being	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on health and well-being, as Ysgol Nebo School would continue, but as part of a federation with a neighbouring school, with an additional learning needs unit also being located on the site.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	This option is not expected to effect public transport provision as Ysgol Nebo would continue, but as part of a federation with a neighbouring school, with a unit for additional learning needs also located on the site. Any transport required to Ysgol Nebo for eligible catchment area learners will continue in accordance with the County's Transport Policy.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	As federating would mean that Ysgol Nebo would remain open, there would be no change to the current provision, therefore no impact on this criterion is anticipated.	Neutral
Impact on wider community safety	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on wider community safety as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with provision for an additional learning needs unit also being located on the site.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community	It is not anticipated that this option would encourage families and school-aged children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community, as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with an ALN unit also located on site. A high proportion of catchment area children already attend out-of-catchment schools (78%).	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on other services provided locally, as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with an additional learning needs unit also located on the site.	Neutral
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the wider community economy, as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with an additional learning needs unit also being located on the site.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	It is not expected that this option would have an impact on the community, as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with an additional learning needs unit also being located on site. However, opportunities are noted for the Nebo community and the communities of the schools that would be part of the federation to come together.	Neutral

OPTION 4: CLOSE YSGOL NEBO AND OFFER THE LEARNERS A PLACE IN A NEARBY SCHOOL (YSGOL LLANLYFNI)

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and well-being	As the alternative school is located about a mile and a half from Ysgol Nebo, and further from the homes of learners in the catchment area, we do not anticipate that Ysgol Nebo learners would be likely to walk to the alternative school. It is anticipated that being in a larger school such as Ysgol Llanllyfni would offer more opportunities to play and participate in team sports and therefore contribute positively towards the health and well-being of learners.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	It is not anticipated that there will be any impact on public transport provision as any transport to an alternative school as a result of any change will be arranged specifically for learners in the catchment area who are eligible in accordance with the County's Transport Policy.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	The community makes regular use of the Ysgol Nebo building in order to host community events. If the school were to close, these provisions would need to be considered when discussing the future use of the school building, should the proposal be implemented. <i>During the statutory consultation and the statutory objection period attention was drawn to the regular and significant use made of Ysgol Nebo's building by the local community as a venue for meetings, activities and community events. Concerns were raised that losing this use, if the proposal were implemented and the school were to close, could affect opportunities for the community to meet and hold local activities. The Council notes these concerns and acknowledges that community use would need to be considered when discussing any options for the future use of the school building, should the proposal be implemented.</i>	Negative
Impact on wider community safety	No impact is anticipated to impact on wider community safety.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community	<i>During the statutory consultation and the statutory objection period, some respondents expressed concern that closing the school, if the proposal were implemented, could influence the decisions of young families about whether to remain in the community or move into it, given the importance of the school as a local asset. The Council notes this concern; however, considering the current patterns of school choice, including the fact that a substantial proportion of children in the catchment already attend out-of-catchment schools, there is no clear evidence that the proposal, if implemented, would directly lead to families leaving or to a significant reduction in families moving into the community.</i> Based on the available evidence, the Council's view is that a high proportion of children in the catchment already attend out-of-catchment schools (78%), with 44% of primary-aged children from the Ysgol Nebo catchment already attending Ysgol Llanllyfni. As a result, the Council does not anticipate that families and young children would leave the community if the school were to close. In addition, given that the alternative school is located 1.6 miles from Ysgol Nebo, the Council does not foresee that the option would encourage school-aged children and families to leave the community, nor that it would make young families less likely to move into the area.	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	<i>During the statutory consultation and the statutory objection period, some respondents expressed concern that closing the school, given its role as a community asset and focal point, could have a wider impact on local activities and services, particularly in a rural village with very limited alternative facilities.</i>	Neutral

	Based on the available evidence, the Council's view is that a high proportion of children in the catchment already attend out-of-catchment schools. As a result, the Council cannot conclude that closing the school would have a direct impact on other services provided locally.	
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	As the majority of children in the catchment area attend schools outside the catchment area, it is not anticipated that the closure of Ysgol Nebo would have an impact on the wider economy of the community.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	During the local discussions, stakeholders highlighted the importance of the school to the community in the village of Nebo, noting the regular use made of the school building by the community. <i>During the statutory consultation, and the statutory objection period further concerns were expressed regarding the community implications should the school close, with several responses emphasising that Ysgol Nebo is currently the only place in the village where members of the community can meet and hold social activities. It was noted that losing the school as a community focal point could weaken community cohesion, reduce opportunities for social interaction, and have a negative impact on the long-term vitality and sustainability of the rural community.</i> The Council acknowledges that there would likely be some negative impact on the community if the option to close Ysgol Nebo were implemented, as this would result in the loss of a school within the Nebo community as a community hub. The concerns raised during the consultation regarding the implications for community vitality are recognised. In addition, if Ysgol Nebo were to close, it is acknowledged that the nearest local school would be further from homes within the current Ysgol Nebo catchment, and from a deprivation perspective, this would mean that one of the 'access to services' indicators would move further away from residents in the area. As a result, it is anticipated that there would be some negative impact on the local community if the school were to close. However, it should be noted that a high percentage of children from the catchment already attend out-of-catchment schools (78%). Should the Cabinet decide to proceed with the closure of Ysgol Nebo, the Council would seek to mitigate the impact on the community by encouraging and supporting continued links between the Nebo community and the alternative school, promoting community collaboration where appropriate, and ensuring that residents and families are aware of the opportunities, facilities and activities available at the alternative school. In addition, it is noted that if a decision were made to close the school, the Authority's Post-Use Policy would act as a framework for further discussions regarding appropriate options for the future use of the school building, including community use where appropriate, in order to help mitigate any negative impact on the local community.	Negative

OPTION 5: YSGOL NEBO TO DEVELOP INTO A SPECIALIST LOCATION FOR SOME INDIVIDUAL SUBJECTS (UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES TO CARRY OUT FIELD WORK)

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and well-being	As the provision on the Ysgol Nebo site would continue, it is not anticipated that this option would have a negative impact on health and well-being.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	As the provision on the Ysgol Nebo site would continue, no impact on public transport provision is anticipated if this option were to be implemented. Any transport required to Ysgol Nebo for eligible catchment area learners would continue in accordance with the County's Transport Policy.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	As the provision on the Ysgol Nebo site would continue, it is not anticipated that this option would affect this criteria.	Neutral
Impact on wider community safety	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on wider community safety as Ysgol Nebo would continue.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community	It is not anticipated that this option would encourage families and school aged children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community, as Ysgol Nebo would continue.	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on other services provided locally, as Ysgol Nebo would continue.	Neutral
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the wider economy of the community, as Ysgol Nebo would continue.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the community, as Ysgol Nebo would continue.	Neutral

OPTION 6: YSGOL NEBO TO OFFER A SPECIALIST UNIT FOR SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS, WHERE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION IS CHALLENGING

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and well-being	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on health and well-being as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs also located on the site.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on public transport provision as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs also located on site.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on this criteria as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs also located on the site.	Neutral
Impact on wider community safety	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on wider community safety as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs also located on site.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community	It is not anticipated that this option would encourage families and school aged children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community, as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs also located on the site.	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on other services provided locally, as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs also located on site.	Neutral
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the wider economy of the community, as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs also located on site.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the community, as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs also located on the site.	Neutral

OPTION 7: YSGOL NEBO TO OFFER A LANGUAGE UNIT FOR DYFFRYN NANTLLE CATCHMENT AREA

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and well-being	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on health and well-being as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with the provision of a language unit also located on the site.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the provision of public transport as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with the provision of a language unit also located on the site.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on this criterion as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with the provision of a language unit also located on the site.	Neutral
Impact on wider community safety	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on wider community safety as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with the provision of a language unit also located on the site.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community	It is not anticipated that this option would encourage families and school aged children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community, as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with the provision of a language unit also located on the site.	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on other services provided locally, as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with the provision of a language unit also located on site.	Neutral
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the wider economy of the community, as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with the provision of a language unit also located on the site.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the community, as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with the provision of a language unit also located on the site.	Neutral

OPTION 8: ESTABLISH A SCHOOL ON MORE THAN ONE SITE – A MULTI-SITE SCHOOL

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and well-being	As the provision on the Ysgol Nebo site would continue, it is not anticipated that this option would have a negative impact on health and well-being.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	As the provision on the Ysgol Nebo site would continue, no impact on public transport provision is anticipated if this option were to be implemented. Any transport required to the Ysgol Nebo school site for eligible catchment area learners would continue in accordance with the County's Transport Policy.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	As the Ysgol Nebo site would continue as part of the multi-site school, it is not anticipated that the implementation of this option would have an impact on other facilities/services provided at the school.	Neutral
Impact on wider community safety	No impact on wider community safety is anticipated, as education provision would continue on the Ysgol Nebo site.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community	No impact is foreseen on these criteria, as education provision would continue on the Ysgol Nebo site.	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	As the Ysgol Nebo site would continue as part of the multi-site school, no impact on other local services is anticipated.	Neutral
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	It is not anticipated that this option would affect what is currently provided so no adverse impact on the wider economy of the community is anticipated.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	As the Ysgol Nebo site would continue, it is anticipated that the general impact on the local community would be neutral if this option were to be implemented.	Neutral

OPTION 15.1: "Ysgol Nebo to offer a site as provision to support and nurture children with social and emotional needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them, including pupils with IDP for social, emotional and behavioural needs and other young people with mental health needs including anxiety and neurodiversity."

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and well-being	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on health and wellbeing, as Ysgol Nebo would remain open, providing provision to support and nurture children with social and emotional needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them, including pupils with ALN for social, emotional and behavioural needs and other young people with mental health needs including anxiety and neurodiversity.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the provision of public transport, as Ysgol Nebo would remain open, providing provision to support and nurture children with social and emotional needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them, including pupils with ALN for social, emotional and behavioural needs and other young people with mental health needs including anxiety and neurodiversity.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on this criterion, as Ysgol Nebo would remain open, providing provision to support and nurture children with social and emotional needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them, including pupils with ALN for social, emotional and behavioural needs and other young people with mental health needs including anxiety and neurodiversity.	Neutral
Impact on wider community safety	It is not anticipated that this option would encourage families and school-aged children to leave the community, nor that young families would be less likely to move into the area, as Ysgol Nebo would remain open, providing provision to support and nurture children with social and emotional needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them, including pupils with ALN for social, emotional and behavioural needs and other young people with mental health needs including anxiety and neurodiversity.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the wider community economy, as Ysgol Nebo would remain open, providing provision to support and nurture children with social and emotional needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them, including pupils with ALN for social, emotional and behavioural needs and other young people with mental health needs including anxiety and neurodiversity.	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on other services provided locally, as Ysgol Nebo would remain open, providing provision to support and nurture children with social and emotional needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them, including pupils with ALN for social, emotional and behavioural needs and other young people with mental health needs including anxiety and neurodiversity.	Neutral
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the wider community economy, as Ysgol Nebo would remain open, providing provision to support and nurture children with social and emotional needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them, including pupils with ALN for social, emotional and behavioural needs and other young people with mental health needs including anxiety and neurodiversity.	Neutral

General impact on the local community	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the community, as Ysgol Nebo would remain open, providing provision to support and nurture children with social and emotional needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them, including pupils with ALN for social, emotional and behavioural needs and other young people with mental health needs including anxiety and neurodiversity.	Neutral
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OPTION 15.2: Develop Ysgol Nebo as a Transition Unit to Support the Integration of ALN Pupils into Mainstream Education

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and well-being	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on health and wellbeing, as Ysgol Nebo would remain open, providing provision to support and nurture children with social and emotional needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them, including pupils with ALN for social, emotional and behavioural needs and other young people with mental health needs including anxiety and neurodiversity.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the provision of public transport, as Ysgol Nebo would remain open, providing provision to support and nurture children with social and emotional needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them, including pupils with ALN for social, emotional and behavioural needs and other young people with mental health needs including anxiety and neurodiversity.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on this criterion, as Ysgol Nebo would remain open, providing provision to support and nurture children with social and emotional needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them, including pupils with ALN for social, emotional and behavioural needs and other young people with mental health needs including anxiety and neurodiversity.	Neutral
Impact on wider community safety	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on wider community safety, as Ysgol Nebo would remain open, providing provision to support and nurture children with social and emotional needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them, including pupils with ALN for social, emotional and behavioural needs and other young people with mental health needs including anxiety and neurodiversity.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community	It is not anticipated that this option would encourage families and school-aged children to leave the community, nor that young families would be less likely to move into the area, as Ysgol Nebo would remain open, providing provision to support and nurture children with social and emotional needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them, including pupils with ALN for social, emotional and behavioural needs and other young people with mental health needs including anxiety and neurodiversity.	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on other services provided locally, as Ysgol Nebo would remain open, providing provision to support and nurture children with social and emotional needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them, including pupils with ALN for social, emotional and behavioural needs and other young people with mental health needs including anxiety and neurodiversity.	Neutral
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the wider community economy, as Ysgol Nebo would remain open, providing provision to support and nurture children with social and emotional needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them, including pupils with ALN for social, emotional and behavioural	Neutral

	needs and other young people with mental health needs including anxiety and neurodiversity.	
General impact on the local community	It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the community, as Ysgol Nebo would remain open, providing provision to support and nurture children with social and emotional needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them, including pupils with ALN for social, emotional and behavioural needs and other young people with mental health needs including anxiety and neurodiversity.	Neutral

OPTION 15.5: *Federalisation of Ysgol Nebo and Ysgol Baladeulyn*

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and well-being	As federation would mean that Ysgol Nebo would remain open, with no change to the current provision, no impact on health and wellbeing is anticipated.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	As federation would mean that Ysgol Nebo would remain open, no impact on the provision of public transport is anticipated. Any transport required for eligible learners within Ysgol Nebo's catchment area would continue in accordance with the Council's Transport Policy.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	As federation would mean that Ysgol Nebo would remain open, no change to the school's current use is anticipated.	Neutral
Impact on wider community safety	As federation would mean that Ysgol Nebo would remain open, no impact on wider community safety is anticipated.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community	As federation would mean that Ysgol Nebo would remain open, no impact is anticipated on how parents choose a school for their children, nor on decisions about whether to live within the catchment area. A high proportion of children from the catchment already attend out-of-catchment schools (78%). As a result, it is not anticipated that this option would encourage families and school-aged children to leave the community, nor make young families less likely to move into the area.	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	As federation would mean that Ysgol Nebo would remain open, no impact is anticipated on what is currently provided, and therefore no impact is expected on other local services.	Neutral
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	As federation would mean that Ysgol Nebo would remain open, no impact is anticipated on what is currently provided, and therefore no adverse impact on the wider community economy is expected.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	As federation would mean that Ysgol Nebo would remain open, no impact is anticipated on what is currently provided, and therefore no impact is expected on the local community. However, opportunities are identified for the Nebo community and the Baladeulyn school community to come together.	Neutral

OPTION 15.6: Federal Governing Body across Catchment Area Schools

Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and the work
Impact on Health and well-being	As the provision on the Ysgol Nebo site would continue, no negative impact on health and wellbeing is anticipated.	Neutral
The implications of the change on public transport provisions	As the provision on the Ysgol Nebo site would continue, no impact on the provision of public transport is anticipated if this option were implemented. Any transport required to the Ysgol Nebo site for eligible learners within the catchment area would continue in accordance with the Council's Transport Policy.	Neutral
Impact on other facilities / services provided at the school	As the Ysgol Nebo site would continue as part of the multi-site school, it is not anticipated that implementing this option would have any impact on other facilities or services currently provided at the school.	Neutral
Impact on wider community safety	No impact on wider community safety is anticipated, as educational provision would continue on the Ysgol Nebo site.	Neutral
Would the option encourage families and school age children to leave the community, or that young families are less likely to move into the community	No impact is anticipated on these criteria, as educational provision would continue on the Ysgol Nebo site.	Neutral
Impact on other services provided locally	As the Ysgol Nebo site would continue as part of the multi-site school, no impact on other local services is anticipated.	Neutral
Adverse effect on the wider economy of the community	It is not anticipated that this option would affect what is currently provided, and therefore no adverse impact on the wider community economy is expected.	Neutral
General impact on the local community	As the Ysgol Nebo site would remain in use, the overall impact on the local community is anticipated to be neutral if this option were implemented.	Neutral

6. CONCLUSION

This Community Impact Assessment has been prepared as a further assessment following the statutory consultation, and it has fully considered all the original options set out in the consultation document, together with all reasonable alternative options proposed by consultees as part of the statutory consultation. The assessment was further updated following the statutory objection period in order to consider the objections received.

