

Appendix A: Workstream 1 Primaries and All-age schools

1. Background

In April 2020, the Leader of the Council approved the 'Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys 2020-2030'.

The Strategy sets out a number of Strategic Aims and Objectives which will shape the Council's work to transform the Powys education system over the coming years. This appendix provides an overview of the steps to be taken to take forward Strategic Aim 1 – 'We will improve learner entitlement and experience'.

The primary driver is to improve the educational experience for Powys learners, now and in the future. The project aims to reconfigure and rationalise the primary provision in Powys.

2. Scope

The workstream has been established to develop and take forward proposals relating to develop a network of all-age schools in Powys, and to reconfigure and rationalise primary provision in Powys. The scope of the workstream will be to develop proposals to take forward these objectives, which will include primary (separate nursery/junior schools) and secondary schools in Powys.

As indicated in the Council's 'Strategy for Transforming Education in Powys 2020-2030', the Strategy will be taken forward in 3 waves, with Wave 1 covering the period 2020-2022.

Wave 1 will consist of the following:

- **All-age schools:** Explore opportunities to develop 3 more all-age schools. The initial focus will be on identifying the first areas to be developed. Activity will also include the implementation of the proposal to establish an all-age school in Llanfyllin from September 2020.
- **Reconfigure primary schools:** Review and identify proposals for primary schools.

3. Benefits

- The work of this workstream will deliver the following benefits, which will be measured as part of the overall programme governance:
- Improved learning opportunities for pupils, through being part of a larger / all-age school
- Improved opportunities for staff from being part of a larger / all-age school
- Revenue savings to the Council
- Realisation of capital receipts through potential disposal of surplus buildings
- Opportunity to reinvest savings into the Powys school system
- Reduction in surplus places across the Powys school estate
- More school buildings that are condition A/B
- Reduction in the Council staff needed to support schools following a reduction in the number of schools / governing bodies
- Improved quality of school governance
- Improved ability to attract teachers and leaders of the future

4. Workstream plan

The project plan assumes that it will not be possible to commence any statutory processes until schools are open, and that this may not be until September 2020 at the earliest. Should the position change, it is possible that some proposals may proceed earlier than September.

Milestone/ Task Name	Deliverable	Start Date	End Date
Develop PID	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PID developed - PID approved by School Transformation Board 	April 2020	May 2020
Establish Workstream	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Workstream established 	May 2020	May 2020
Develop initial proposals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Data collated - Options appraisals carried out - Recommendations identified - School Transformation Board decision on proposals to be taken forward - Proposal papers prepared 	April 2020	August 2020
Cabinet decision on whether or not to proceed to consultation on each proposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cabinet decision on whether or not to proceed with consultation 	September 2020	September 2020
Develop consultation documentation for proposals as needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Completed consultation documentation 	August 2020	September 2020
Carry out statutory process for initial proposals (dependent on Cabinet decision)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultation completed - Consultation report prepared - Cabinet decision on whether or not to proceed to publication of statutory notices - (If required) Statutory Notice prepared - Objection Report prepared - Cabinet decision on whether or not to implement proposal - Decision letter issued 	September 2020	April/May 2021
Proposal(s) implemented (if approved by Cabinet)	Proposal implemented: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School(s) closed • New school(s) opened 	April 2021	September 2021 – September 2022

			(depending on proposal)
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