Eich cyf / Your ref:
Ein cyf / Our ref: KIE/FCR/JCLW
Dyddiad / Date: 20/09/17
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Annwyl Fudd-Ddeiliad / Ymatebydd

Ar 11 Medi 2017 penderfynodd Cyngor Sir Ddinbych (y **Cyngor**) ar y cynnig i gau ysgol gynradd Gatholig Ysgol Mair a chau Ysgol Gatholig Bendigaid Edward Jones a chadarnhaodd Esgobaeth Wrecsam gynnig i sefydlu ysgol Gatholig Wirfoddol a Gynorthwyir 3-16 oed.

Rhoddodd y Cyngor a'r Esgobaeth ystyriaeth i'r cynigion a phob mater perthnasol yn unol â gofynion Cod Trefniadaeth Ysgolion 2013. Penderfynodd y Cyngor a'r Esgobaeth i gymeradwyo'r cynigion ac, o ganlyniad, bydd ysgol gynradd Gatholig Ysgol Mair ac Ysgol Gatholig Bendigaid Edward Jones yn cau ar 31 Awst 2019, a bydd yr ysgol Gatholig Wirfoddol a Gynorthwyir 3-16 oed yn agor ar 1 Medi 2019 ar y safleoedd presennol yn y Rhyl.

Wrth benderfynu ar y cynigion, roedd y Cyngor a'r Esgobaeth yn fodlon y bydd y cynigion yn cynnal safon y ddarpariaeth addysg gyffredinol yn yr ardal ac yn sicrhau y caiff cwricwlwm eang a chytbwys ei ddarparu i bob grŵp oedran a effeithir arnynt. Nodwyd na chafwyd unrhyw wrthwynebiadau statudol yn ystod cyfnod y rhybudd statudol.

Dyma'r rhesymau dros y penderfyniad mewn perthynas â'r ffactorau a amlinellir yn y Cod Trefniadaeth Ysgolion:

Ansawdd a Safonau Mewn Addysg

Yn ei ymateb, nododd Estyn y farn fod y cynigion yn debygol o gynnal y safonau addysg cyfredol yn ardal y ddarpariaeth o leiaf. Mae Estyn yn cydnabod y bydd "y cyfleusterau newydd yn galluogi'r ysgol i gynnig cwricwlwm priodol ac amrywiol yng nghyfnod allweddol 4. Mae'r cynigydd hefyd yn nodi manteision cael ardaloedd a rennir fel y capel a'r ardal fwyta a

Dear Stakeholder/ Respondent

On 11th September 2017, Denbighshire County Council (the **Council**) determined the proposal to discontinue Ysgol Mair/ St. Marys Catholic primary school and discontinue Blessed Edward Jones Catholic High school and the Diocese of Wrexham determined a proposal to establish a new Voluntary Aided Catholic 3-16 school.

The Council and the Diocese considered the proposals and all relevant matters in accordance with requirements of the School Organisation Code 2013. The Council and the Diocese decided to approve the proposals and, as a result, Ysgol Mair/ St. Mary's Catholic primary school and Blessed Edward Jones Catholic High school will close on 31 August 2019, and a new Voluntary Aided Catholic 3-16 school will open on 1 September 2019 on the existing sites in Rhyl.

In determining the proposals, the Council and the Diocese were satisfied that the proposals will maintain the standard of education provision overall in the area and ensure the delivery of a broad and balanced curriculum for all affected age groups. It was noted that there were no statutory objections during the statutory notice period.

The reasons for the decision in respect to the factors outlined in the School Organisation Code are as follows:

Quality and Standards of Education

In its response Estyn stated the opinion that the proposals are likely to at least maintain the present standards of education provision in the area. Estyn acknowledge that "the new facilities will better allow the school to offer a more varied and appropriate curriculum at key stage 4. The proposer also establishes the benefits of having shared area such as the chapel and dining area and the advantages of

manteision cynorthwyo pontio rhwng cyfnodau allweddol a chamau addysgol."

aiding transition between key phases and stages of education."

Bydd cymorth ychwanegol i ddisgyblion gydag anghenion dysgu ychwanegol yn cael eu darparu gan CSDD ar gyfer disgyblion sy'n profi anawsterau oherwydd y newidiadau bwriedig.

Additional support for pupils with additional learning needs will be provided by DCC for pupils who experience difficulties because of the proposed changes.

Bydd CSDd yn cymryd pob cam ymarferol i sicrhau bod hyn yn amharu cyn lleied â phosibl ar ddisgyblion drwy weithio'n agos gyda'r Pennaeth a'r Corff Llywodraethu Dros Dro newydd. Rhoddir cymorth ychwanegol, os oes angen, i helpu'r disgyblion gyda'r cyfnod pontio.

DCC will take all practicable steps to minimise disruption for all pupils by working closely with the Headteacher, once appointed, and the new Temporary Governing Body. Additional support will be provided, if required, to assist pupils with the transition.