The assessment indicates that the likely impact on the local community would be neutral if those options that involve maintaining an operational school presence on the Ysgol Nebo site were implemented. This includes developing the school as a specialist provision to support children and young people with social and emotional needs or mental health needs, developing it as a Transition Unit for learners with Additional Learning Needs, or implementing federated or joint governance arrangements. In these cases, an operational school presence would be retained in the village, with the potential to maintain or strengthen the school's role as a community resource and asset.

The assessment indicates that there would likely be some negative impact on the community if the option to close Ysgol Nebo were implemented, as this would result in the loss of a school within the Nebo community as a community focal point. The concerns raised during the consultation regarding the implications for community vitality are acknowledged; however, it is noted that a significant proportion of children from the catchment area (78%) already attend other schools, including Ysgol Llanllyfni (44%), suggesting that community and educational links with neighbouring communities, including Llanllyfni community already exist.

If the Cabinet were to decide to proceed with the closure of Ysgol Nebo, the Council would seek to mitigate the impact on the community by encouraging and supporting ongoing links between the Nebo community and the alternative school, promoting community collaboration where appropriate, and ensuring that residents and families are aware of the opportunities, facilities and activities available at the alternative school. In addition, it is noted that if a decision to close the school were made, the Authority's Post-Use Policy would act as a framework for further discussions regarding appropriate options for the post-use of the school building, including community use where appropriate, in order to help mitigate any negative impact on the local community.

LANGUAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT – YSGOL NEBO

September 2026

1. INTRODUCTION

Supporting and developing Gwynedd's children's ability to learn and use their language skills is essentially important to the education strategies of the County.

Ysgol Nebo is a community school, Welsh-medium, Category 3, located in the village of Nebo, about three miles from Penygroes, and provides education for learners aged 3-11. There has been a decline in learner numbers at Ysgol Nebo over the past few years. By January 2026, there were only 11 learners from Reception to Year 6 and 1 Nursery learner attending the school.

At their meeting on 11 February 2025, the Cabinet supported a recommendation to start formal discussions with Ysgol Nebo School stakeholders to consider options for the future. Between March and July 2025, three local meetings were held with Ysgol Nebo stakeholders where several options were proposed and discussed.

On 14 October 2025, the Cyngor Gwynedd Cabinet decided to undertake a statutory consultation process on a proposal to close Ysgol Nebo on 31 December 2026, and to provide a place for learners at Ysgol Llanllyfni from 1 January 2027 onwards, in accordance with the requirements of Section 48 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013.

The consultation was held between 5 December 2025 and 23 January 2026, and 70 responses were received during the consultation period.

Cyngor Gwynedd's Cabinet considered the consultation report at its meeting on 19 May 2026 and resolved to publish a Statutory Notice on the proposal to close Ysgol Nebo on 31 December 2026 and offer places for learners at Ysgol Llanllyfni from 1 January 2027 onwards. The Statutory Notice was published on 3 June 2026, and a statutory objection period of 28 days was held between 3 June and 30 June 2026. The objection period came to an end on 30 June 2026, and 20 objections were received during that period. A petition was also received from the Governing Body of Ysgol Nebo objecting to the proposal, containing 358 signatures.

1.1 The situation in Gwynedd

Figures in the 2021 Census indicate that 66% of people over the age of three can speak, read or write in Welsh. The 2021 census also states that 64% speak Welsh which is a decrease since the previous census, when the figure was 65%.

In Gwynedd, as in many other Local Authorities in Wales, there is a considerable variation in the percentage of Welsh speakers across different wards. In wards where Welsh is less commonly spoken, such as Aberdyfi, Tywyn, and central Bangor, between 26% and 44% of the population speak Welsh, while as many as 86% speak Welsh in the most Welsh-speaking areas e.g Hendre and Llanrug.

1.2 Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP)

The Welsh in Education Strategic Plan is the Local Authority's statutory document and accompanies the Welsh Government's priorities for the development of Welsh-medium education (in line with the targets of *Cymraeg 2050*).

There are 7 outcomes that local authorities are expected to implement to achieve the vision, namely:

1. More nursery children/ three-year-olds receive their education through the medium of Welsh
2. More reception class children/ five-year-olds receive their education through the medium of Welsh
3. More children continue to improve their Welsh-language skills when transferring from one stage of their statutory education to another

4. More learners study for assessed qualifications in Welsh (as a subject) and subjects through the medium of Welsh
5. More opportunities for learners to use Welsh in different contexts in school
6. An increase in the provision of Welsh-medium education for pupils with additional learning needs (ALN) in accordance with the duties imposed by the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018
7. Increase the number of teaching staff able to teach Welsh (as a subject) and teach through the medium of Welsh

1.3 Language Policy

Primary

The aim of the language policy across all primary schools in the county is the same, which is to develop the ability of all pupils to be proficient in both languages by the end of KS2. Welsh is the official language of assessment at the school at the end of a foundation phase. In Key Stage 2, efforts continue to develop pupils' grasp of Welsh while focusing on enhancing their skills in both languages.

Secondary

In the secondary, it is expected for all pupils who have reached the required level, Level 3+ at the end of the KS2, to follow Welsh first language in KS3 to ensure appropriate progression and continuity. The hope is that these pupils can study Welsh and English as subjects up to the end of year 11.

The secondary schools build on the foundation established in the primary by ensuring that all pupils continue to develop skills in both English and Welsh.

1.4 One million speakers by 2050

Cymraeg 2050 is the latest Welsh Government strategy for the Welsh language and covers the next three decades. This document sets out specific targets for increasing the numbers that speak the language as well as the Welsh use.

The aims of *Cymraeg 2050* include:

	Aim	Target
1.	Increase the number of Welsh speakers	1 million speakers by 2050
2.	Increase the use of the Welsh language	Daily users of Welsh increasing from 10% to 20%

The *Cymraeg 2050: A million Welsh Speakers* document emphasises the importance of increasing the numbers of Welsh speakers but it is also emphasised that increasing the daily use of the Welsh language is just as important.

'Moving towards the position where we have a million speakers is one aspect of our vision for a thriving Welsh language. However, a thriving Welsh language is a language that is used. We want the use of Welsh to be a routine part of everyday life, so that speakers at all levels feel confident in its use in formal and informal situations.....The Welsh Language Use Survey 2013–15 (Welsh Government and Welsh Language Commissioner 2015) shows that there is a clear link between fluency and frequency of Welsh language use – 84 per cent of fluent Welsh speakers speak Welsh daily'.

Source: Cymraeg 2050: A million Welsh speakers (2017)

1.5 Welsh Language Strategy 2022-2032

The Welsh Language Standards imposed on Cyngor Gwynedd by the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 impose an expectation on the Council to produce a 5 year strategy which will demonstrate how it is intended to promote the Welsh language and facilitate the use of Welsh across the county. Cyngor Gwynedd's latest strategy for the Welsh language is the Gwynedd Language Strategy 2023-2033. This document sets out specific targets for increasing the numbers speaking the language:

	How will we increase the number of speakers?	How will we measure at a local level, and during the strategy period?
1.	Provide opportunities for children and young people who are not yet Welsh speakers (e.g newcomers, children who do not receive mainstream education), to learn and become confident Welsh speakers.	The number of children receiving Welsh medium education. The number of children who are supported through the Education Department's immersion regime.
2.	Providing opportunities for adults to become new speakers through the authority's learners support schemes and partners community provision.	The number of council workers receiving Welsh learning lessons. Provision of community Welsh learning courses.

The strategy also contains a commitment to increase the use of Welsh in the following areas of work:

- Language of the early years
- Language of learning
- Language of Work and Service
- Language of the Community
- Technology and Research

2. LINGUISTIC PROFILE OF THE NEBO CATCHMENT AREA

2.1 Gwynedd Language Profile Background

64.4% of the county's population aged over three are Welsh speakers — significantly higher than the figure for Wales as a whole, which is 17.8%. In Gwynedd, the ability to speak Welsh is highest in the Hendre ward (86% speak Welsh), and lowest in the Bangor Central area (25.6%).

2.2 Wards

Ysgol Nebo is located in the Clynog ward, and the school's catchment area includes part of the Clynog ward and part of the Llanllyfni ward. Ysgol Llanllyfni is located in the Llanllyfni ward, and the school's catchment area includes part of the Llanllyfni ward and part of the Clynog ward. The linguistic profile of the wards of these schools is summarised in the table below:

	Clynog	Llanllyfni	Gwynedd	Cymru
Welsh identity only	783 (60.2%)	1,316 (67.1%)	69,560 (59.3%)	1,715,975 (55.2%)
No Welsh identity	36%	28.2%	36.3%	36.7%
3+ year old population	1,275	1,876	114,308 (100%)	3,018,172 (100%)
Can speak Welsh	864	1,373	73,560	538,296

	(67.8%)	(73.2%)	(64.4%)	(17.8%)
No Welsh skills	307 (24.1%)	315 (16.8%)	29,977 (26.2%)	2,259,017 (74.8%)
Able to understand only verbal Welsh	71 (5.6%)	137 (7.3%)	8,166 (7.1%)	156,762 (5.2%)
Able to speak Welsh but can't read or write Welsh	47 (3.7%)	124 (6.6%)	6,142 (5.4%)	68,391 (2.3%)
Able to speak and read Welsh but can't write Welsh	37 (2.9%)	56 (3%)	3,170 (2.8%)	33,971 (1.1%)
Able to speak, read and write Welsh	774 (60.7%)	1,157 (61.7%)	63,256 (55.3%)	429,313 (14.2%)
Able to write Welsh but can't speak or read Welsh	7 (0.5%)	8 (0.4%)	387 (0.3%)	4,970 (0.2%)
Able to read and write Welsh but can't speak Welsh	9 (0.7%)	14 (0.7%)	1004 (0.9%)	17,560 (0.6%)
Another combination of Welsh language skills	6 (0.5)	36 (1.9%)	993 (0.9%)	6,621 (0.2%)

Source: Census 2021, Office for National Statistics

2.3 Ysgol Nebo

Ysgol Nebo is a Category 3, Welsh medium school.

The table below shows that most Ysgol Nebo learners speak Welsh fluently.

School	Speaks Welsh fluently at home	Speaks Welsh at home but not fluent	Doesn't speak Welsh at home but fluent	Doesn't speak Welsh at home and not fluent	Doesn't speak Welsh at all
Nebo	56%	0%	22%	11%	11%

Source: Percentage of the number of respondents January 2026

2.4 Nearby schools

Llanllyfni, Baladeulyn, Brynaerau, Bro Llew, Talysarn and Bro Llifon schools are Category 3, Welsh medium schools.

Linguistic data for the nearby schools can be found below:

School	Speaks Welsh fluently at home	Speaks Welsh at home but not fluent	Doesn't speak Welsh at home but fluent	Doesn't speak Welsh at home and not fluent	Doesn't speak Welsh at all
Baladeulyn	29%	57%	14%	0%	0%
Brynaerau	64%	11%	2	11%	12%

Llanllyfni	68%	8%	2%	11%	11%
Bro Lleu	69%	4%	1%	9%	17%
Talysarn	37%	15.5%	3%	19%	25.5%
Bro Llifon	85%	2%	2%	3%	8%

Source: Percentage of the number of respondents January 2026

2.5 After school activities

Here is a summary of what Ysgol Nebo and the other schools in Dyffryn Nantlle's secondary catchment area offer on the school sites.

	Baladeulyn	Talysarn	Bro Lleu	Llanllyfni	Brynaerau	Bro Llifon	Nebo
Playgroups (school holidays)			✓				
Aelwyd yr Urdd				✓		✓	✓
Morning/Evening Coffee	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Cylch/Nursery			✓	✓		✓	
Club/After school club/Sports Activity		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

It can be seen in the table above that a number of schools in the area, including Ysgol Nebo offer clubs with the Urdd after school. This means that the pupils could continue to take advantage of these activities as an additional opportunity to use and develop the Welsh language.

2.6 Community Activities

As there is no community centre/building in Nebo, residents of Nebo and Nasareth make regular use of the school's 'community room' for community occasions and events. These are some of the occasions and social events that take place in the School's Community Room:

- Monthly meetings of the Nebo and Nasareth Area Committee
- Local Clubs (Monday Club, Knitting and Crochet Club, Social Evenings, Gardening Club)
- First Aid with St John Ambulance: Training on CPR and the use of defibrillators at the School and Nasareth Chapel
- Welsh lessons for learners
- Refreshments after local trips and the Craig Goch Mountain Race
- Remembrance Sunday service
- Protecting the environment: Organising litter-picking sessions and taking action to prevent dog fouling

2.7 Additional Evidence

Ysgol Nebo

Estyn's 2017 report says:

“Welsh is the main medium of the school’s life and work. Approximately 58% of pupils come from Welsh-speaking homes and there are no pupils from ethnic minority backgrounds.”

