Bridgend County Borough Council

Proposal to increase the number of Learning Resource Classes across Bridgend to ensure that pupils with additional learning needs that cannot be met in the mainstream, and who need a specialist provision can access local and flexible support to meet their needs.

Consultation document

Date of issue: **1 October 2026**

Action required: Responses by **17 December 2026**

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Overview

This consultation is to invite views on the proposal to establish five new Learning Resource Centres (LRC) and change the purpose of one already established LRC.

How to respond

This consultation period will begin on 1 **October 2026** and close the **17 December 2026**.

You can respond or ask further questions in the following ways;

Tel: (01656) 815253

Email: EDSU@bridgend.gov.uk

Online:
www.bridgend.gov.uk/services/consultation.aspx

Post: Childrens department, Bridgend County Borough Council, Sunnyside, Bridgend, CF31 4AR.

Alternative formats are also available upon request.

Data protection

How we use the views and information you share with us

All responses received by Bridgend County Borough Council will be seen in full by its staff members involved in the consultation process. The information may also be seen by other departments within the council or local service board members to help improve upon the services provided.

The council may also use the information gathered to publish subsequent documents both directly and indirectly linked to this consultation, however the Council will never disclose any personal information such as names or addresses that could identify an individual.

If you do not wish for your opinions to be publicised, please state so in your response.

Related documents

For more information on consultations in Bridgend County Borough or how to join our Citizens' panel.

Visit:
www.bridgend.gov.uk/consultation

Background and information

Bridgend has a strong track record for meeting a wide range of Additional Learning needs (ALN). The needs of learners are changing and the numbers of learners requiring specialist support are increasing.

Local authorities across the United Kingdom are experiencing a rise in the demand for services for children and young people with additional learning needs (ALN) and the cost to support this is often exceeding budget. Anecdotal evidence from many local authorities suggests that not only are these needs becoming more numerous by volume, but also in their complexity.

There is an increasing number of pupils who have more complex additional learning needs who require a more specialist setting for their learning needs to be met.

The law has changed as a result of the Additional Learning Needs and Educational Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 (ALNET). This legislation places a requirement on local authorities to keep their provision for ALN under review. The Act also requires schools to respond differently to children and young people with additional needs. It is anticipated that the majority of these students will receive their education locally, with support provided at the school level through a variety of strategies tailored to meet the unique needs of each learner.

Schools in Bridgend are inclusive and continue to support children with additional learning needs and the majority of pupils with additional learning needs are educated in mainstream schools. The local authority has a role in maintaining this inclusive approach is consistent across all schools.

A Learning Resource Class (LRC) is a specialist Local Authority provision hosted at a community maintained (mainstream) school. These classes provide education places for pupils with ALN whose needs cannot be met in regular mainstream classes. Places in the LRCs are allocated by the Inclusion Group, ALN teams, following relevant assessments of need.

Currently, in Bridgend these more specialised settings include the following:

School	Year Group	Designation	Available places
Llangynwyd Primary School	Foundation Phase	Communication Autism Resource Education (CARE)	8
Llangynwyd Primary School	3-6	Communication Autism Resource Education (CARE)	8
Ysgol Gynradd Gymraeg Calon Y Cymoedd	3-6	Communication Autism Resource Education (CARE)	8

Llangewydd Junior School	3-6	Communication Autism Resource Education (CARE)	8
Tremains Primary School	3-6	Communication Autism Resource Education (CARE)	8
Maesteg School	7-11	Communication Autism Resource Education (CARE)	12
Bryntirion Comprehensive School	7-11	Communication Autism Resource Education (CARE)	1 2
Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd	7-11	Communication Autism Resource Education (CARE)	12
Betws Primary School	Foundation Phase 3-6	Hearing Impaired Resource	8
Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen	7-11	Hearing Impaired Resource	8
Bryncethin Primary	3-6	Moderate Learning Difficulties	15
Caerau Primary	3-6	Moderate Learning Difficulties and Complex Needs	23
Ogmore Vale Primary School	3-6	Moderate Learning Difficulties	15
Ysgol Cynwyd Sant	3-6	Moderate Learning Difficulties	15
Cefn Cribbwr Primary School	3-6	Moderate Learning Difficulties	15
Corneli Primary School	3-6	Moderate Learning Difficulties	15
Litchard Primary School	3-6	Moderate Learning Difficulties	16
Llangewydd Junior School	3-6	Moderate Learning Difficulties	15
Pencoed Primary School	3-6	Moderate Learning Difficulties	30
Coleg CymunedolY Dderwen	7-11	Moderate Learning Difficulties	55
Cynffig Comprehensive School	7-11	Moderate Learning Difficulties	35
Pencoed Comprehensive School	7-11	Moderate Learning Difficulties	55
Caerau Primary School	Foundation phase	Observation and Assessment Classes	19
Ogmore Vale Primary School	Foundation phase	Observation and Assessment Classes	8

