

Appendix 2 - Comparison of the current situation with the situation should the proposal to close Ysgol Baladeulyn and provide a place for learners at Ysgol Talysarn be implemented

Factor	The current situation	The situation should the proposal be implemented
Class sizes	There is 1 class at Ysgol Baladeulyn (January 2026) with 6 learners (Reception - Year 6) together with 2 Nursery learners. Within this class, different groups are formed at different times of the day, with teaching assistants leading activities (with the younger learners). Based on projections, no increase in numbers is anticipated. Class sizes at Ysgol Baladeulyn are therefore likely to remain small. There is an age range of up to 8 years within a single class.	Learners would be taught in classes of a more appropriate size. Learners at Ysgol Talysarn are taught in classes ranging from 16 to 30 learners per class (September 2025). There are 4 mixed-age classes at Ysgol Talysarn, together with a Nursery class.
Learner numbers	Learner numbers continue to be low at Ysgol Baladeulyn (January 2026 numbers: 6 learners Reception - Year 6 and 2 Nursery learners). The number of surplus places remains high (49 surplus places (89%) Reception - Year 6; 54 surplus places (87%) Nursery - Year 6). School projections suggest numbers will remain low over the coming years.	Learners would be offered places at Ysgol Talysarn, where there were 81 Reception to Year 6 learners and 17 Nursery learners in January 2026. Numbers at the alternative school are more robust and sustainable. Implementing the proposal would reduce the overall surplus places across the Baladeulyn and Talysarn catchment areas from approximately 39% to 2% (Reception - Year 6), based on January 2026 numbers and assuming all learners from the Ysgol Baladeulyn catchment would transfer to Ysgol Talysarn.
Leadership and staffing	Ysgol Baladeulyn received a lower budget allocation for 2025/26 because September 2024 numbers were below 15 full-time learners. This will also apply in 2026/27, as September 2025 numbers are also below 15 full-time learners. The allocation ensures the ability to employ a headteacher and teaching assistant. Due to the staffing structure, the Headteacher is required to teach most of the time. Number projections indicate this is likely to continue.	Ysgol Talysarn has a permanent Headteacher with a 0% teaching commitment and 5 non-contact days for leadership and management. The staffing structure ensures teachers in every class and allows more leadership time for the Headteacher compared with Ysgol Baladeulyn.

Factor	The current situation	The situation should the proposal be implemented
Community	The school invites the community into the school for activities during and outside school hours, such as coffee evenings, presentations by the children and services. However, Llys Llywelyn Center and Trigonos Plas Baladeulyn are also available for community activities in the area.	Nantlle would lose a school and community focal point, and therefore some negative impact on the community is anticipated. The Council would seek to mitigate this by encouraging links and collaboration between the Baladeulyn community and Ysgol Talysarn. The Council's Post-use Policy would be followed when considering the future of the school building, taking account of current community activities.
Financial resources	According to the 2026/27 budget, Ysgol Baladeulyn's budget is projected to be £172,848. The projected cost per learner is £25,123, compared with a county average of £5,998, and the school will receive £74,446 through the minimum staffing protection policy.	According to the 2026/27 budget, the estimated cost per learner at Ysgol Talysarn will be £5,897. If the proposal were to be implemented, and if all learners from the Baladeulyn catchment transferred to Ysgol Talysarn, an annual saving of £150,000 is projected, less additional transport costs of up to £30,000, resulting in a net saving of approximately £120,000 per year. The cost per learner at Ysgol Talysarn is also projected to fall to £5,883.
Welsh language	Ysgol Baladeulyn is a Welsh-medium primary school, Category 3. The school contributes to the educational, social and community use of the Welsh language in Nantlle.	Learners would continue to be educated in a Welsh-medium Category 3 primary school at Ysgol Talysarn. No negative impact is anticipated on the language of education, and greater opportunities are expected for learners to use Welsh informally with a larger peer group. At the same time, the loss of the school's presence in Nantlle may have a negative impact on the use of Welsh within the local community, particularly as a community language outside the educational context. Mitigation measures would therefore be considered, including promoting the use of Welsh through involving the Baladeulyn community in community activities at the alternative school and considering appropriate options for the post-use of the school building, taking into account the community activities that are currently held there.

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Geographical factors	Current learners receive their education at Ysgol Baladeulyn within their local community.	Ysgol Talysarn is 2.5 miles from Ysgol Baladeulyn, with an estimated journey time of around 5 minutes each way by car or bus. No learner is expected to travel an unreasonable distance. Transport would be provided in accordance with the County School Transport Policy where applicable, and the current Ysgol Baladeulyn catchment area would become part of the Ysgol Talysarn catchment area.