[Ysgol Nebo Estyn inspection report October 2017](#)

Ysgol Llanllyfni

Estyn's 2025 report says:

“Leaders and staff place a clear emphasis on developing the Welsh language. Staff are effective language models who encourage and support pupils to develop and use the language in all aspects of the school's work. Pupils respond positively and are extremely proud of their ability to communicate in Welsh and English confidently with their peers and adults by the time they reach the top of the school.”

[Ysgol Llanllyfni Estyn inspection report 2025](#)

2.8 Statutory Consultation and Statutory Objection Period – Summary of Issues Relating to the Impact on the Welsh Language

The main issues raised through the responses to the statutory consultation, specifically regarding the potential impact of the proposal on the Welsh language, are outlined below.

In this context, respondents expressed strong concerns about the role of Ysgol Nebo in maintaining Welsh as a living language within the community. It was noted that the school provides a natural environment where Welsh is used formally and informally by children, families and local residents, and that it is the main social space where Welsh is heard daily in the village. As a result, concerns were raised that closing the school could lead to a significant reduction in community use of Welsh, particularly outside the classroom.

It was also noted that the environment of a small Welsh-medium school supports linguistic immersion, confidence and fluency, especially for children from non-Welsh-speaking homes, with Welsh strengthened as the language of the classroom and the playground. Consequently, concerns were expressed that transferring learners to larger schools could increase the risk of turning to English in social contexts, weakening the natural use of Welsh. At the same time, some respondents acknowledged positive elements of the proposal from an educational perspective, including the continuation of Welsh-medium education and the potential to maintain informal use of Welsh among learners.

In addition, attention was drawn to the wider role of the school in promoting Welsh beyond formal education, including through community activities, social events, Welsh-for-adults classes, and intergenerational interaction. Concerns were raised that closing the school could result in the complete loss of these opportunities, affecting the long-term sustainability of Welsh in Nebo and the surrounding areas.

During the statutory objection period, these concerns were reiterated, and further concerns were raised regarding the possibility that the closure of Ysgol Nebo could undermine the role of Welsh as a living community language. Some objectors argued that the proposal was contrary to the objectives of Cymraeg 2050 and Cyngor Gwynedd’s commitments to protect and promote the Welsh language and Welsh-speaking communities. It was also suggested that the loss of the school could reduce opportunities to use Welsh naturally within the community, increasing the risk of Welsh being seen primarily as a language of education rather than as a living everyday community language.

The Council acknowledges these concerns and notes that the Welsh Language Impact Assessment was reviewed and updated following the statutory objection period.

3. Assessment of the impact on the Welsh language

3.1 The Options

- *Do nothing – continue with the current situation*

Continuing with the current situation would mean that Ysgol Nebo continues in the same way, with the same staffing structure.

Although the case for change has been established, the Do nothing model has been included in the assessment for comparison purposes.

- *Federate with a nearby school*

This option would ensure continuity in the school's presence in the village of Nebo through a collaborative arrangement with a school, or nearby schools, led by a head or heads, and one governing body. These schools would share one governing body, but at the same time retain their legal status as separate entities, their financial allocation, name and school uniform, and continue to have their own Estyn inspection.

It is not anticipated that forming a federation would have an impact on the Welsh language as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with opportunities for the school to strengthen the leadership position, and collaborate.

- *Federalise with a nearby school adding a specialist unit for children with additional learning needs at Ysgol Nebo*

This option would mean federalising with a nearby school and adding a ALN unit on the Ysgol Nebo school site in order to offer provision for children who would need additional support. There would be no change to the school element.

It is not anticipated this option would have an impact on the Welsh language as Ysgol Nebo would continue, with opportunities for the school to strengthen the leadership position, and collaborate.

- *Close Ysgol Nebo and offer the learners a place in a nearby school (Ysgol Llanllyfni)*

This option would mean that Ysgol Nebo would close, and that learners from the current catchment area of Ysgol Nebo would be offered a place at Ysgol Llanllyfni (the alternative school).

The table in section 3.2 contains an assessment of the impact of closing Ysgol Nebo and teaching the learner at Ysgol Llanllyfni, on the Welsh language compared to the current situation. The table also outlines the additional opportunities for strengthening the Welsh language, and methods of mitigating any negative impact that may arise from the proposal.

- *Ysgol Nebo to develop into a specialist location for some individual subjects (unique opportunities to carry out fieldwork)*

Continuing the current situation would mean that Ysgol Nebo would continue in the same way, with the same staffing structure.

It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the Welsh language as Ysgol Nebo would continue.

- *Ysgol Nebo to offer a specialist unit for supporting children with additional learning needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them.*

This option would mean continuing with Ysgol Nebo and adding an ALN Unit on the school site to offer provision for children with additional learning needs.

It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the Welsh language as Ysgol Nebo would continue.

- *Ysgol Nebo to offer a language unit for the Dyffryn Nantlle catchment area*

This option would mean continuing with Ysgol Nebo and locating a language unit on the school site.

It is not anticipated that this option would have an impact on the Welsh language in the school as there would be no change to the education provision provided by Ysgol Nebo. However, it is likely that it would have a positive effect on the Welsh language of the learners who would attend the language unit.

- *Establishing a School on more than one site*

This option would mean closing local schools, including Ysgol Nebo, and establishing a new school across several sites, including the current site of Ysgol Nebo.

It is not anticipated that this option would have a negative impact on the Welsh language. Depending on the structure of the multi-site school, there may be opportunities for learners to have access to a wider range of suitable resources, a higher supply in terms of staffing, and they could be part of a larger group of peers.

3.2 Reasonable Alternative Options Proposed by Consultees in Response to the Consultation

- ***“Ysgol Nebo to offer a site as provision to support and nurture children with social and emotional needs, where mainstream education is challenging for them, including pupils with IDP for social, emotional and behavioural needs and other young people with mental health needs including anxiety and neurodiversity.”***

This option would involve retaining Ysgol Nebo and developing it as a site offering specialist provision for children and young people for whom mainstream education is challenging. The provision would support learners with Additional Learning Needs, including social, emotional and behavioural needs, as well as young people with mental health needs such as anxiety and neurodiversity.

It is not anticipated that this option would have a negative impact on the Welsh language, as Ysgol Nebo would continue as a Welsh-medium school.

- **Develop Ysgol Nebo as a Transition Unit to Support the Integration of ALN Pupils into Mainstream Education**

This option would involve retaining Ysgol Nebo and developing it as a Transition Unit to provide temporary support for learners with Additional Learning Needs before or during their integration into mainstream education. The provision would focus on structured support to facilitate an effective transition.

It is not anticipated that this option would have a negative impact on the Welsh language, as Ysgol Nebo would continue as a Welsh-medium school.

- **Federalisation of Ysgol Nebo and Ysgol Baladeulyn**

This option would ensure the continued presence of Ysgol Nebo through a federation arrangement with Ysgol Baladeulyn. The schools would operate under the leadership of a single headteacher or leadership team and a single federated governing body. Each school's identity—including name, ethos and uniform—would remain, with the potential to share staff, resources and expertise.

It is not anticipated that this option would have a negative impact on the Welsh language, as Ysgol Nebo would continue as a Welsh-medium school. There is also potential to strengthen leadership and linguistic collaboration between the two schools.

- **Federal Governing Body across Catchment Area Schools**

This option would involve establishing a federated governing body across schools in the catchment area to strengthen collaboration and strategic oversight. The arrangement would enable the sharing of expertise and a common strategic direction while maintaining the presence and identity of individual schools.

It is not anticipated that this option would have a negative impact on the Welsh language, as there would be no change to the provision or linguistic status of Ysgol Nebo. The arrangement could strengthen Welsh-language planning and strategy across the catchment.

3.2 Assessment of the impact on the Welsh Language

Assessment of the impact on the Welsh language – Proposal to close Ysgol Nebo and offer the learners a place in a nearby school (Ysgol Llanllyfni)

Part 1				
Impact Criteria	Description	Status of the impact and work	Have any measures been identified to mitigate any negative impact or to create more positive opportunities	Final impact (following mitigation measures)
School language (formal)	<i>In the consultation responses, the importance of maintaining Welsh-medium education as the primary language of instruction for local learners was highlighted. Respondents to the consultation emphasised the role of Ysgol Nebo in fostering a natural use of the Welsh language.</i> Ysgol Nebo is a Welsh-medium school. As Ysgol Llanllyfni is also a Welsh-medium school, it is concluded that the proposal would not have an impact on the children's language of education.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
School language (informal)	<i>Respondents to the consultation emphasised the role of Ysgol Nebo in fostering the natural use of Welsh as the language of the playground and social interaction between pupils. It was noted that small class sizes, staff supervision and clear linguistic expectations encourage consistent use of Welsh in informal contexts. Concerns were expressed that education in larger settings could lead to increased use of English in social situations.</i> <i>During the statutory objection period, these concerns were reiterated by some objectors, who expressed the view that the closure of Ysgol Nebo could reduce opportunities to use Welsh naturally within the community and weaken its role as a living community language. The importance of small schools in fostering the everyday use of Welsh among learners was also emphasised.</i> PLASC January 2026 statistics show that 56% of Ysgol Nebo learners speak Welsh fluently at home and 68% of Ysgol Llanllyfni learners. As the learners would be taught in larger classes with more children of the same age group, the proposal could strengthen the opportunity for learners to socialise in Welsh with their peers. On that basis, if the proposal is realised, it is anticipated that there would be more opportunities for	Positive	Irrelevant	Irrelevant

	learners in the Nebo catchment area to use Welsh informally with their peers inside and outside the classroom, and that the level of vitality of the Welsh language and the informal use of the language would be stronger.			
Access to Welsh medium education	Ysgol Llanllyfni is a Welsh-medium school, like Ysgol Nebo. It is therefore not anticipated that the proposal would affect this criterion.	Neutral	Irrelevant	Irrelevant
Non-statutory provision	Learners would have access to a higher supply in terms of staffing and would be part of a larger group of peers of the same age.	Positive	The local authority and the Governing Body of Ysgol Llanllyfni could discuss methods to ensure that pupils can participate in extracurricular activities.	Positive
Activities before/after school	Ysgol Llanllyfni is a larger school in terms of numbers of learners, and therefore the peer groups are larger. The school also offers a range of clubs and activities before and after school which provide opportunities to use the Welsh language outside of school hours. As stated in Section 2.5 of the Impact Assessment, these include Aelwyd yr Urdd, coffee mornings and evenings, Cylch Meithrin, and play/after school club activities.	Positive	The Local Authority and Ysgol Llanllyfni Governing Body could consider any additional opportunities for arranging activities after school, ensuring that arrangements are in place to include learners in the Nebo catchment area.	Positive
Use of the Welsh Language in the community	<i>From the point of view of the responses to the consultation, it was strongly noted that Ysgol Nebo is the main social place where the Welsh language is used on a daily basis by many residents of the village. Attention was drawn to the school's role in holding community events, Welsh lessons for adults and international opportunities that support regular use of the Welsh language. Concern was expressed that closing the school could lead to a significant reduction in opportunities to use Welsh as a living community language.</i> <i>During the statutory objection period, these views were reiterated and further concerns were expressed by some objectors that the closure of Ysgol Nebo could undermine Welsh as a living community language and that this would be contrary to the objectives of Cymraeg 2050 to increase the daily and community use of Welsh. It was also argued that the school's role in supporting the natural use of Welsh within the community extends beyond the formal educational provision.</i> If the proposal to close Nebo School were to come true, then it is anticipated that some elements of community events will be affected. It is anticipated that there may be some negative impact arising from the realisation of the proposal, e.g. as parents/guardians/families will not meet daily in the Nebo community when dropping off/collecting children from school.	Negative	The Local Authority and the Governing Body of Ysgol Llanllyfni can consider methods of promoting the use of the Welsh language by including the Nebo community in the school's community activities. To mitigate the impact on the Welsh language within the community, opportunities are identified to ensure that the Nebo community is aware of the alternative school's activity, and community collaboration between Ysgol Llanllyfni and the Nebo community is encouraged, where appropriate. In addition, if the proposal were implemented, the Authority will have to consider options for the post-use of the school building, taking into account the community activities that are currently being held at the school. It is noted that there is no alternative community space in the village of Nebo and therefore preserving or facilitating appropriate community use of the building would be an important consideration, especially in order to mitigate	Negative

	However, it is also noted that a significant percentage of children in the catchment area (78%) already attend other schools, including Ysgol Llanllyfni (44%), which suggests that the level of daily involvement with the school as a social or linguistic space varies among families in the Nebo community. As there is no other building/community centre in the village of Nebo, the residents of Nebo and Nasareth make regular use of the school's 'community room' for community occasions and events including Welsh lessons for learners. As a result, if the proposal to close Ysgol Nebo were to be realised, then it is anticipated that some elements of community events will be affected, and that this could lead to a negative impact on the use of the Welsh language in the community. Impact on the local economy: Although it is not anticipated that the proposal would have a significant negative impact on the local economy in Nebo, it is recognised that if Ysgol Nebo were to close, it could lead to a reduction in Welsh-medium employment opportunities in the village of Nebo.		any possible negative impact on the use and vitality of the Welsh language within the community.	
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Part 2 - How will the proposal affect/contribute towards/comply with the Welsh Language Standards, language policies, strategies and other relevant guidelines regarding the Welsh language

Gwynedd Welsh Language Strategy 2023	Below is a summary of the anticipated impact on the Language Strategy's areas of action: Early years language: As the Cylch Meithrin is located on the site of Ysgol Llanllyfni (the alternative school), it is anticipated that the proposal would have a positive effect on early years language. Learning Language: Ysgol Nebo is a Welsh-medium school, Category 3. As Ysgol Llanllyfni is also a Welsh-medium school (Category 3), it is concluded that the proposal would not have an effect on the language of the children's education. Work and Service Language: Respondents to the consultation raised that Ysgol Nebo provides a prominent local Welsh service in the village, including Welsh-medium employment opportunities. Concern was expressed that closing the school could lead to the loss of the presence of a daily Welsh language service within the local community, and to a reduction in the number of jobs that operate
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through the medium of Welsh. Reference was also made to the role of the school staff as Welsh language models, who contribute to strengthening the use of the Welsh language in the everyday life of the community.

During the statutory objection period, these concerns were reiterated and some objectors expressed the view that the loss of the school would mean the loss of a visible Welsh-medium presence within the community. It was also argued that the school contributes to creating opportunities for children, families and local residents to hear and use Welsh in everyday community life, and that the loss of the school could reduce those opportunities.