Cefn Cribbwr Primary School	Foundation phase	Observation and Assessment Classes	19
Bryntirion Infants School	Foundation phase	Observation and Assessment Classes	22
Tremains Primary School	Foundation phase	Observation and Assessment Classes	22
Pencoed Primary School	Foundation phase	Observation and Assessment Classes	8

The proposal

This is a proposal to create the following six new Learning Resource Centres and redesignate one Learning Resource Centre with effect from 5 April 2027:

- One Foundation Phase Observation and Assessment class at Tondu Primary School;
- one Foundation Phase CARE base at Litchard Primary School;
- one Foundation Social and Communication base at Porthcawl Primary School creating 8 new places;
- an additional CARE base at Llangewydd Junior School;
- one secondary Communication Autism Resource Education (CARE) base for pupils at Porthcawl Comprehensive School;
- one secondary learning resource base to support pupils with Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD) at Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd; and
- re-designate the Key Stage 2 Learning Resource Base from an MLD class to a CARE base to reflect the increased need for pupils presenting with Autism spectrum Disorder (ASD) and reduced need for MLD provision at Pencoed Primary School.

The consultation exercise will seek the views of staff, parents, pupils, interested parties and the governing body as the first step in the statutory process. If the proposals are supported, they would come into effect on 5 April 2027.

Why has this proposal been brought forward?

Over the past five years the number of pupils with additional learning needs has risen, driving an increasing demand for specialist teaching provision within Bridgend.

There are notable shifts in the types of needs among children and young people and in Bridgend currently the highest areas of need are for pupils with Emotional, Social and Behavioural Difficulties (ESBD) and Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). While there is a recognized national rise in ASD cases, it is crucial to understand that not every individual with ASD requires a specialist placement or additional learning support, nor do they automatically necessitate an Individual Learning Plan (IDP).

The change in the law via the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 has meant the local authority have needed to review and respond to the changing legal requirements.

What the proposal means in practice

The proposal if approved would mean that:

- Appropriate placements which are well matched to pupils' primary needs.
- LRCs are an integrated part of mainstream schools.
- Improved educational outcomes and pupil engagement due to meeting identified pupil needs more effectively.
- Greater opportunities for mainstream inclusion in local community schools.
- Improved continuum of learning provision which improves life chances for our most vulnerable learners.
- The proposed additional classes will enhance LRC capacity across all age ranges.
- The LRC would provide a wider range of specialist learning facilities within the schools across the Bridgend County Borough area.

- The Council supports the principles that, as far as possible, children should be educated within a mainstream school environment and as near to their home as possible.

What are the advantages if the proposal goes ahead?

- There will be an increase in the number of places available for pupils with identified additional learning needs to access specialist support.

- The additional class will provide an appropriate environment in which pupils can develop and thrive within their peer group and have normal access to mainstream curriculum, where appropriate.

What are the potential disadvantages if the proposal goes ahead?

- There are no foreseen disadvantages to this proposal.

Impact of the proposals

Quality and standards in education;

- There will be no likely impact on the quality of outcomes, provision and leadership and management in schools in relation to the proposals.
- There will be no likely impact of the proposal on the ability of schools to deliver the full curriculum at each key stage of education.

Outcomes (standards and wellbeing);

- If progressed, the proposals are expected to:

  - improve access to specialist, high-quality provision within local mainstream schools;

  - provide appropriate accommodation and learning environments for pupils with ALN;

- support pupils' health, safety and wellbeing through provision tailored to need;
- support increased inclusion by enabling pupils to access mainstream education alongside specialist support;
- improve access to specialist accommodation and learning environments designed to meet learners' needs, including ensuring appropriate accessibility arrangements where required. Work required to improve learning environments will be funded by the ALN Capital Grant scheme.

