



Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot
Neath Port Talbot Council

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Education, Skills and Culture Scrutiny Committee

24th October, 2019

Report of the Head of Transformation – Andrew Thomas

Matter for Information

Wards Affected: All Wards

Report Title: **ADMISSION TO SCHOOLS**

Purpose of the Report:

At the request of Members as part of their forward work programme this report provides Members with information and data in relation to the admission of pupils to Neath Port Talbot schools.

Executive Summary:

The number of admission applications for pupils entering or moving schools in Neath Port Talbot has increased in recent years. The majority of applications are now completed online and the Council was able to offer all applicants for the 2019/20 admissions round their first choice of school.

Background:

Members of the Scrutiny Committee have asked officers to provide a report outlining the results of the annual admission round of pupils entering Neath Port Talbot schools.

Members will be aware that each year permission is sought from Education, Skills and Culture Cabinet to firstly carry out a consultation process with interested parties regarding the Council's Admissions Policy for the year ahead and then in again to the responses to the consultation Cabinet is asked to approve an Admissions Policy.

Whilst the 2019/20 academic year has barely begun, the admission round enabling parents to apply for a school place for their child for the academic year 2020/21 has already commenced having opened for the receipt of applications on 7th October, 2019. Officers have also started the process of drafting the Admissions Policy for the 2021/22 academic year for Members consideration in due course.

For the past two academic years the authority has accepted applications online. Applications by this method have increased significantly this year as the service promotes the option further.

Academic Year 2019/20

Members have previously requested data in relation to the number of pupils who were unable to secure their choice of school within the county borough and also to be provided with information in relation to school capacity.

As the most recent academic year, the data for 2019/20 is provided below for Members information. Applications relate to entry at reception and first-year secondary school. Nursery figures are excluded.

- Number of applications received: 2,881
- Number allocated first choice preference: 2,881 / 100%
- Number of applications processed online: 70.8%

A list of individual schools along with the number of surplus places is attached as Appendix A. Members should note that whilst these

figures represent the overall surplus or over capacity of the school as a whole, admission might be still be denied based on an application to a particular year group which is at full capacity. These figures fluctuate on a daily basis depending on the movement of pupils.

In addition to the application figures above, the Admissions Team also process in-year transfers. These are applications for admissions to a school that are outside of the normal admission round, usually mid-year transfers. Numbers under this category have increased substantially in recent years. For the 2018/19 academic year 925 applications were processed. Within the first four weeks of the current 2019/20 academic year already 375 in-year transfers have been received and processed. Of this figure 21 applications were refused their first choice of school. 17 of the 21 applicants chose to subsequently remain at their current school than accept an alternative school or exercise their right to appeal the decision.

The majority of reasons provided on the application forms for wishing to change their child's school mid-year are relating to accommodation moves within the county and new families moving into the Neath Port Talbot area.

Financial Impacts:

No implications

Integrated Impact Assessment:

There is no requirement to undertake an Integrated Impact Assessment as this report is for monitoring / information purposes only.

Valleys Communities Impacts:

No implications

Workforce Impacts:

No implications

Legal Impacts:

No implications

Risk Management Impacts:

No implications

Consultation:

There is no requirement for external consultation on this item

Recommendations:

That Members note the contents of this update report

Appendices:

Appendix A, School Capacity Numbers

List of Background Papers:

None

Officer Contact:

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Appendix A

School Capacity Numbers, as of end Sept '19		
School	Available Capacity (No's)	School Capacity (%)
Primary		
Abbey Primary	9	97.5
Alltwen Primary	39	83.7
Awel Y Mor	9	97.0
Baglan Primary	29	89.3
Blaenbaglan Primary	39	86.2
Blaendulais Primary	55	66.9
Blaengwrach Primary	2	98.6
Blaenhonddan Primary	14	93.8
Ysgol Carreg Hir	57	86.4
Catwg Primary	34	83.3
Central Primary	over by 13	
Cilffriw Primary	23	89.2
Coed Hirwaun Primary	over by 9	
Coedffranc Primary	91	79.1
Creunant Primary	31	76.9
Croeserw Primary	34	80.9
Crymlyn Primary	3	95.0
Crynallt Primary	2	99.5
Cwmafan Primary	54	87.1
Cwmnedd Primary	30	86.1
Cymer Afan Primary	26	71.1
Eastern Primary	16	91.2
Glyncorwg Primary	63	54.0
Gnoll Primary	40	88.1
Godre'rgraig Primary	30	81.3
Ysgol Cwm Brombil Primary Phase	4	98.1
Llangiwg Primary	39	73.4
Maesmarchog Primary	36	67.9

Melin Primary	40	83.2
Pen Afan Primary	23	82.1
Rhos Primary	54	70.0
Rhydyfro Primary	45	73.2
Sandfields Primary	77	79.3
Tairgwaith Primary	62	58.7
Tonnau Primary	36	82.9
Tywyn Primary	20	94.5
Wauanceirch Primary	40	81.0
Ynysfach Primary	30	82.9
Ysgol Bae Baglan Primary Phase	over by 3	
Welsh Medium		
YGG Blaendulais	41	66.9
YGG Castell Nedd	3	99.1
YGG Cwmllynfell	17	81.5
YGG Cwm Nedd	80	56.8
YGG Gwaun Cae Gurwen	25	85.9
YGG Pontardawe	78	78.3
YGG Rhosafan	10	96.8
YGG Tyle'r Ynn	27	86.9
YGG Trebannws	46	65.2
Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera Bro Dur	69	61.7
Secondary		
Cefn Saeson Comprehensive	140	84.8
Cwmtawe Community	61	95.2
Dwr-y-Felin Comprehensive	over by 31	
Ysgol Cwm Brombil Secondary Phase	141	88.3
Llangatwg Community	409	65.0
Ysgol Gymraeg Ystalyfera Bro Dur	230	80.8

Ysgol Bae Baglan Secondary Phase	19	98.3
Voluntary Aided Schools		
Alderman Davies CIW	97	76.7
Bryncoch CIW	94	57.1
St Joseph's Infants	12	88.5
St Joseph's Junior	1	99.4
St Joseph's Primary	82	60.0
St Therese's Primary	0	100.0
St Joseph's RC School and 6th Form	56	92.2