It is acknowledged that, if the proposal is implemented, there would be some negative impact on the language due to the loss of the presence of a Welsh-medium school, category 3 in the village of Nebo which services the area, and as it would lead to the dismissal of the school's staff/workforce.

However, it is noted that the alternative school (Ysgol Llanllyfni) which would serve the Nebo area if the proposal were implemented, is also a Category 3 Welsh medium school. It is not anticipated that the proposal would affect the language of work and service provided in the alternative school.

Community Language:

Strong opinions were expressed through the responses to the consultation that the proposal would have a negative impact on the Welsh language, as Ysgol Nebo is the main Welsh-speaking social place in the village, and in some cases the only place where Welsh is used naturally by residents. Attention was drawn to the school's role in holding Welsh community events, Welsh lessons for adults, and international opportunities to use the Welsh language. Concern was expressed that closing the school could lead to a significant reduction in the everyday use of Welsh as a living community language. It was also noted that there is no alternative community centre in Nebo/Nasareth that could replace this Welsh and social function.

During the statutory objection period, these concerns were reiterated and some objectors expressed the view that the loss of the school would mean the loss of a visible Welsh-language presence within the community. It was also argued that the school contributes to creating opportunities for children, families and local residents to hear and use Welsh in everyday community life, and that the loss of the school could reduce those opportunities.

The Council acknowledges that if the proposal to close Ysgol Nebo were to be realised, then it is anticipated that some elements of community events will be affected. It is anticipated that there may be some negative impact on the language within the community resulting from the realisation of the proposal, e.g. as parents/guardians/families will not meet daily in the Nebo community when dropping off/collecting children from school.

	As there is no building/community centre in the village of Nebo, the residents of Nebo and Nasareth make regular use of the school's 'community room' for community occasions and events including Welsh lessons for learners. If the proposal to close Nebo School were to come true, then it is anticipated that some elements of community events will be affected. In order to mitigate any negative effects, the Local Authority and the Governing Body of Ysgol Llanllyfni can consider methods of promoting the use of the Welsh language by including the Nebo community in the school's community activities. In addition, if the proposal is implemented, the Authority will have to consider options for the post-use of the school building, taking into account the community activities that are currently being held at the school.
Cymraeg 2050, Welsh Government	<i>Through the responses to the consultation, a concern was expressed that closing a rural Welsh-medium school could work against the objectives of Welsh 2050, especially from the point of view of increasing community and natural use of the Welsh language. Attention was drawn to the importance of ensuring that the Welsh language is heard, used and transmitted informally from day to day, not just taught within the classroom. The opinion was expressed that small schools play a key role in creating new speakers in rural communities.</i> <i>During the statutory objection period, these views were reiterated and further concerns were expressed by some objectors that the closure of Ysgol Nebo could undermine Welsh as a living community language and that this would be contrary to the objectives of Cymraeg 2050 to increase the daily and community use of Welsh. It was also argued that the school's role in supporting the natural use of Welsh within the community extends beyond the formal educational provision..</i> It is noted that any discussions relating to organisation need to note the Welsh Government's effort to reach the goal of one million Welsh speakers by 2050. The Council acknowledges that if the proposal to close Ysgol Nebo were to be realised, then it is anticipated that some elements of community events will be affected. In order to mitigate any negative effects, the Local Authority and the Governing Body of Ysgol Llanllyfni can consider methods of promoting the use of the Welsh language by including the Nebo community in the school's community activities. In addition, if the proposal is implemented, the Authority will have to consider options for the post-use of the school building, taking into account the community activities that are currently being held at the school. In terms of the educational provision, it is noted that Ysgol Nebo and Ysgol Llanllyfni are Welsh-medium primary schools, Category 3. As a result, if the proposal to close Ysgol Nebo and transfer learners to Ysgol Llanllyfni is implemented, learners would continue to be educated in a Welsh-medium school, Category 3. It is not anticipated that the proposal would have a negative impact on the Welsh language, mainly because:

	- that the January 2026 CYLD statistics show that 56% of Ysgol Nebo learners speak Welsh fluently at home and 68% of Ysgol Llanllyfni learners - that the proposal to close Nebo School and offer the learners a place in a nearby school (Ysgol Llanllyfni) would mean that learners in the Nebo catchment area would continue to be educated in a Welsh-medium school, category 3. - that the learners would be taught in larger classes and with more children of the same age group, it is anticipated that the proposal will strengthen the opportunity for learners to socialise in Welsh with more of their peers. Based on the above, if the proposal is implemented, it is anticipated that there would be more opportunities for learners in the Nebo catchment area to use Welsh informally with their peers inside and outside the classroom, and that the level of vitality of the Welsh language and the informal use of the language would be stronger.
To what extent the proposal would support the targets in the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan approved (Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (2022-2032))	Ysgol Nebo and Ysgol Llanllyfni are Welsh-medium primary schools, Category 3. Ysgol Nebo and Ysgol Llanllyfni implement the objectives of the Welsh Language in Education Strategic Plan 2022-2032 of Cyngor Gwynedd. This includes: • That all pupils in the county have appropriate linguistic skills in Welsh and English, and that this expectation is consistent across all of the schools. • That there is suitable provision to enable all pupils to develop proficiently bilingually. In this context, schools are expected to continue to nurture the skills of those pupils who are Welsh speakers, and to introduce the Welsh language to those who are learners. • That all the county's education institutions reflect and reinforce the Language Policy in their administration, their social life and their pastoral order, as well as in their curricular provision. As a result, if the proposal to close Ysgol Nebo and transfer learners to Ysgol Llanllyfni is implemented, learners would continue to be educated in a Welsh-medium school, Category 3, which implements the objectives and supports the targets of the CSGA. Based on the above, it is not anticipated that the implementation of the proposal would have a negative impact on the achievement of Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 of the Welsh Language in Education Strategic Plan 2022-2032, Gwynedd Council, namely: Outcome 1: More nursery/3-year-olds receiving a Welsh-medium education. Outcome 2: More reception class/5-year-old children receiving a Welsh-medium education. Outcome 3: More children continue to improve their Welsh skills when transferring from one education phase of their statutory education to another. Outcome 5: More opportunities for learners to use Welsh in different contexts at school.

	Outcome 6: An increase in the provision of Welsh-medium education for pupils with additional learning needs ("ALN") (in accordance with the duties set out by the Additional Learning Needs Act and the Education Tribunal (Wales) 2018) As a result, it is concluded that the implementation of the proposal would be in line with the objectives of the Strategic Plan for the Welsh Language in Education 2022-32, and the targets approved in the Strategic Plan for the Welsh Language.
How the proposal would expand or reduce Welsh-language provision, and in cases where it would reduce provision, explain why the provision would be reduced	The proposal would mean that a Welsh-medium school, Category 3 (Ysgol Nebo), would close. However, if the proposal is implemented, learners would be offered a place in an alternative school, which is also a Welsh-medium, Category 3 school, namely Ysgol Llanllyfni. Ysgol Llanllyfni has enough capacity for learners from both schools.
<u>Compliance with Welsh Language Standards (Welsh Language Measure (Wales) 2011)</u>	The Council confirms that the entire statutory process in relation to reviewing the future of Ysgol Nebo has been carried out in accordance with the requirements of Welsh Language Standards 88-93 under the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011. In accordance with Standards 88, 89 and 90, conscientious consideration was given to the possible effects that the policy decision could have on opportunities to use the Welsh language and on not treating the Welsh language less favourably than English, including consideration of the positive and adverse effects possible, how the proposal could be formulated or modified in order to ensure more positive effects, and how any potential adverse effects could be reduced. In addition, in accordance with Standards 91, 92 and 93, an opinion was considered and sought through the statutory consultation process regarding these linguistic effects, including an opinion on how the proposal could be formulated or modified in order to increase positive effects or reduce adverse effects on the Welsh language. These requirements were supported by carrying out this Linguistic Impact Assessment, together with related impact assessments, including the Equality Impact Assessment, and it is noted that these assessments have been reviewed and updated following consideration of the responses received during the statutory consultation, in addition to the objections received during the statutory objection period.

5. CONCLUSION

Our expectations are that all learners in the County have a balanced, age-relevant bilingualism so that they can be complete members of the bilingual society they are part of. The proposals for reorganisation will need to take full account of all the linguistic effects. Maintaining and improving the use of Welsh as an educational and social language among children will be a key consideration when drawing up proposals within the area.

Responses to the statutory consultation have drawn attention to a wide range of views regarding the potential impact of the proposal on the Welsh language. Strong concerns were expressed, especially from the point of view of Ysgol Nebo's role as a linguistic and community hub, with many respondents emphasising the school as the main social place where the Welsh language is used on a daily basis by children, families and local residents. It was noted that the school makes an important contribution to the natural use of the Welsh language outside the classroom, including through community events, social activities, Welsh lessons for adults and inter-national interaction. Concern was expressed that closing the school could lead to a significant reduction in the daily use of Welsh as a living community language, especially in a village where there is no alternative community centre available.

The Council acknowledges that these concerns were reiterated and reinforced during the statutory objection period, particularly in relation to the role of Ysgol Nebo in sustaining Welsh as a living community language and the view expressed by some objectors that the proposal could run counter to the objectives of Cymraeg 2050 to increase the daily and community use of Welsh.

The Council acknowledges the concerns raised regarding the role of Ysgol Nebo in supporting community use of the Welsh language within the village and accepts that the comments draw attention to a possible adverse effect on local linguistic vitality outside of the formal educational provision.

However, based on the information available, the Council's opinion is that the proposed proposal is not likely to have a negative impact on the provision of Welsh language education or pupils' linguistic opportunities, for the following reasons:

- PLASC January 2026 data shows that 56% of Ysgol Nebo learners speak Welsh fluently at home and 68% of Ysgol Llanllyfni learners.
- The proposal to close Nebo School and offer the learners a place in a nearby school (Ysgol Llanllyfni) means that learners in the Nebo catchment area would continue to be educated in a Welsh-medium school, Category 3.
- It is anticipated that the learners would be taught in larger classes and with more children of the same age group, it is anticipated that the proposed proposal will strengthen the opportunities for learners to socialise in Welsh with more of their peers.

In the educational context, based on the above, if the proposal were implemented, it is anticipated that there would be more opportunities for learners in the Nebo catchment area to use Welsh informally with their peers inside and outside the classroom, and that the level of vitality of the Welsh language and the informal use of the language would be stronger.

At the same time, taking into account the comments of the consultation, the Council recognises that the option to close Ysgol Nebo could lead to a possible negative impact on the use of the Welsh language within the local community, especially from the point of view of its use as a community language outside the educational context; however, it is noted that mitigating measures could be considered by promoting the use of the Welsh language by including the Nebo community in the community activities of the alternative school, as well as considering appropriate options for the future use of the school building, taking into account the community activities that are currently being held there.

In reaching this conclusion, the Council has taken into account the comments received during the statutory consultation period and the statutory objection period. Whilst it is acknowledged that the proposal could have a potentially negative impact on certain aspects of the community use of Welsh within Nebo, the Council's view is that the available evidence does not indicate that the proposal would have a negative impact on Welsh-medium education provision or on learners' opportunities to use and develop their Welsh language skills within the educational setting.

**WELL-BEING AND FUTURE GENERATIONS ACT
IMPACT ASSESSMENT -
YSGOL NEBO**

September 2026

1. INTRODUCTION

We as a Council are committed to the principles within the Well-being of Future Generations Act (2015) to improve the economic, social, environmental, and cultural well-being of Gwynedd's communities.

The Council's vision is:

Our vision as a Council is to support all the people of Gwynedd to flourish and to live a complete life in their community in a county that is one of the best counties to live in.

The Council has adopted well-being objectives which complement the national well-being goals ensuring that the residents of Gwynedd are:

- Giving our children and young people the best possible start in life
- Strengthening the economy and supporting the people of Gwynedd to earn a decent salary
- Supporting Gwynedd residents to live in suitable and affordable homes in their communities
- Supporting the residents of Gwynedd to live full and safe lives in our communities
- Ensuring that we give our residents every possible opportunity to use the Welsh language in the community
- Protecting the county's natural beauty, and responding positively to the climate change crisis
- Putting the residents of Gwynedd first and treating them fairly and ensuring that the Council performs effectively and efficiently

The table below outlines the link between our well-being objectives and the national well-being goals.

	Prosperous	Resilient	Healthier	Equal	Cohesive Communities	A vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	Globally responsible
TOMORROW'S GWYNEDD Giving our children and young people the best possible start in life							
A PROSPEROUS GWYNEDD Strengthening the economy and supporting the people of Gwynedd to earn a decent salary							
A HOMELY GWYNEDD Supporting Gwynedd residents to live in suitable and affordable homes in their communities							
A CARING GWYNEDD Supporting the residents of Gwynedd to live full and safe lives in our communities							
A WELSH GWYNEDD Ensuring that we give our residents every possible opportunity to use the Welsh language in the community							
A GREEN GWYNEDD Protecting the county's natural beauty, and responding positively to the climate change crisis							
AN EFFICIENT GWYNEDD Putting the residents of Gwynedd first and treating them fairly and ensuring that the Council performs effectively and efficiently							

The Education Department has a role to promote the well-being goals of the Act among learners through their activities and projects. The Act places a duty on public bodies in Wales to improve economic, social, environmental, and cultural well-being. As part of the duty the Council has published well-being objectives which outline how it will improve in the "Gwynedd Plan 2023-2028"

2. HOW DOES THE PROPOSAL MEET CYNGOR GWYNEDD'S WELL-BEING OBJECTIVES?

The proposal:

On 14 October 2025, the Cyngor Gwynedd Cabinet decided to undertake a statutory consultation process on a proposal to close Ysgol Nebo on 31 December 2026, and to provide a place for learners at Ysgol Llanllyfni from 1 January 2027 onwards, in accordance with the requirements of Section 48 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013.

The consultation was held between 5 December 2025 and 23 January 2026.

Cyngor Gwynedd's Cabinet considered the consultation report at its meeting on 19 May 2026 and resolved to publish a Statutory Notice on the proposal to close Ysgol Nebo on 31 December 2026 and to offer places for learners at Ysgol Llanllyfni from 1 January 2027 onwards. The Statutory Notice was published on 3 June 2026 and a 28-day statutory objection period was held between 3 June and 30 June 2026. The objection period ended on 30 June 2026 and 20 objections were received during that period. A petition opposing the proposal was also received from the Governing Body of Ysgol Nebo, containing 358 signatures.