- The proposals would also respond to:
  - a clearly evidenced increase in demand for specialist ALN provision across Bridgend;
  - the changing profile of need, particularly in relation to ASD and complex needs;
  - the need to reduce reliance on out-of-county placements; and
  - the importance of provide local provision to reduce travel distances for many learners requiring specialist provision and reduce the need for transport to placements outside their local area.

The well-being goals and principles prescribed for within the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 connect directly to the approach to supporting children, young people and their families. The approach is consistent with the five ways of working as defined within the sustainable development principle and more specifically as follows:

Long term	Affords pupils with additional learning needs a place in a school as near to their home as possible. Provides additional places required to meet the needs of an increase in pupils with additional learning needs.

Prevention	Provision of locally based LRCs enables pupils to be educated as part of the graduated response as stipulated in the ALN Code of Practice and ultimately preventing being placed out-of-county.
Integration	LRC provision is key in ensuring that pupils with identified ALN have access to mainstream education experiences with their peers and also have the opportunity to reintegrate into mainstream where appropriate. There are also efficiencies related to this proposal as the cost of an out-of-authority place far outweighs the cost of opening an LRC locally.
Collaboration	A fundamental principal of the approach that focuses on improving collaboration and creating a unified system. There is excellent collaboration between the local authority with schools that have LRC's. The Inclusion Group provides on-going support, advice and guidance to all schools.
Involvement	A range of key stakeholders are involved with a pupil placed in LRCs ensuring that the individual needs of the pupil are met. Engagement of all potential stakeholders including Cabinet, members, governors, staff, pupils, community, internal and external partners will take place during the consultation exercise. There would be a full public consultation process undertaken, according to the Welsh Government School Organisation Code 2026, should Cabinet determine to proceed with the proposal.

Provision (learning experiences, teaching, staffing, care support and guidance, and learning environment);

- Pupil voice is a key part of the all school success in terms of leadership. This has been very successful in ensuring progress in performance across the school.

- All school identified to open new Learning Resource Centre classes have a good track record in raising the achievement of pupils, including vulnerable learners. High expectations, the strong focus on pupil wellbeing and nurturing pupils' confidence and self-esteem, impacts positively on learners' confidence, social and communication skills, and results in nearly all pupils making strong progress.

- There is a very strong focus on teaching across all Bridgend schools, with very good professional development to strengthen teaching further, as well as regular sharing of good practice between professional and other schools. As a result, teaching in LRCs is consistently good.

Leadership and management (leadership, improving quality, partnership working and resource management);

- Leaders and staff across all schools have a clear vision, high standards and expectations, and a strong focus on providing inclusive education of the highest standard for all pupils.

- Governing bodies are supportive, challenge standards effectively, and are well informed about school performance through regular presentations by staff and pupils. Detailed updates are provided by leaders to governors as well as regular involvement in learning walks, book scrutiny and listening to learners.

- Inclusion Group managers have developed a quality assurance process to monitor the quality and effectiveness of school based specialist provision.

Other considerations

- In developing these proposals, consideration has been given to the 2026 Code 26, including specific provisions relating to the reorganisation of specialist provision for pupils with additional learning needs. The review of

provision identified areas where demand has reduced, including Key Stage 2 MLD provision at Pencoed Primary School, allowing resources to be reconfigured to address increasing demand for ASD specialist provision.

- Due regard has also been given to:
  - the Council's strategy for promoting inclusion and enabling more pupils with ALN to be educated within mainstream settings where appropriate to their needs.
  - the need to ensure a sufficiency of high-quality specialist provision across the Authority;
  - the requirement to regularly review provision to ensure it reflects changing learner needs and patterns of demand;
  - the standards of provision, needs for places and accessibility and impact on other provision and services;
  - the impact of these proposals on existing ALN provision within the Authority;
  - the balance of provision across the county borough;
  - the wider implications for inclusion services, educational psychology, specialist outreach, health services and support services for children and young people with ALN.
  - whether regional provision would provide a more effective solution. It has been concluded that expanding local provision will better support inclusion, reduce travel and allow learners to be educated closer to home.

Quality and standards in education;

- Overall, standards of attainment across all schools are good. Across the schools, pupils make good or strong progress from their starting points, with particularly strong development in literacy, numeracy and subject knowledge, including pupils with additional learning needs.