Angen am leoedd a'r effaith ar hygyrchedd ysgolion

Mae Estyn wedi cadarnhau ei farn fod "y cynigydd wedi ystyried yr effaith ar ysgolion eraill yn yr ardal a allai gael eu heffeithio gan y cynigion. Mae wedi amlinellu sut y gallai'r ysgol newydd gynnig lleoedd i ddisgyblon mewn ysgolion cynradd sy'n orlawn ar hyn o bryd."

Mae Estyn yn nodi fod "y cynigydd wedi dangos yn briodol y rhagwelir y bydd nifer y disgyblion yn Ysgol Uwchradd y Rhyl yn cynyddu ac efallai na fydd digon o le i dderbyn disgyblion o Ysgol Gatholig y Bendigaid Edward Jones pe bai'r ysgol yn rhoi'r gorau i ddarparu addysg uwchradd."

Need for places and the impact on the accessibility of schools

Estyn has confirmed its view that, "the proposer has suitably considered the impact on other schools in the area that may be affected by the proposals. It has outlined how the new school could offer places to pupils in currently over-subscribed primary schools."

Estyn states that, "the proposer has demonstrated appropriately that pupil numbers in Rhyl High School are projected to rise and that there may be insufficient capacity for the school to accommodate pupils from Blessed Edward Jones Catholic High School should Blessed Edward Jones Catholic High School cease to provide secondary education."

Darparu adnoddau ar gyfer addysg

Mae pryderon ynghylch cynaliadwyedd hirdymor Ysgol Gatholig Bendigaid Edward Jones. Mae rhagolygon cyfredol yn awgrymu bydd y diffygion sylweddol yn digwydd i'r ysgol wedi seilio ar y gwariant cyfredol erbyn 2017/18. Am y tro cyntaf mewn 3 blynedd, mae'r ysgol yn rhagweld diffyg o £134 mil erbyn diwedd 2017/18. Yn ogystal, yr ysgol sydd â'r gyfran uchaf o gyllideb fesul disgybl yn y sir. Mae angen brys i fynd i'r afael ag anawsterau cyfredol o ran gwariant refeniw cyfredol yr ysgol. Cost y gyllideb fesul disgybl ar hyn o bryd yw £5,516 (cyfartaledd CSDd yw £4,828)

Resourcing of education

There are concerns over the long term sustainability for Blessed Edward Jones Catholic High School. Current forecasts suggest the school will incur significant deficits based on current expenditure by 2017/18. For the first time in 3 years the school is forecasting a deficit of £134k by the end of 2017/18. The school also has the highest budget share per pupil in the county. There is an urgent need to address current difficulties with regard to current revenue expenditure for the school. Budget cost per pupil is currently £5,516 (DCC average is £4,828)

Ffactorau penodol i'w hystyried ar gyfer y cynigion i sefydlu ysgol wirfoddol a gynorthwyir newydd

Mynegwyd pryderon ynghylch disgyblion ieuengach a hŷn yn cymysgu. Mae'r hyrwyddwyr yn credu y gall y model 3-16 weithio'n dda iawn pan fod yr ysgol wedi ei threfnu yn dda a phan gynllunnir diwrnod yr ysgol yn effeithiol. Bydd y cyfnodau allweddol wedi'u gwahanu. Mae'r ethos y gellir ei greu ar gyfer ysgol 3-16 yn un gofalgar a gall fod yn gadarnhaol ar gyfer yr holl grwpiau oedran.

Specific factors to be taken into account for proposals to establish a new voluntary aided school

Concerns were raised around younger and older pupils mixing. The promoters believe that the 3-16 model can work extremely well when the school is well organised and the school day planned effectively. There will be segregation between the Key phases. The ethos that can be created with a 3-16 school is one of caring and nurturing and can be positive for all age groups.

Codwyd pryderon hefyd ynghylch yr ansicrwydd o ran niferoedd disgyblion yn ystod y cofnod pontio tra bod yr ysgol newydd yn cael ei chodi. Mae'r Awdurdod Lleol a'r Esgobaeth yn credu y bydd y niferoedd yn cynyddu, yn enwedig yn y sector uwchradd. Mae gan yr Awdurdod Lleol dystiolaeth gref mewn perthynas â'r hyn sydd wedi digwydd yn Ysgol Uwchradd y Rhyl ers agor yr adeilad newydd.

Concerns were also raised in regards to the uncertainty around pupil numbers during the transition period whilst the new school is being built. The Local Authority and the Diocese believe that numbers, especially in the secondary sector will increase. The Local Authority have strong evidence in relation to what has happened in Rhyl High since their new building opened.

Yn gywir

Yours faithfully

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Head of Education and Children's Services

Y Gwir Barchedig Peter M. Brignall / The Rt Rev'd Peter M.Brignall
Esgob Wrecsam / Bishop of Wrexham
Ar ran Esgobaeth Wrecsam / For the Diocese of Wrexham

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