Objectives	Details:
Giving our children and young people the best possible start in life	In the consultation responses, and the objections received during the objection period, concerns were expressed about the impact of the proposal on vulnerable children, particularly those with additional learning needs or emotional difficulties. It was noted that Ysgol Nebo is seen as an inclusive environment offering small classes, personal support, and close relationships between staff and learners, and that this support is essential for the development, confidence and wellbeing of some learners. Concerns were raised that moving to a larger school would reduce opportunities for individual attention, targeted support and wellbeing, leading to a risk of educational disengagement or a return to home education. The Council recognises that there may be some negative impact on learners' wellbeing during the transition period. Should Ysgol Nebo close, the authority and the receiving school would work closely with the closing school, with the learners and their families, to ensure a smooth transition and to support learners as they settle into their new schools. It is anticipated that carefully planned transition arrangements, with appropriate support, can mitigate negative effects and support the continuity of educational progress. As noted in the Gwynedd Parents' Handbook, learners with Additional Learning Needs (ALN) have the right to continue receiving the provision specified in their Individual Development Plan, and the Authority has a duty to ensure that this provision continues even when school arrangements change. The Council is committed to prioritising individual needs, including vulnerable children and/or those with ALN, and to continuously monitoring the impact of the change on protected groups should the school close. The Council remains of the view that the proposal would ensure that children in the area develop experiences through socialising with a wider range of peers of a similar age, while receiving quality education in a school that can offer a learning environment and experiences suitable for a broader range of learners.
Strengthening the economy and supporting the people of Gwynedd to earn a decent salary	It is anticipated that implementing this proposal would be likely to have a negative impact on this objective, as it could lead to staff redundancies. A detailed staffing policy was developed by Cyngor Gwynedd in collaboration with Trade Unions and head teachers. The policy will form the basis of any change to staff employment resulting from any proposal. Clear and open communication will be central to the successful implementation of any proposals.
Supporting Gwynedd residents to live in suitable and affordable homes in their communities	During the statutory objection period, concerns were reiterated that the loss of Ysgol Nebo as a community focal point could influence decisions by young families about settling in the area in the future, with wider implications for the sustainability of the community. Some respondents stated that the presence of a local school is an important factor in attracting and retaining young families in rural communities, and expressed

	concern that the loss of the school could reduce the area's attractiveness as a place to live. Reference was also made to wider factors affecting the sustainability of rural communities, including demographics, housing and second homes, and the view was expressed that the closure of the school could contribute to a gradual decline in the long term viability of rural communities over time. of children within Ysgol Nebo's catchment area already attend schools outside the catchment area, namely 78%, with 44% of primary-aged children in the catchment area already attending Ysgol Llanllyfni. Consequently, the Council does not anticipate that families and young children would leave the community if the school were to close. Furthermore, given that the alternative school is located 1.6 miles from Ysgol Nebo, the Council does not envisage that the proposal would encourage families to leave the community or make young families less likely to move into the area. As a result, although concerns have been expressed regarding the future attractiveness of the area to young families, there is no evidence to suggest that the proposal would have a significant impact on people's ability to live within their communities. Therefore, no significant impact is anticipated on this wellbeing objective.
Supporting the residents of Gwynedd to live full and safe lives in our communities	Ensuring that the learners receive a first class education will be at the core of the proposal, ensuring that they will receive an education of the same quality and standard in the alternative school. During the statutory objection period, concerns were expressed that the loss of the school as a community space could reduce opportunities for residents to socialise, volunteer, and participate in local activities, raising concerns about the possibility of increased social isolation for some residents. It was noted that not all residents, particularly older people or those without access to a car, would necessarily be able to take advantage of activities or facilities outside the community. It is therefore acknowledged that the proposal could have some negative impact on this objective. Mitigation measures would include considering opportunities to maintain community links and activities, together with considering options for community use of the school building should the school close, through the Authority's Post-Use Policy, where appropriate.
Ensuring that we give our residents every possible opportunity to use the Welsh language in the community	During the statutory consultation and the statutory objection period, respondents expressed strong concerns, particularly regarding the role of Ysgol Nebo as a linguistic and community hub. Many respondents emphasised the school as the main social space where Welsh is used daily by children, families, and local residents. It was noted that the school makes an important contribution to the natural use of Welsh outside the classroom, including through community events, social activities, Welsh-language lessons for adults, and intergenerational interaction. Concern was expressed that closing the school could lead to a significant reduction in the day-to-day use of Welsh as a living community language, especially in a village where no alternative community centre is available. During the statutory objection period, specific reference was made to Welsh-medium activities held at the school and community room, including Welsh language classes, and to the importance of the school in creating opportunities for children, families and local residents to hear and use Welsh naturally in community life outside the formal educational context. As part of the statutory process, the Authority carried out an assessment of the impact of the proposal on the Welsh language. This assessment was updated after considering the comments received during the statutory consultation. In its conclusion, it notes that the Council recognises the concerns raised regarding the role of Ysgol Nebo in supporting community use of Welsh within the village, and accepts that the comments highlight a possible adverse impact on local linguistic vitality outside formal educational provision. However, based on the information available, the Council's view is that the proposed scheme is unlikely to have a negative impact on Welsh-medium education provision or pupils' language opportunities, for the following reasons:

	- January 2026 PLASC data shows that 56% of Ysgol Nebo learners speak Welsh fluently at home, compared with 68% of learners at Ysgol Llanllyfni. - The proposal to close Ysgol Nebo and offer places for the learners in a nearby school (Ysgol Llanllyfni) means that learners from the Nebo catchment area would continue to be educated in a Welsh-medium, Category 3 school. - It is anticipated that learners would be taught in larger classes and alongside more children of the same age group. The proposed changes are expected to strengthen opportunities for learners to socialise in Welsh with a greater number of their peers. On this basis, if the proposal were implemented, it is anticipated that learners from the Nebo catchment area would have more opportunities to use Welsh informally with their peers both inside and outside the classroom, and that the level of linguistic vitality and informal use of the language would be stronger. At the same time, having considered consultation responses, the Council acknowledges that the option of closing Ysgol Nebo could have a potential negative impact on the use of Welsh within the local community, particularly in terms of its use as a community language outside the educational context. However, it is noted that mitigation measures could be considered by promoting the use of Welsh through involving the Nebo community in the community activities of the alternative school, as well as considering appropriate options for the future use of the school building, taking into account the community activities currently held there.
Protecting the county's natural beauty, and responding positively to the climate change crisis	No effect.
Putting the residents of Gwynedd first and treating them fairly and ensuring that the Council performs effectively and efficiently	No effect.

3. DOES THE PROPOSAL MEET THE WELL-BEING AIMS OF THE ACT?

Aim	Does the proposal contribute to this aim?	Measures to mitigate negative effects on this aim:
A prosperous Wales An innovative society that uses resources prudently, educated people, that create wealth and work.	The implementation of the proposal to close Ysgol Nebo and teach the children in a nearby alternative school would mean that the learners build experiences by socialising with a wider range of peers, age-related and receiving a quality education in a school that can offer a learning environment and experiences to a wider range of learners. Introducing this proposal could lead to staff losing their jobs.	Staff and Union representatives will be consulted specifically as part of the statutory consultation period. Cyngor Gwynedd has developed a detailed staffing policy, jointly with Trade Unions and headteachers. Any redundancies as a result of this proposal will have to be in line with that policy. Clear and open communication will play a key role in implementing any proposals.
A resilient Wales A nation that maintains and enhances biodiversity and healthy ecosystems that support resilience and adaptability to change (for example climate change).	It is not anticipated that the proposal would be likely to have an impact on this aim.	No effect
A healthier Wales A society where people's physical and mental well-being is as good as possible, and people understand what affects their health.	It is not anticipated that the proposal would be likely to have an impact on this aim. Concerns were raised during the objection period about the potential impact of the loss of a community space on social isolation and the wellbeing of some residents. It is therefore acknowledged that there could be some negative impacts as a result of the loss of the school as a community focal point.	If the proposal were to be implemented, the needs of every learner would be considered on an individual basis when planning transition arrangements, including their emotional wellbeing and any additional support required. The Council would also consider measures to support community connections and activities, together with appropriate options for the future use of the school building, in accordance with the Authority's Post-Use Policy.
A more equal Wales A society that enables people to achieve their potential regardless of their background or circumstances (including their socio-economic background and circumstances).	In the consultation responses and the statutory objection period, concerns were expressed about the impact of the proposal on vulnerable children, including learners with additional learning needs or emotional difficulties. It was noted that Ysgol Nebo is seen as an inclusive environment offering small classes, personal support, and close relationships between staff and learners, and that this support is essential for the development, confidence and wellbeing of some learners. Concerns were raised that moving to a larger school would reduce opportunities for individual attention, targeted support and wellbeing, leading to a risk of educational disengagement or a return to home education.	Although concerns have been expressed regarding the potential impact on vulnerable children, including learners with additional learning needs and emotional difficulties, specific mitigation measures are in place to ensure that the proposal would not lead to exclusion or disproportionate discrimination. In accordance with the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 and the ALN Code for Wales, the Local Authority has a duty to ensure that every learner with additional learning needs continues to receive the provision set out in their Individual Development Plan, regardless of any change in school arrangements. If the proposal were to be implemented, transition arrangements would be carefully planned, with appropriate support for learners and families, including early

	In addition, respondents expressed concern that closing Ysgol Nebo could have a disproportionate impact on families facing socio-economic disadvantage, particularly in terms of transport costs and accessibility, thereby increasing the risk of social exclusion. The school's central role within the community was also emphasised, including its contribution to community cohesion, reducing loneliness, and creating opportunities to engage with the Welsh language across different age groups. The Council remains of the view that the proposal would improve the Authority's ability to "offer the highest possible quality of education that will give the experiences, skills and confidence to the children of the County and enable them to develop into successful, bilingual and fulfilled citizens," in line with the vision of the Best Quality Primary Education Strategy for the Children of Gwynedd	engagement with the receiving school, relevant support staff, and support services. If the proposal were to be implemented, it is anticipated that provision at Ysgol Llanllyfni would include access to a wider range of expertise, peers and professional support, with the aim of maintaining or improving learners' wellbeing, inclusion and educational experience. In relation to families from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds, it is noted that school transport arrangements would be administered in accordance with the Council's statutory policy, ensuring that the cost or accessibility of transport is not a barrier to equal access to education. Potential impacts on individual families would be considered where relevant. Following consideration of the comments submitted during the statutory consultation, the equality impact assessment has been updated to reflect the concerns raised and their potential impact on protected characteristics and broader equality. This assessment states that the proposal could give rise to potential partially negative impacts on some groups, including in relation to Disability, Age, the Welsh Language and Socio-economic Considerations. However, the further assessment also identifies potential positive impacts if the proposal were implemented, including in relation to access to broader educational provision, additional social and educational opportunities, and access to extended expertise and support. To mitigate any potential negative impacts, it is noted that robust policies and procedures are already in place within the Authority, applicable to all schools in the county, to ensure compliance with equality duties, prevent unlawful discrimination, and promote equal opportunities for all learners. In addition, it is noted that strong policies and arrangements are in place to ensure that the proposal takes account of and aligns with equal rights. It is also stated that measures are already in place to ensure that unlawful discrimination or harassment will not occur.
A Wales of cohesive communities Attractive, viable and safe communities that are well connected.	During the local discussions (Summer Term 2025), stakeholders highlighted the importance of the school to the community in the village of Nebo, noting the regular use made of the school building by the community.	As part of the statutory process, the Authority carried out an assessment of the impact of the proposal on the community. This assessment was updated following consideration of the comments received during the statutory consultation. In the latest assessment, it is noted that the

	During the statutory consultation period, further concerns were expressed regarding the community implications should the school close, with a number of responses emphasising that Ysgol Nebo is currently the only place in the village where community members can meet and hold social activities. It was noted that the loss of the school as a community hub could lead to a weakening of community cohesion, reduce opportunities for social interaction, and have a negative impact on the vitality and long-term sustainability of the rural community. During the statutory objection period, concerns were raised that the closure of Ysgol Nebo would result in the loss of an important community focal point and would affect the social, linguistic, voluntary, and public activities held at the school and the community hall. Concerns were also expressed regarding the potential impact on the community's identity, cohesion, social inclusion, and long-term viability. It is acknowledged that the closure of Ysgol Nebo could have some negative impact on the community as a result of the loss of the school as a community focal point.	Council acknowledges that there would likely be some negative impact on the community if the option to close Ysgol Nebo were implemented, as this would result in the loss of a school within the Nebo community as a community hub. The concerns raised during the consultation regarding the implications of this for the vitality of the community are recognised. In addition, if Ysgol Nebo were to close, it is acknowledged that the local school would be further from homes within the current Ysgol Nebo catchment area, and from a deprivation perspective this means that one of the indicators of "access to services" would be reduced for residents of the area. As a result, it is anticipated that there would be some negative impact on the local community if the school were to close. However, it is noted that a significant proportion of children in the catchment area (78%) already attend other schools, including Ysgol Llanllyfni (44%), suggesting that community and educational links with neighbouring communities, including Llanllyfni, already exist. If the Cabinet were to decide to proceed with closing Ysgol Nebo, the Council would seek to mitigate the impact on the community by encouraging and supporting ongoing links between the Nebo community and the alternative school, promoting community collaboration where appropriate, and ensuring that residents and families are aware of the opportunities, facilities and activities at the alternative school. In addition, it is noted that if a decision were made to close the school, the Authority's After-use Policy would provide a framework for undertaking further discussions regarding appropriate options for the future use of the school building, including community use where appropriate, in order to seek to mitigate any negative impact on the local community.
Wales and a vibrant culture where the Welsh language flourishes An association that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language and encourages people to participate in the arts, sports and leisure activities.	Through the responses to the statutory consultation and the statutory consultation period, concerns were raised that closing the school could reduce the regular use of the Welsh language, as well as opportunities for children from non-Welsh-speaking homes to develop fluency. The need to ensure that Welsh-medium education remains central to any future arrangements was emphasised, along with the importance of actively promoting opportunities to use the Welsh language. The school was described as an important linguistic and cultural focal point, and concern was expressed that losing the school could weaken the community's local identity.	As part of the statutory process, the Authority carried out an assessment of the impact of the proposal on the Welsh language. This assessment was updated following consideration of the comments received during the statutory consultation. In the latest assessment, it is noted that the Council acknowledges the concerns raised regarding the role of Ysgol Nebo in supporting community use of Welsh within the village, and accepts that the comments highlight a possible adverse impact on local linguistic vitality outside formal educational provision. However, based on the information available, the Council's view is that the proposed scheme is unlikely to have a negative impact on Welsh-