- Inclusive practice and strong ALN support. Provision for pupils with additional learning needs is a strength across the schools, with tailored interventions, skilled staff, and multi-agency working enabling most pupils with ALN to make good progress.

Travel arrangements and accessibility impact

- The proposal would have no impact on the current travel arrangements as transport is available for those pupils who are eligible for a place at an LRC.

Land and buildings

- The proposal will not involve any potential transfer or disposal of land, nor is there any planned building associated with the proposal.

Impact Assessments

Community Impact Assessment

- There is no significant negative impact on the community (see Appendix A).

Welsh Language Impact Assessment

- The Council must consider the impact of a policy decision on the Welsh Language and seek views on the impact. The Council must consider the impact of a policy decision on the Welsh Language and seek views on the impact in accordance with the Welsh Language Standards Regulations 2015. This is a separate requirement which means that the Council must undertake an impact assessment and then questions must be asked about that assessment. The Welsh Language Impact Assessment (WLIA) is included

within the Consultation Document at Appendix 2 (see Appendix B). The School Organisation Code 2026 also requires a WLIA to be undertaken for all statutory proposals.

- The Welsh Language Impact Assessment (WLIA) concludes that the proposal is expected to have a positive impact on the Welsh language. The proposal supports the Council's commitment to providing equitable access to specialist Additional Learning Needs (ALN) provision through the medium of Welsh and contributes to the objectives of the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) and Cymraeg 2050. Existing Welsh-medium specialist provision, including CARE and Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD) classes, will be maintained, while the proposed establishment of a Welsh-medium Learning Resource Base at Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd will strengthen specialist pathways available to Welsh-speaking learners. The proposal therefore supports opportunities for learners to continue their education through the medium of Welsh, treats Welsh no less favourably than English, and promotes the long-term sustainability of Welsh-medium ALN provision across the county borough.

- **Equality Impact Assessment**

  The Council has a duty to consider the implications of this proposal on all members of the local community who may be affected unfairly as a result of the proposal being carried out.

- An initial impact screening assessment has been undertaken (see Appendix A) on the proposal which indicates that a full Equality Impact Assessment will be undertaken in parallel with the consultation process. The outcomes and actions identified by this assessment will be included in a report to Cabinet following the consultation process.

- If you have any views on the potential of this proposal to affect any groups or individuals either positively or adversely, then we would welcome your comments as part of this consultation. Please see consultation proforma.

Risks

- There are no current risks associated with this proposal. The LRC will increase the expertise amongst the school staff to accommodate the needs of other pupils who in mainstream classes with ALN. The full EIA will assess any potential impacts.

Alternatives

- Alternative options considered are doing nothing and continuing with current model.
- The advantages of this would minimise disruption for schools and minimise workload for officers.
- The disadvantages would be not having enough specialist places to meet demand. Continuing with settings which do not reflect the current and future needs of children and young people.
- Not being able to offer specialist provision pace leaves the Authority vulnerable to increased challenge from parents through Education Tribunal for Wales.
- Not being able to offer local places to children and young people meaning they will need to travel further away from home to access places resulting in increasing costs of home to school transport.

Details of the affected school(s)

Tondu Primary School

Meadow Street

Aberkenfig

Bridgend

CF32 9BE

The following table provides a projection of pupil population for Tondu Primary School which is primary school with an age range of 3 to 11.

Blwyddyn /Year	N1 Oed / Age 2 - 3	N2 Oed / Age 3 - 4	R Oed / Age 4 - 5	1 Oed / Age 5 - 6	2 Oed / Age 6 - 7	3 Oed / Age 7 - 8	4 Oed / Age 8 - 9	5 Oed / Age 9 - 10	6 Oed / Age 10 - 11	Cyfanswm /Total 2-11	Cyfanswm /Total 4-11
				102%	96%	101%	98%	100%	100%		
2025	9	22	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	201	23
2026	9	22	22	23	0	0	0	0	0	200	45
2027	9	22	22	22	23	0	0	0	0	192	67
2028	9	22	25	22	22	23	0	0	0	194	163
2029	9	22	25	26	22	22	22	0	0	194	163
2030	9	22	25	26	24	22	21	22	0	201	170
2031	9	22	25	26	24	25	21	21	22	201	170
2032				26	24	25	21	21	21	195	164

The condition of the accommodation at Tondu Primary School would be graded as condition C. Grade C means operational but major repair or replacement needed in the short to medium-term (generally 3 years).

Porthcawl Primary School

The following table provides a projection of pupil population for Tondu Primary School which is primary school with an age range of 3 to 11.

Blwyddyn /Year	N1 Oed / Age 2 - 3	N2 Oed / Age 3 - 4	R Oed / Age 4 - 5	1 Oed / Age 5 - 6	2 Oed / Age 6 - 7	3 Oed / Age 7 - 8	4 Oed / Age 8 - 9	5 Oed / Age 9 - 10	6 Oed / Age 10 - 11	Cyfanswm /Total 2-11	Cyfanswm /Total 4-11
				106%	97%	103%	106%	95%	104%		
2019	3	27	23	17	27	25	19	22	23	186	156
2020	2	20	26	24	19	25	25	24	21	186	164
2021	0	24	19	28	24	21	27	25	23	191	167
2022	2	21	21	20	28	25	25	26	28	196	173
2023	1	19	20	22	18	26	23	22	27	178	158
2024										0	0
2025	2	22	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	180	21
2026	2	22	25	22	0	0	0	0	0	181	47
2027	2	22	22	26	22	0	0	0	0	185	70
2028	2	22	23	23	26	22	0	0	0	181	157
2029	2	22	23	24	23	26	24	0	0	188	164
2030	2	22	23	24	24	23	28	22	0	190	166
2031	2	22	23	24	24	24	25	27	23	193	169
2032				24	24	24	25	23	28	194	170

The condition of the accommodation at Porthcawl Primary School would be graded as condition grade B, suitability grade A. Issues with buildings current condition due to it's age.

Llangewydd Junior School

Llangewydd Road

Bridgend

CF31 4JT

The following table provides projection of pupil population for Llangewydd Junior School which is primary school with an age range of 7 to 11.

Blwyddyn /Year	N1 Oed / Age 2 - 3	N2 Oed / Age 3 - 4	R Oed / Age 4 - 5	1 Oed / Age 5 - 6	2 Oed / Age 6 - 7	3 Oed / Age 7 - 8	4 Oed / Age 8 - 9	5 Oed / Age 9 - 10	6 Oed / Age 10 - 11	Cyfanswm /Total 2-11	Cyfanswm /Total 4-11

						78%	106%	102%	103%		
2025						81	0	0	0	81	81
2026						79	86	0	0	165	165
2027						106	83	87	0	276	276
2028						91	112	85	90	385	385
2029						91	96	114	88	378	378
2030						91	96	98	118	389	389
2031						91	96	98	101	403	403
2032						91	96	98	101	0	0

The condition of the accommodation at Llangewydd Junior School would be graded as condition C and suitability Grade A.

Litchard Primary School

Garfield Avenue

Litchard

CF31 1QB

The following table provides a projection of pupil population for Litchard Primary School which is primary school with an age range of 3 to 11.

Blwyddyn /Year	N1 Oed / Age 2 - 3	N2 Oed / Age 3 - 4	R Oed / Age 4 - 5	1 Oed / Age 5 - 6	2 Oed / Age 6 - 7	3 Oed / Age 7 - 8	4 Oed / Age 8 - 9	5 Oed / Age 9 - 10	6 Oed / Age 10 - 11	Cyfanswm /Total 2-11	Cyfanswm /Total 4-11
				97 %	100 %	101 %	100 %	101 %	100 %		
2025	20	60	68	0	0	0	49	68	0	494	185
2026	20	60	60	66	0	0	49	68	68	511	311
2027	20	60	63	58	66	0	49	68	68	509	372
2028	20	60	65	61	58	66	49	68	68	515	435
2029	20	60	65	63	61	59	49	68	68	515	435
2030	20	60	65	63	63	62	49	68	68	512	432
2031	20	60	65	63	63	63	49	68	68	517	437
2032				63	63	63	49	68	68	0	0

The condition of the accommodation at Litchard Primary School would be graded as condition C and suitability grade A.

Porthcawl Comprehensive School
Park Ave
Porthcawl
CF36 3E

The following table provides a five-year projection of pupil population for Porthcawl Comprehensive School which is primary school with an age range of 11 to 18.