	Concerns were expressed regarding the potential impact of the closure of Ysgol Nebo on Welsh as a living community language. The school was described by a number of respondents as an important linguistic and cultural focal point that contributes to creating opportunities for children, families, and residents to use Welsh naturally in their day-to-day lives. Concern was also expressed that the loss of the school could reduce opportunities to use Welsh outside the formal educational context and weaken the role of the Welsh language in the community life of the village. The Council acknowledges the concerns regarding the potential impact of closing Ysgol Nebo on the linguistic vitality of the local community. However, if the proposal were to be implemented, based on the latest data and the fact that learners from the Nebo catchment would continue to be educated in a Welsh-medium, Category 3 school with broader opportunities to socialise in Welsh, it is anticipated that the proposal would maintain or even strengthen informal use of the Welsh language among learners. Nevertheless, the Council recognises that, should a decision be made to close the school, the change could lead to a negative impact on the use of Welsh as a community language outside the school, and is considering mitigation measures such as involving the Nebo community in activities at the alternative school and exploring options for the future use of the building.	medium education provision or pupils' language opportunities, for the following reasons: - January 2026 PLASC data shows that 56% of learners at Ysgol Nebo speak Welsh fluently at home, compared with 68% of learners at Ysgol Llanllyfni. - The proposal to close Ysgol Nebo and offer places for the learners in a nearby school (Ysgol Llanllyfni) means that learners from the Nebo catchment area would continue to be educated in a Welsh-medium, Category 3 school. - It is anticipated that learners would be taught in larger classes and alongside more children of the same age group. The proposed changes are expected to strengthen opportunities for learners to socialise in Welsh with a greater number of their peers. On this basis, if the proposal were implemented, it is anticipated that learners from the Nebo catchment area would have more opportunities to use Welsh informally with their peers both inside and outside the classroom, and that the level of linguistic vitality and informal use of the language would be stronger. At the same time, having considered the consultation responses, the Council acknowledges that the option of closing Ysgol Nebo could have a potential negative impact on the use of Welsh within the local community, particularly in terms of its use as a community language outside the educational context. However, it is noted that mitigation measures could be considered by promoting the use of Welsh through involving the Nebo community in the community activities of the alternative school, as well as considering appropriate options for the future use of the school building, taking into account the community activities currently held there, if the proposal were to be implemented.
Wales responsible at a global level A nation that, as it does anything to improve the economic, social, environmental, and cultural well-being of Wales, considers whether doing such a thing could contribute positively to global well-being.	It is not anticipated that the proposal would be likely to have an impact on this aim.	No effect.

4. PRINCIPLES OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Principles of Sustainable Development	Does the proposal consider the principle?
Long Term Balancing short-term needs with long-term ones and planning for the future.	The pattern of decreasing learner numbers has been consistent for a number of years, with projections showing that Ysgol Nebo learner numbers will continue to be vulnerable over the next few years and therefore shows that the current challenges facing the school will be long-term ones, and therefore the case for change is clear.
Prevent Allocate resources for preventing problems from occurring or getting worse. We will address problems by preventing and intervening early rather than by reacting.	Should the Cabinet decide to take further action, the needs of the learners will be a priority during every stage of any process.
Integration Have a positive impact on people, the economy, the environment, and culture.	The authority decided to start the process of looking at the future of Ysgol Nebo due to a critical situation facing the school.
Cooperation Work with other partners to provide services.	Collaboration with other relevant departments and the alternative school will be an important part of achieving the objectives for the benefit of the school and the children of the catchment area.
Content (Communication and Engagement) Involve the people of Gwynedd in trying to complete our plan and ensure that those people reflect the diversity of the area.	This proposal has been the subject of a public consultation, as well as a consultation for children, as well as a statutory objection period. The process has also included local review meetings to engage with relevant school stakeholders. These meetings included the Governing Body, staff and parents of Ysgol Nebo.

5. CONCLUSION

Following consideration and assessment in accordance with the requirements of the well-being act, the 7 aims of the well-being act and the Council's well-being objectives were considered, and it is concluded that the proposal meets the requirements.

In the consultation responses and the statutory objection period, specific concerns were raised about the impact of the proposal on vulnerable children and learners with additional learning needs, on the wellbeing of families facing socio-economic disadvantage, and on the linguistic and community vitality of the village.

It is recognised that, this proposal would lead to the loss of a school in the Nebo community, however many of the children who live within the school's catchment area already attend the nearby alternative schools, and therefore there is already a link between the school and the Nebo community. Every effort will be made to mitigate the impact on the community by encouraging links between the communities. Should the proposal be approved, discussions will be held to discuss the possibility that the alternative school community activity includes the Nebo community where appropriate.

It is also acknowledged that there may be some negative impact on learners' wellbeing during the transition period should the school close. If Ysgol Nebo were to close, the authority and the alternative school would work closely with the closing school, its learners, and their families to ensure a smooth transition and to support learners as they settle into their new schools. The Council is committed to ensuring that any transition arrangements prioritise individual needs, including those of vulnerable children and learners with Additional Learning Needs (ALN), should the school close.

It is anticipated that the proposal would ensure that the children of the area are educated on a site that is suitable and in a natural Welsh language society, increasing opportunities to socialise and collaborate with others and give them a fair chance to flourish among their peers.

Assessment of the Impact on the People of Gwynedd

This document assesses what impact the policy, procedure, plan, etc. will have on the county's population and operates based on a number of legislations.

- **Equality Act 2010.** It places a duty on public organisations to give due attention to the impact of any new policy, procedure or plan, etc. (or as they are adapted) on persons with protected characteristics. We are required to
 - eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct that is prohibited by the Act.
 - advance equality of opportunity between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not.
 - foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

In Wales, the specific duty notes the need to undertake an impact assessment following specific guidelines to consider the impact that any changes in any policy or procedure (or the creation of a new policy or procedure), will have on persons with protected equality characteristics. A timely assessment should be made before any decision is taken on any relevant change (i.e. that affects people with protected equality characteristics).

- **Socio-economic Duty.** Wales has implemented this further duty, which is part of the Equality Act 2010, and places a duty to address socio-economic disadvantages in strategic decisions.
- **Welsh Language Standards (Section 44 Welsh Language Measure (Wales) 2011).** The Council is required to consider the impact that any change in any policy or procedure (or the creation of a new policy or procedure), will have on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and to ensure that the Welsh language is not treated less favourably than English. This document therefore ensures that these decisions safeguard and promote the use made of the Welsh language.
- **Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015.** The Council has a duty to put the five ways of working in place and to respond to the seven national well-being goals.
- **Armed Forces Act 2021.** Councils must give due attention to the impact of this proposal on those who serve or who have served in the Armed Forces, as well as their families.

Ysgol Nebo

Author: Gwern ap Rhisiart

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STEP 1 - Main Aims and Objectives of the Policy or Practice

1. What kind of document or procedure is being assessed?

- New and revised policies, practices or procedures (which modify service delivery or employment practices)

2. What are the overall aims, objectives and intended outcomes of the policy or practice?

On 14 October 2025, the Cyngor Gwynedd Cabinet decided to undertake a statutory consultation process on a proposal to close Ysgol Nebo on 31 December 2026, and to provide a place for learners at Ysgol Llanllyfni from 1 January 2027 onwards, in accordance with the requirements of Section 48 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013.

The consultation was held between 5 December 2025 and 23 January 2026, and 70 responses to the consultation were received.

Gwynedd Council's Cabinet considered the consultation report at its meeting on 19 May 2026 and resolved to publish a statutory notice on the proposal to close Ysgol Nebo on 31 December 2026 and to offer places to learners at Ysgol Llanllyfni from 1 January 2027 onwards. The statutory notice was published on 3 June 2026, and a 28-day statutory objection period was held between 3 June and 30 June 2026. The objection period ended on 30 June 2026, and 20 objections were received during that period. A petition opposing the proposal was also received from the Governing Body of Ysgol Nebo, containing 358 signatures.

Ysgol Nebo has been prioritised for a review of the educational provision as the school is facing a number of challenges. Pupil numbers at the school have fallen consistently in recent years and have been fragile for some time. Consequently, it is likely that the school is facing increasing challenges, including:

- **Number of learners** – Census PLASC data from January 2026 shows that only 11 pupils from Reception to Year 6 were attending the school, and 1 child was in the Nursery Class. The school has capacity for 51 learners from Reception to Year 6 (+7 in the Nursery Class).
- **Learners in the catchment area**– Data from January 2026 shows that only 22% of learners in the Ysgol Nebo catchment area choose to attend the school. A total of 78% of learners in the catchment choose to attend out-of-catchment schools.
- **Projected numbers** - Projected numbers suggest that numbers will continue to be fragile for the future: September 2026 = 12; September 2027 = 11; September 2028 = 10
- **High percentage of surplus places** - Based on January 2026 figures, approximately 79% of places at the school are vacant (46 in number).

- **Small class sizes** - There are 2 classes at Ysgol Nebo (January 2026) with 5 learners (Reception - Year 3) and 1 nursery learner in one class, and 6 learners (year 4 to year 6) are in the second class.
- **Broad age ranges within classes** - An age range of up to 5 years is in one class and 3 years in the second class.
- **Additional funding to the usual allocation** – Ysgol Nebo receives an additional amount to the usual allocation through the Staffing Minimum Policy (which guarantees at least a headteacher and a teacher in each school, and a headteacher and assistant in schools with less than 15 full -time learners). The total additional amount during the financial year 2026-27 (based on September 2025) will be £ 64,046.
- **Cost per learner** - An average cost per learner at Ysgol Nebo in 2026-27 is £ 16,066 compared to the county average of £ 5,998.

3. Who are the main consultative groups (stakeholders)?

- Staff, Governors and Parents/Guardians of Ysgol Nebo
- A statutory consultation was held on the proposal, consulting with all consultees specified in the School Organization Code.
- Education Department and Officers from other Cyngor Gwynedd departments.

STEP 2 - Engagement Data and Assessing the Impact

4. Has any effort been made to comply with the duty to engage in accordance with what is described above and has enough information been gathered to move forward?

Yes

The engagement details. Note any consultation or engagement you have conducted or intend to conduct.

Action	Dates	Information
Ysgol Nebo Review Panel 1	18 March 2025	The Ysgol Nebo School Review Panel (SRP) was established in March 2025 and a series of meetings were held between March and July 2025, with the last of these held on 14 July 2025. The SRP members included the school's headteacher and staff, governors, the Local Member, parents and guardians.
Ysgol Nebo Review Panel 2	12 May 2025	
Ysgol Nebo Review Panel 3	14 July 2025	During the meetings, a number of options were considered for primary education in the Ysgol Nebo catchment area to ensure a sustainable provision for the future and respond specifically to the small numbers of learners.

Statutory Consultation	December 2025 – January 2026	A statutory consultation was held on the proposal, in accordance with the School Organisation Code. The consultation was held between 5 December 2025 and 23 January 2026, and 70 responses to the consultation were received.
Statutory Objection Period	3 June – 30 June 2026	A statutory notice regarding the proposal was published on 3 June 2026, and a 28-day statutory objection period was held between 3 June and 30 June 2026. The objection period ended on 30 June 2026, and 20 objections were received during that period. A petition opposing the proposal was also received from the Governing Body of Ysgol Nebo, containing 358 signatures.

5. What information is available about the impact on each of the following characteristics and subjects?

Evidence, Information and Relevant Data		Potential Positive and/or Negative Impact
Race	Gwynedd schools have relevant policies in place to protect individuals from any discrimination based on race, such as Equality, Inclusion and Anti-bullying Policies. The Anti-bullying Policy provided by Cyngor Gwynedd states anti-bullying guidelines and procedures based on factors such as race in the school. Also, it is states in the Equality policy that is implemented by Gwynedd primary schools that schools <i>"... are opposed to all types of prejudice and discrimination and acknowledge that pupils have different needs, requirements and objectives."</i> Therefore, it is not anticipated that this proposal would have a negative impact on this characteristic.	None
Disability	During the consultation, several respondents expressed concern that the proposal could have a negative impact on vulnerable children, including those with ALN, due to the loss of the benefits associated with small class environments, personalised support, and the sense of inclusion identified at Ysgol Nebo. Specific concerns were raised regarding wellbeing, mental health, and the risk that some learners may find it difficult to transition to a larger school, with potential implications for their educational experience. The Council notes these concerns and notes that equality, inclusion and anti-discrimination policies are in place within the current provision and at the alternative school. Should the proposal be implemented, transition arrangements would place emphasis on individual needs, ensuring that the child's voice is taken into account.	As a result of the comments received during the consultation, a potential negative impact was identified for some learners due to concerns that moving to a larger school could reduce individual attention and targeted support, increasing the risk of transition difficulties or educational disengagement. However, the Council's assessment is that the impact on this characteristic would be neutral or positive were the proposal to be implemented, as the alternative school would be

	During the statutory objection period, a number of the concerns previously raised during the statutory consultation were reiterated regarding the potential impact of the proposal on vulnerable learners, including learners with ALN. Further emphasis was placed on the needs of learners experiencing anxiety, neurodiversity, or social and emotional needs, as well as learners requiring additional support who do not have an IDP. Concerns were also expressed about the loss of a nurturing learning environment and the potential impact this could have on the wellbeing and transition experience of these learners.	able to offer classes with more age-appropriate peers. No impact on this characteristic is anticipated as a result of the change. An accessibility assessment of any relevant alternative schools would be undertaken, and we would ensure that any transport provided (in accordance with the Education Department's transport policy) is suitable for the individual's needs. The needs of any disabled child would be considered in accordance with the Education Department's Accessibility and Equality policies. An assessment of any relevant alternative schools would be undertaken on the basis of accessibility, and we would ensure that any transport provided (in accordance with the Education Department's transport policy) is suitable for the individual's needs. The needs of any disabled child would be considered in line with the Education Department's Accessibility and Equality policies.
Sex	Implementing the proposal would not have an impact on this characteristic. Implementing the proposal will mean that everyone will be treated according to their need, whatever their gender. Every school implements an Equality Policy stating that the school: <i>"... is opposed to all types of prejudice and discrimination and acknowledges that pupils have different needs, requirements and objectives."</i>	None
Age	During the consultation, several respondents expressed concern that the proposal could have a negative impact on vulnerable children, including those with ALN, due to the loss of the benefits associated with small class environments, personalised support, and the sense of inclusion identified at Ysgol Nebo. Specific concerns were raised regarding wellbeing, mental health, and the risk that some learners may find it difficult to transition to a larger school, with potential implications for their educational experience. The Council notes these concerns and notes that equality, inclusion and anti-discrimination policies are in place within the current provision and at the alternative school. Should the proposal be implemented, transition arrangements would place emphasis on individual needs.	As a result of the comments received during the consultation and the statutory objection period, a potential negative impact was identified for some learners due to concerns that moving to a larger school could reduce individual attention and targeted support, increasing the risk of transition difficulties or educational disengagement. However, the Council's assessment is that the impact on this characteristic would be neutral or positive were