		101%	100%	101%	101%	68%	84%	Cyfanswm /Total
Blwyddyn /Year	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
Oed / Age	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18	
2025	174	186	191	196	184	162	114	1207
2026	140	176	186	193	198	125	136	1154
2027	146	141	176	188	195	135	105	1086
2028	142	147	141	177	190	132	113	1042
2029	149	143	147	143	179	129	111	1001
2030	154	150	143	149	144	122	108	970
2031	166	156	150	145	150	98	102	967

The condition of the accommodation at Porthcawl Comprehensive School would be graded as condition B.

Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd
Llangynwyd
Maesteg

CF34 9RW

The following table provides a projection of pupil population for Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd which is primary school with an age range of 11 to 18.

Blwyddyn /Year Oed / Age	7 11-12	8 12-13	9 13-14	10 14-15	11 15-16	12 16-17	13 17-18	Cyfanswm /Total
		96%	98%	98%	99%	55%	75%	
2025	116	121	136	128	101	58	45	705
2026	117	111	119	133	127	56	44	707
2027	115	112	109	116	132	70	42	696
2028	107	110	110	107	115	73	52	674
2029	102	103	108	108	106	63	54	644
2030	94	98	101	106	107	58	47	611
2031	103	90	96	99	105	59	44	596

The condition of the accommodation at Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd would be graded as condition C.

Pencoed Primary School

Penprysg Road

Pencoed

Bridgend

CF35 6RH

The following table provides a projection of pupil population for Pencoed Primary School which is primary school with an age range of 3 to 11.

Blwyddyn /Year	N1 Oed / Age 2 - 3	N2 Oed / Age 3 - 4	R Oed / Age 4 - 5	1 Oed / Age 5 - 6	2 Oed / Age 6 - 7	3 Oed / Age 7 - 8	4 Oed / Age 8 - 9	5 Oed / Age 9 - 10	6 Oed / Age 10 - 11	Cyfanswm /Total 2-11	Cyfanswm /Total 4-11
				102 %	98%	112 %	102 %	101 %	102 %		

2025	0	54	58	0	0	0	0	0	0	542	58
2026	0	54	64	59	0	0	0	0	0	507	123
2027	0	54	54	65	58	0	0	0	0	491	177
2028	0	54	64	55	64	57	0	0	0	473	419
2029	0	54	64	65	54	62	56	0	0	462	408
2030	0	54	64	65	64	53	61	55	0	456	402
2031	0	54	64	65	64	63	52	60	53	487	433
2032				65	64	63	52	51	59	476	422

The condition of the accommodation at Pencoed Primary School would be graded as condition grade A.

Finance

- Funding levels in the primary sector would be on a class basis, derived from notional staffing requirements and are primarily based on the salaries of teachers and support staff. The funding to be allocated to the secondary sector is based on the number of places. One-off funding for the set-up costs would be £10k for each LRC

- As part of the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2025-2026 Council approved budget growth of £370k towards supporting an increasing number of pupils being referred for support and specialist provision. Council approved a further £800k in 2026-27 towards Additional Learning Needs pressures including additional resource bases in schools, of which, £211k is proposed to be used to support these proposals. The overall funding of £581k will be used to fund the six new classes at Tondu Primary School, Litchard Primary School, Llangewydd Junior School, Porthcawl Primary School and Porthcawl Comprehensive School, including the set-up costs, should the proposal go ahead.

- Additional funding to set up the Welsh-medium learning resource base was approved in 2022-23 and is currently retained as part of the Individual Schools Budget (ISB) until the consultation process is completed.

- The required changes to the MLD Learning Resource Base classroom in Pencoed Primary were identified when there were no referrals due reduced demand for MLD places at Key Stage 2. The space and staffing have been utilised to support a small number of pupils with ASD and is currently funded as an MLD. Where additional staffing is required this is currently funded through the ancillary staffing budget.

- The combined MTFS allocations are sufficient to meet the cost of the proposed provision, including the six new LRCs and associated set-up costs, with existing resources being reconfigured where provision is being re-designated.

The consultation process

- The consultation process will be completed by 31 December 2026 and the outcomes (which will be incorporated into the proposal where possible) will be reported to Cabinet. If there is a decision not to proceed, that will be the end of this proposal for the future and alternative proposals will need to be sought.

- If the decision is to go ahead, a statutory notice outlining the proposals would need to be published for a period of 28 days. If there are no objections to the proposal, then it will go ahead subject to final approval by Cabinet. If there are objections an objection report must be published. Cabinet could determine to accept, reject or modify the proposal. It is proposed to implement the proposal from 5 April 2027.

Next steps

- Projected timetable for statutory procedure and proposal implementation (include any proposed interim arrangements)

Activity	Date

Consultation period where we welcome your views on the proposal*.	01/10/26 – 17/12/26
Consultation report published available at; www.bridgend.gov.uk/consultation	01/10/26
Consultation report to Cabinet on the outcomes of the consultation.	02/02/27
If agreed by the Cabinet of BCBC, a public notice will be issued for 28 days, during this time any objections to the proposal must be submitted in writing.	
Policy approval – Any objections are published in an objections report and forwarded to the Cabinet for their consideration prior to a decision being made. If there are no objections Cabinet can immediately make a decision.	
Potential implementation.	5/04/2027

Guidelines (INTERNAL GUIDANCE ONLY)	Timeline
Consultation	42 days (inc. 20 school days)
Consultation report (Cabinet report)	Must be within 13 weeks of consultation end date.
Statutory notice (Objection period)	28 days (inc. 15 school days)
Objections report (If any objections are received)	
- If BCBC determine our own proposals - In all other cases	Must be within 16 weeks of the objection period end date. Must be within 28 days of the objection period end date.

*Please note that responses to consultation will not be counted as objections to the proposals. Objections can only be registered during the public notice period.

- The outcomes of the consultation (which will be incorporated into the proposal where possible) will be reported to the Cabinet of Bridgend County Borough Council. If there is a decision not to proceed, that will be the end of this proposal and an alternative proposal will be sought.

- If the proposal is accepted by Cabinet, a statutory notice outlining the proposals will be published for a period of 28 days and any formal written objections would be invited during this time. If there are objections at this public notice stage, Cabinet will need to consider the proposal. Cabinet could then accept, reject or modify the proposal. If there are no objections to the proposal, then the proposal will go forward subject to final approval by Cabinet.

How to make your views known?

There will be consultation meetings held as detailed below for the different interested parties. You are invited to attend the relevant meetings where you can hear an explanation of the proposal, put questions and express any views or concerns you may have.

Venue: Tondu Primary School	**Date**	**Time**
School Council	6/10/26	TBC
Staff	6/10/26	TBC
Governing body	6/10/26	TBC
Pupils	6/10/26	TBC

Venue: Litchard Primary School	**Date**	**Time**
School Council	8/10/26	TBC
Staff	8/10/26	TBC
Governing body	8/10/26	TBC
Pupils	8/10/26	TBC

Venue: Porthcawl Primary School	**Date**	**Time**
School Council	12/10/26	TBC
Staff	12/10/26	TBC
Governing body	12/10/26	TBC
Pupils	12/10/26	TBC

Venue: Llangewydd Junior School	**Date**	**Time**
School Council	15/10/26	TBC
Staff	15/10/26	TBC
Governing body	15/10/26	TBC
Pupils	15/10/26	TBC

Venue: Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd	**Date**	**Time**

School Council	16/10/26	TBC
Staff	16/10/26	TBC
Governing body	16/10/26	TBC
Pupils	16/10/26	TBC

Venue: Pencoed Primary School	**Date**	**Time**
School Council	7/10/26	TBC
Staff	7/10/26	TBC
Governing body	7/10/26	TBC
Pupils	7/10/26	TBC

Venue: Porthcawl Comprehensive School	**Date**	**Time**
School Council	1/10/26	TBC
Staff	1/10/26	TBC
Governing body	1/10/26	TBC
Pupils	1/10/26	TBC

If you have any further questions regarding this proposal, wish to put your views in writing, suggest alternative proposals or request a copy of the consultation report when published, please contact:

Post:
Corporate Director of Education, Early Years and Young Peoples Directorate
Civic Offices
Angel Street
Bridgend
CF31 4WB
Tel: (01656) 642617

Please mark for the attention of EDSU, or Email: EDSU@bridgend.gov.uk

Alternative formats are also available upon request.

All views must be received by no later than 17 December 2026.

Appendices

Appendix A
Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening Form

Appendix B
Welsh Language Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening Form