	During the statutory objection period, concerns raised during the consultation regarding the impact of the closure of the school on the wellbeing and experiences of some learners were reiterated. Additional emphasis was placed on the potential impact that the loss of a familiar and stable environment could have on the wellbeing, sense of belonging, confidence and happiness of some children, together with concerns regarding the effects of longer travel distances, increased time spent travelling, and reduced time with families or within the community. Should the proposal be implemented, it is anticipated that the children of Ysgol Nebo would benefit from having more age-related peers in their class as there are more learners at Ysgol Llanllyfni, which will be a way to ensure age-appropriate educational and extra-curricular experiences, as well as access to additional extra-curricular activities. We believe that learners will receive more age-appropriate experiences at the nearby alternative school since the learners will have learning experiences in collective groups, smaller groups, partner work and individually within their specific age range, along with lessons that have been appropriately differentiated for the age range in question. It is anticipated that implementing the proposal would mean that people of any age would be treated fairly and according to their need. Ysgol Nebo and Ysgol Llanllyfni implement an equality policy stating that the schools: <i>"... are opposed to all types of prejudice and discrimination and acknowledge that pupils have different needs, requirements and objectives."</i>	the proposal to be implemented, as the alternative school would be able to offer classes with more age-appropriate peers. An assessment of any relevant alternative schools would be carried out on the basis of accessibility, and we would ensure that any transport provided (in accordance with the Education Department's transport policy) is suitable for the individual's needs. The needs of any disabled child would be considered in line with the Education Department's Accessibility and Equality policies.
Religion and Belief	Ysgol Nebo and the alternative school noted in the proposal (Ysgol Llanllyfni) are community schools. Every school has an Inclusion Policy that would deal with any discriminatory incident that may occur at the school, which is associated with religion or belief. Therefore, it is not anticipated that this proposal would have an impact on this characteristic.	None
Sexual Orientation	Relationships and sexuality education (RSE) is a statutory requirement in the Curriculum for Wales framework that was published under section 71 of the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2021 and is mandatory for all learners aged between 3 and 16. RSE has a positive and empowering role to play in learners' education and it is essential to form and maintain a range of relationships, that are all based on respect and trust on both sides, which is core to relationships and sexuality education. These relationships are crucial to developing emotional well-being, resilience and empathy. An understanding of sexuality with an emphasis on rights, health, equality and fairness empowers the learners to understand themselves, to take responsibility for their own decisions and behaviours and to form relationships. We believe that learners will receive more opportunities to develop relationships and learn collaboratively as part of a larger class in an alternative school.	None

	It is not anticipated that the proposal would have an impact on people on the grounds of sexual orientation. Ysgol Nebo and Ysgol Llanllyfni, the proposed alternative school, implement an equality policy stating that the school: <i>"... is opposed to all types of prejudice and discrimination and acknowledges that pupils have different needs, requirements and objectives."</i>	
Gender reassignment	It is not anticipated that implementing the proposal would have an impact on people on the grounds of gender reassignment. It is stated in the Equality policy that is implemented by Gwynedd primary schools including Ysgol Nebo and Ysgol Llanllyfni that the schools <i>"... are opposed to all types of prejudice and discrimination and acknowledge that pupils have different needs, requirements and objectives."</i>	None
Marriage and Civil Partnership	It is not anticipated that the proposal would have an impact on anyone who is married or in a civil partnership, as both schools who are a part of the proposal implement the same policies.	None
Pregnancy and Maternity	It is not anticipated that the proposal would have an impact on anyone who is pregnant, whether staff or parents, as both schools which are a part of the proposal implement the same policies.	None
The Welsh Language	Through responses to the statutory consultation, concerns were expressed that the closure of Ysgol Nebo could lead to a reduction in community use of the Welsh language, even though Welsh-medium educational provision would continue. Respondents emphasised that the school contributes to the natural, everyday social use of Welsh, and that losing the school could reduce such opportunities within the local community. It was also noted that Ysgol Nebo plays an important role in promoting the use of Welsh beyond the classroom, through community and intergenerational activities, and that closing the school could weaken the status of Welsh as a living community language, particularly as there is no alternative community centre in the village. In addition, concerns were raised that closing the school could affect the sustainability of the local community, including community cohesion, community use of Welsh, and the attractiveness of the village to young families, highlighting the school's role as a social and linguistic focal point in an area without an alternative community facility. During the statutory objection period, a number of the concerns raised during the statutory consultation regarding the role of Ysgol Nebo in supporting Welsh as a living community language were reiterated. The view was reinforced that the school contributes to the natural and social use of Welsh beyond the classroom through community activities, local events, and opportunities for residents to use and hear the Welsh language on a regular basis. Reference was also made to concerns that closing the school could run counter to the objectives of Cymraeg 2050 and could affect the long-term linguistic sustainability of the community.	Negative (Welsh within the community) / Positive (Educational) The Council notes the concerns expressed regarding the potential impact of closing the school on the linguistic vitality of the local community outside formal educational provision. However, based on the available evidence, the Council's view is that the proposal is unlikely to have a negative impact on Welsh-medium education provision or on learners' language opportunities. The aim of Gwynedd's Education Language Policy is the same for all primary schools in the county. This means that, if the proposal were to be implemented, learners from Ysgol Nebo would be able to continue to receive their education in Welsh and bilingually in accordance with the Education Language Policy at Ysgol Llanllyfni. If the proposal were to be implemented, it is anticipated that it would have a positive impact on the Welsh language from an educational perspective, as learners from Ysgol Nebo would

	The Council acknowledges the concerns expressed regarding the potential impact of the school's closure on the linguistic vitality of the local community outside formal educational provision. However, based on the evidence available, the Council's view is that the proposal is unlikely to have a negative impact on Welsh-medium education provision or on learners' linguistic opportunities. Gwynedd's Education Language Policy is the same for all primary schools in the county. This means that, if the proposal were implemented, learners from Ysgol Nebo would continue to receive their education in Welsh and bilingually in accordance with the Language Policy at Ysgol Llanllyfni. If the proposal were implemented, it is anticipated that it would have a positive impact on the Welsh language from an educational perspective, as Ysgol Nebo learners would benefit from more opportunities to use Welsh with a wider range of age-appropriate peers, both in class and socially. The alternative school, Ysgol Llanllyfni, serves areas that are strongholds of the Welsh language.	benefit from increased opportunities to use Welsh with a wider range of peers in the classroom and socially. The alternative school, Ysgol Llanllyfni, serves areas that are strongholds of the Welsh language. At the same time, the Council acknowledges that there is a risk of a possible negative impact on the use of Welsh from a community perspective, and it is anticipated that some elements of community events may be affected, and consequently the use of Welsh within the community. It is anticipated that there could be some negative impact arising from implementing the proposal, as parents/guardians/families would no longer meet daily within the Nebo community when dropping off/collecting children from school. It is therefore noted that mitigation measures could be considered, including promoting links between the Nebo community and activities at the alternative school, as well as considering appropriate options for the future use of the school building, taking into account its current community use.
Socio-economic Considerations	During the consultation, respondents expressed concern that the closure of Ysgol Nebo could have a disproportionate impact on families experiencing socio-economic disadvantage, particularly in relation to transport costs and accessibility, potentially increasing the risk of social exclusion. Respondents also emphasised the central role of the school within the community, contributing to community cohesion, reducing loneliness, and creating opportunities to engage with the Welsh language across age groups. During the statutory objection period, concerns expressed during the consultation regarding the potential loss of Ysgol Nebo as a community focal point were reiterated. Further concerns were raised about the potential impact on social inclusion, access to local community opportunities, and the ability of some residents to participate in activities or access facilities outside the local community.	Partially negative / Positive The Council's assessment is that there would be some negative impact, together with potential positive impacts, on this characteristic if the proposal were to be implemented. It is acknowledged that a negative impact could arise as a result of the loss of a school within the Nebo community and the challenges that this could present for some families and for the local community. However, the proposal is also anticipated to lead to positive outcomes by securing access to a broader educational provision,

	The Community Impact Assessment indicates that there would likely be some negative impact on the community if the proposal were to be implemented, as this would result in the loss of a school within the Nebo community and, from a deprivation perspective, would mean that one of the indicators, namely “access to services,” would become less accessible to local residents. However, it is noted that a significant proportion of children within Ysgol Nebo’s catchment area already attend other schools, with many attending Ysgol Llanllyfni, which suggests that educational and community links with neighbouring communities are already well established. It is envisaged that the proposal would reduce social disadvantage by ensuring more experiences and diversity of learning, more resources and access to more services and activities.	additional social and educational opportunities in classes with age-appropriate peers, together with access to extended expertise and support. It is also noted that 78% of children within Ysgol Nebo’s catchment area already attend schools outside the catchment area, with 44% attending Ysgol Llanllyfni. This suggests that educational and community links between the catchment area and neighbouring communities already exist.
Those Who Serve or Who Have Served in the Armed Forces, As Well As Their Families	It is not anticipated that the proposal would have an impact on those who serve or who have served in the armed forces, as well as their families. Children from military or ex-military families will get the same fair play whichever school they attend.	None
Human Rights	It is not anticipated that implementing the proposal would have an impact on human rights.	None
Other	-	-

6. Are there any data or information gaps, and if so, what are they and how do you intend to address them?

The assessment was updated following consideration of the responses to the statutory consultation. Following the statutory objection period, the assessment was reviewed further in order to consider the objections received and to assess whether they presented any additional relevant information in relation to equality.

7. When considering other key decisions that affect these groups, is there an increasing impact (cumulative impact)?

We are not aware of any proposed policies that would impact on the children and young people of the area.

8. What does the proposal include to demonstrate you have given due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty (to promote equality of opportunity; help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, or victimisation and foster good relations and wider community cohesion) as covered by the three aims of the General Duty in the Equality Act 2010?

It is not anticipated that the proposal would have an impact on the school's statutory duty to protect learners from any discrimination, harassment or victimisation.

The aim is to promote equal opportunities and encourage the alternative school to continue to follow equality policies and procedures. Should the proposal be realised, it is anticipated that learners would receive more equal opportunities when placed in Ysgol Llanllyfni since the learners would have learning experiences that are based on

national learning principles, with a range of methods, including working in collective groups, smaller groups, partner work and individually within their specific age range, along with lessons that have been appropriately differentiated for the age range in question.

As 78% of children within Ysgol Nebo's catchment area already attend schools outside the catchment area, with 44% attending Ysgol Llanllyfni, educational and community links between the catchment area and Ysgol Llanllyfni already exist.

Nevertheless, should the proposal be implemented, opportunities for the school to build on its existing links with the catchment area of Ysgol Nebo will be promoted.

Relationships and sexuality education (RSE) is a statutory requirement in the Curriculum for Wales framework that was published under section 71 of the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2021 and is mandatory for all learners aged between 3 and 16. RSE has a positive and empowering role to play in learners' education and it is essential to form and maintain a range of relationships, that are all based on respect and trust on both sides, which is core to relationships and sexuality education. These relationships are crucial to developing emotional well-being, resilience and empathy. An understanding of sexuality with an emphasis on rights, health, equality and fairness empowers the learners to understand themselves, to take responsibility for their own decisions and behaviours and to form relationships. By implementing the proposal, it is anticipated that learners would receive more opportunities to develop relationships and learn collaboratively as part of a larger class.

During the statutory consultation and the statutory objection period, consultees raised concerns about the impact of the proposal on vulnerable children, particularly those with additional learning needs, emotional or social difficulties, or those who have experienced bullying or challenges in larger schools. It was noted that Ysgol Nebo provides an inclusive environment, small class sizes, and personalised support that are essential to the wellbeing and development of some learners. Concerns were expressed that moving to a larger school could reduce opportunities for individual attention, targeted support and wellbeing, increasing the risk of educational disengagement or a return to home education. It was also raised that longer travel distances, transport costs, and lack of access to private transport were likely to disproportionately affect poorer families or those without a car, increasing social exclusion.

In terms of community cohesion, respondents emphasised that the school is a focal point for the community, providing opportunities for the whole community—including older residents—to socialise, reduce loneliness and engage with the Welsh language. The Council acknowledges the concerns that have been expressed regarding travel costs and arrangements. Should the proposal be implemented, eligibility for free school transport would be assessed in accordance with Gwynedd Council's Education Transport Policy.

In relation to families from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds, transport arrangements would be administered in line with the relevant policy to ensure that the cost or accessibility of transport does not act as a barrier to accessing education.

A number of responses called for ensuring that the voice of the child is taken into account, and that specific consideration is given to the impact on the wellbeing, mental health, and educational experience of vulnerable children.

The Council notes these issues and emphasises that equality, inclusion, and anti-discrimination policies are in place within both the current provision and at Ysgol Llanllyfni. As set out in the Gwynedd Parents' Handbook, learners with Additional Learning Needs (ALN) are entitled to continue receiving the support specified in their Individual Development Plan (IDP), and the Authority has a duty to ensure that this provision continues even when school arrangements change. The Council is committed to ensuring that any transition arrangements give priority to individual needs, including those of vulnerable children and learners with ALN, should the school close.

The Council acknowledges the concerns raised regarding travel costs and arrangements. Should the proposal be implemented, eligibility for free school transport would be assessed in accordance with Gwynedd Council's Education Transport Policy. In relation to families from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds, transport arrangements would be administered in line with the relevant policy to ensure that the cost or accessibility of transport does not act as a barrier to accessing education.

9. How does the proposal show that due regard has been given to the need to address inequality due to socio-economic disadvantage? (Note that this relates to closing the inequality gap, rather than just improving outcomes for everyone.)

It is envisaged that implementing the proposal would reduce socio-economic inequality by ensuring that the learners have more experiences and access to more services and activities in the alternative school. It is anticipated that learners would receive more equal opportunities since the learners would have learning experiences that are based on national learning principles, with a range of methods, including working in collective groups, smaller groups, partner work and individually within their specific age range, along with lessons that have been appropriately differentiated for the age range in question.

In the consultation responses, concerns were raised that the closure of Ysgol Nebo would have a disproportionate impact on families experiencing socio-economic disadvantage, particularly in relation to transport costs and accessibility, and the risk of increasing social exclusion for children from poorer households or those without access to a car. It was also noted that longer travel distances, lack of access to extracurricular activities, and the need for parents to accompany young children on public transport could create additional barriers for families already facing disadvantage.

During the statutory objection period, concerns were reiterated regarding the potential impact of the loss of Ysgol Nebo as a community resource and focal point. Additional emphasis was placed on the impact that the loss of local community activities and facilities could have on some residents, together with concerns that travelling to facilities outside the community may not be easy for everyone.

The Council notes these issues and notes that, should the school close, free transport would be provided for eligible learners in accordance with the county's school transport policy, which ensures that all primary learners living two miles or more from the catchment school or the nearest school are entitled to free transport. The policy also includes consideration of safe walking routes and individual needs where relevant.

The Community Impact Assessment indicates that there would likely be some negative impact on the community if the proposal were to be implemented, as this would result in the loss of a school within the Nebo community and, from a deprivation perspective, would mean that one of the indicators, namely "access to services," would become less accessible to local residents. However, it is noted that 78% of children within Ysgol Nebo's catchment area already attend schools outside the catchment area, with 44% attending Ysgol Llanllyfni, suggesting that educational and community links between the catchment area and neighbouring communities already exist.

In relation to families experiencing socio-economic disadvantage, it is noted that school transport arrangements would be administered in accordance with the Council's Education Transport Policy, ensuring that the cost or accessibility of transport does not act as a barrier to accessing education. Any potential impact on individual families would be considered where relevant. It is also noted that the School Essentials Grant is available to eligible families to assist with the costs of school uniform and other educational items.

By implementing the proposal, the learners of Ysgol Nebo would have a better learning environment at a school with more learners of the same age, and it would ensure that they make the most of their education. It is anticipated that learners would benefit from having more age-related peers at a school with more learners, which will be a way to ensure suitable educational and extra-curricular experiences for them, as well as access to additional extra-curricular activities.

10. How does the proposal show implementation in line with the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards (Welsh Language Measure (Wales) 2011), to ensure that the Welsh language is not treated less favourably than the English language, and to ensure opportunities for people to use the Welsh language? Also, how does the proposal operate in accordance with the requirements of the Council's Welsh Language Strategy to take advantage of every opportunity to promote the Welsh language (beyond providing bilingual services) and increase opportunities to use and learn the language in the community?

Our expectation is that all learners in the county will develop balanced bilingualism and the relevant skills to enable them to be full members of the bilingual society of which they are a part. Any proposals to change local arrangements must therefore give full consideration to all linguistic impacts. Maintaining and increasing the use of Welsh as an educational and social language among learners will be a key consideration in developing the proposal.

Gwynedd's Education Language Policy is the same for all primary schools in the county, and all primary schools (with the exception of one) fall into Category 3 in accordance with the Welsh Government's school categorisation guidance for Welsh-medium provision. This means that, if the proposal were implemented, learners from Ysgol Nebo would continue to receive their education in Welsh and bilingually in line with the Language Policy at Ysgol Llanllyfni.

Through the consultation responses and the statutory objection period, strong concerns were expressed that closing Ysgol Nebo could lead to Welsh being treated less favourably than English, even though Welsh-medium educational provision would continue. Respondents emphasised that Ysgol Nebo provides an environment where Welsh is used naturally and socially on a daily basis, not only as a language of instruction, and that losing the school could significantly reduce such opportunities within the local community.

It was also noted that the school plays a key role in ensuring active opportunities to use Welsh, including through community events, social activities, Welsh-for-adults classes, and interaction between Welsh speakers and non-Welsh-speaking or newly arrived residents. Concerns were raised that closing the school could lead to the loss of these opportunities, weakening the status of Welsh as a living community language and potentially undermining the principle of not treating Welsh less favourably.

Attention was drawn to the risk that losing the school would reduce this type of active promotion of Welsh in the community, particularly as there is no alternative community centre in the area.

The Council notes the concerns raised regarding the role of Ysgol Nebo in supporting community use of Welsh within the village and accepts that the comments highlight a potential adverse impact on local linguistic vitality outside formal educational provision.

However, based on the information available, the Council's view is that the proposed option is unlikely to have a negative impact on Welsh-medium education provision or on learners' linguistic opportunities, for the following reasons:

- CYBLD data from January 2026 shows that 56% of Ysgol Nebo learners speak Welsh fluently at home, compared with 68% of learners at Ysgol Llanllyfni.
- The proposal to close Ysgol Nebo and offer places to learners at a nearby school (Ysgol Llanllyfni) means that learners from the Nebo catchment would continue to be educated in a Welsh-medium school.

In the educational context, based on the above, it is anticipated that implementation of the proposed change would provide greater opportunities for learners from the Nebo catchment area to use Welsh informally with their peers both inside and outside the classroom, and that the vitality of the Welsh language and the informal use of the language would be stronger. At the same time, taking into account the consultation comments, the Council acknowledges that the option to close Ysgol Nebo could lead to a potential negative impact on the use of Welsh within the local community, particularly in terms of its use as a community language outside the educational context. However, it is noted that mitigation measures could be considered, including promoting the use of Welsh by involving the Nebo community in the alternative school's community activities, as well as considering appropriate options for the post-use of the school building, taking into account the community activities currently held there.

In reaching this conclusion, the Council has considered the comments received during both the statutory consultation and the statutory objection period. While it is acknowledged that the proposal could have a potential negative impact on certain aspects of the community use of the Welsh language within the Nebo area, the Council's view is that the available evidence does not demonstrate that the proposal would have a negative impact on Welsh-medium education provision or on learners' opportunities to use and develop their Welsh language skills within the educational setting.

The community impact assessment indicates that some negative impact on the community is anticipated if the option to close Ysgol Nebo were implemented. It is acknowledged that closing Ysgol Nebo would result in the loss of a school within the Nebo community; however, the assessment notes that a significant proportion of children living within the school's catchment already attend other schools, including Ysgol Llanllyfni, and therefore a link between Ysgol Llanllyfni and the Ysgol Nebo community already exists.

If the proposal to close Ysgol Nebo were implemented, every effort would be made to mitigate the impact on the community by encouraging links between the communities and Ysgol Llanllyfni. To mitigate the impact on the community, opportunities would be identified to ensure that the Nebo community is aware of activities at the alternative school, and community collaboration between Ysgol Llanllyfni and the Nebo community would be encouraged where appropriate. In addition, the Local Authority and the Governing Body of Ysgol Llanllyfni could consider ways of promoting the use of the Welsh language by involving the Nebo community in the school's community activities, as well as considering appropriate options for the future use of the school building, taking into account the community activities currently taking place there, should the proposal be implemented.

The aim of Gwynedd's Education Language Policy is the same for all the county's primary schools, and all primary schools (with the exception of one school) fall within Category 3 in accordance with the Welsh Government's guidance on categorising schools according to Welsh-medium provision. This means that pupils of Ysgol Nebo would be able to continue receiving their education through the medium of Welsh and bilingually, in accordance with the Education Language Policy, at Ysgol Llanllyfni.

11. How does this proposal meet the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations Act by implementing the five ways of working, and respond to the seven national well-being goals, including creating a More Equal Wales?

Through the responses to the statutory consultation and the statutory objection period, concerns were expressed that the closure of Ysgol Nebo could have a long-term impact on the sustainability of the local community, particularly in terms of community cohesion, the use of Welsh within the community, and the attractiveness of the village to young families. Respondents emphasised the school's role as a social and linguistic focal point that supports social wellbeing, prevents loneliness, and facilitates collaboration and inclusion across the community, especially in an area without an alternative community centre. Attention was also drawn to the way in which the school contributes to several wellbeing goals by providing local access to education, community activities, and the natural, everyday use of Welsh for people of all ages and backgrounds.

Following consideration and assessment in accordance with the requirements of the well-being act, the 7 well-being act goals and the Council's well-being objectives were considered, and it is concluded that the proposal meets the requirements.

It is acknowledged that should the Cabinet decide to proceed with this proposal, it may result in the closure of a school in the community, however a large number of the children living within the school's catchment area already attend other schools, including Ysgol Llanllyfni, and therefore there is already a link between the schools and the community of that school. Every effort will be made to mitigate any negative impact on the community by encouraging links between the communities and Ysgol Llanllyfni. Should the proposal be approved, discussions will take place to discuss the possibility that Ysgol Llanllyfni community activity includes the community, where appropriate.

The proposal would ensure that the children of the area are educated on a site that is suitable and in a naturally Welsh-speaking society, thus increasing the opportunities to socialise and collaborate with others, and to give them a fair opportunity to thrive among their peers.

STEP 3 - Procurement and Partnerships

12. Will this policy or practice be carried out wholly or partly by contractors or in partnership with another organisation(s)?

No

STEP 4 - Dealing with Negative or Unlawful Impact and Strengthening the Policy or Practice

13. When considering proportionality, does the policy or practice have a significantly positive or negative impact or create unequal outcomes?

Significant Positive Impact:

Should the proposal be implemented, it is anticipated that learners would receive more equal opportunities when placed in an alternative school since the learners will have learning experiences that are based on national learning principles, with a range of methods, including working in collective groups, smaller groups, partner work and individually within their specific age range, along with lessons that have been appropriately differentiated for the age range in question.

By implementing the proposal, the learners of Ysgol Nebo would have a better learning environment at a school with more learners of the same age, and it would ensure that they make the most of their education and allow access to more activities that are appropriate for their ability level. The learners would benefit from having more age-

related peers at a school with more learners, which will be a way to ensure suitable educational and extra-curricular experiences for them, as well as access to additional extra-curricular activities.

Significant Negative Impact:

It is recognised that the options proposed may have an impact on organisations within the community and on community cohesion, and it is anticipated that this will need to be mitigated by fostering links between the school and the community.

As a result of the comments submitted during the consultation, a potential negative impact was also identified for some vulnerable learners, including learners with ALN or emotional/social needs, due to concerns about losing the benefits of small class environments and personalised support, as well as the challenges of transitioning to a larger school if the proposal were implemented. In response to these concerns, the Council notes that, should the proposal be implemented, transition arrangements would focus on individual needs and the child's voice, with inclusion and equality policies in place at the alternative school, if the proposal were to be implemented.

The school (and its Governing Body) is responsible for implementing its equality policy, and the Authority, through its routine support and monitoring procedures, will ensure compliance.

During the statutory objection period, concerns previously raised during the statutory consultation were reiterated regarding the potential impact of the closure of the school on some vulnerable learners, including learners with ALN, learners with emotional or social needs, and learners who require a higher level of personal support. Further emphasis was placed on the impact that the loss of a small, safe and nurturing learning environment could have on the wellbeing and experiences of some of these learners. The assessment was reviewed in light of these comments, and it is not considered that they alter the conclusions set out in the assessment, although they do reinforce the importance of appropriate transition arrangements and individual support.

I4. Explain any intentional negative impact and why it is believed that there is justification for operating in this way (for example, on the grounds of improving equal opportunities or developing good relationships between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not or due to objective justification or positive action)

No

I5. Will any of the negative impacts identified count as unlawful discrimination but they are unavoidable (e.g. budget cuts)?

Not applicable.

Note the reason for stating this and the justification for proceeding

Not applicable.

16. What other measures or changes could be included to strengthen or change the policy/practice to demonstrate that due regard has been given to equal opportunity; help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, or victimisation; and foster good relations and wider community cohesion; as covered by the improvement aim of the General Duty in the Equality Act 2010?

Following the statutory consultation and the statutory objection period, the Council has considered the comments received and has updated the Equality Impact Assessment in accordance with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010.

17. What measures or other changes could be included to strengthen or change the policy/practice to demonstrate that due regard has been given to the need to reduce inequalities of outcome as a result of socio-economic disadvantage?

It is envisaged that the proposal would reduce socio-economic disadvantage by ensuring that the learners have more experiences and access to more services and activities in the alternative school. Learners would receive more equal opportunities since the learners would have learning experiences that are based on national learning principles, with a range of methods, including working in collective groups, smaller groups, partner work and individually within their specific age range, along with lessons that have been appropriately differentiated for the age range in question.

By implementing the proposal, the learners of Ysgol Nebo would have a better learning environment at a school with more learners of the same age, and it would ensure that they make the most of their education. The learners would benefit from having more age-related peers at a school with more learners, which will be a way to ensure suitable educational and extra-curricular experiences for them, as well as access to additional extra-curricular activities.

18. What other measures or changes could be included to strengthen or change the policy/practice to demonstrate that due regard has been given to the need to increase opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and in treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language as set out in the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 and to reduce or prevent any adverse effects that the policy/practice may have on the Welsh language?

It is anticipated that the proposal would have a positive impact on the Welsh language, as learners from Ysgol Nebo would benefit from increased opportunities to use Welsh with a wider range of peers both in class and socially.

The proposal to close Ysgol Nebo and offer places to learners at Ysgol Llanllyfni would ensure the continuation of Welsh-medium education in a school where the Welsh language is strong, with CYBLD data from January 2026 showing that 68% of learners at Ysgol Llanllyfni (compared with 56% at Ysgol Nebo) speak Welsh fluently at home. While the Council acknowledges concerns about the potential impact on community use of Welsh in Nebo, mitigation measures could be considered by strengthening community links with the alternative school and by exploring appropriate options for the post-use of the school building, should the proposal be implemented, taking into account the community activities that are currently being held there.

If the school were to close, the Local Authority and the Governing Bodies of the alternative schools could consider ways of promoting the social use of the Welsh language through extracurricular and community activities.

19. Is there enough information to make a balanced judgement and to proceed?

Yes

STEP 5 - Decision to Proceed

20. Given the information gathered in Steps 1–4 above, is it possible to move forward with the policy or practice or not, and if so, on what basis?
Choice of:

Continue with policy or practice in its current form.

STEP 6 - Actions and Arrangements for Monitoring Outcomes and Reviewing Data

The EqlA process is an ongoing one that doesn't end when the policy/practice and EqlA is agreed and implemented. There is a specific legal duty to monitor the impact of policies/practices on equality on an ongoing basis to identify if the outcomes have changed since you introduced or amended this new policy or practice. If you do not hold relevant data, then you should be taking steps to rectify this in your action plan. To review the EHRC guidance on data collection you can review their [Measurement Framework](#)

21. What actions noted in Steps 1-5 or any additional data collection work would help to monitor the policy/practice when implemented:

Action	Dates	Timetable	Lead Responsibility	Add to the Service Plan
-	-	-	-	-

22. What arrangements to monitor and review the ongoing impact of this policy or practice will be implemented, including timeframes for when it should be formally reviewed:

Monitoring and Review Arrangements (including where outcomes will be recorded)	Timeframe and Frequency	Lead Responsibility	Add to the Service Plan
Should the proposal be realised, we will monitor the impact of the closure of the school and endeavour to assist with any negative impact that may derive from the policy.	Continuous	Education Department	No