

# Appendix 1



## Options Appraisal Ysgol Abersoch

**Key**  
**Blue Font – Advantages**  
**Red Font – Disadvantages**  
**Black Font – Facts / Comments**

	1	2 (a)	2 (b)	3	4
	Status Quo	Change the age range of Ysgol Abersoch from 3-8 years to 3-11 years	Change the age range of Ysgol Abersoch from 3-8 years to 3-9 years	Federalise with a nearby school	Federalise with a nearby school locating the Foundation Phase on the site of Ysgol Abersoch, and KS2 on the site of the nearby school
Class Sizes and Age Range	<p>Ysgol Abersoch class sizes remain small – 1 class of 10 (September 2020)</p> <p>Age range of up to 5 years remains in the class.</p>	<p>Ysgol Abersoch class sizes remain small – 1 class of 10 (September 2020)</p> <p>Age range of up to 5 years remains in the class.</p>	<p>Ysgol Abersoch class sizes remain small – 1 class of 10 (September 2020)</p> <p>Age range of up to 5 years remains in the class.</p>	<p>Ysgol Abersoch class sizes remain small – 1 class of 10 (September 2020)</p> <p>Age range of up to 5 years remains in the class.</p>	<p>Pupils educated in more viably sized classes.</p> <p>Pupils educated with more children in the same age group.</p> <p>Age range of up to 4 years remains in FP class + KS2 class.</p>
Pupil Numbers	<p>Numbers would remain low at Ysgol Abersoch.</p> <p>32 surplus places (76%).</p> <p>School projections continue to appear fragile in terms of numbers.</p> <p>Cylch Meithrin and Cylch Ti a Fi opened on the school site in February 2020, this could lead to an increase in pupil numbers.</p>	<p>Numbers would remain low at Ysgol Abersoch.</p> <p>32 surplus places (76%).</p> <p>School projections continue to appear fragile in terms of numbers.</p> <p>Extending the provision to year 6 is likely to lead to an increase in pupil numbers and consequently reduce surplus places.</p> <p>Cylch Meithrin and Cylch Ti a Fi opened on the school site in February 2020, this could lead to an increase in pupil numbers.</p>	<p>Numbers would remain low at Ysgol Abersoch.</p> <p>32 surplus places (76%).</p> <p>School projections continue to appear fragile in terms of numbers.</p> <p>Extending the provision to year 4 is likely to lead to an increase in pupil numbers, and consequently reduce surplus places, but not as much as option 2 (a).</p> <p>Cylch Meithrin and Cylch Ti a Fi opened on the school site in February 2020, this could lead to an increase in pupil numbers.</p>	<p>Numbers would remain low at Ysgol Abersoch.</p> <p>32 surplus places (76%).</p> <p>School projections continue to appear fragile in terms of numbers.</p> <p>Cylch Meithrin and Cylch Ti a Fi opened on the school site in February 2020, this could lead to an increase in pupil numbers.</p>	<p>Pupil numbers at the school would likely increase as Ysgol Abersoch would be the provider of FP education for pupils in the 2 schools within the catchment area.</p> <p>Restricting the neighbouring school to provide education for KS2 pupils only would lead to a reduction in pupil numbers at that school.</p> <p>Cylch Meithrin and Cylch Ti a Fi opened on the school site in February 2020, this could lead to an increase in pupil numbers.</p>
Leadership and Staffing	<p>No change to the headteacher's non-contact time.</p>	<p>No change to the headteacher's non-contact time.</p>	<p>No change to the headteacher's non-contact time.</p>	<p>Opportunities to share staff and share expertise across the schools. Opportunities to collaborate on curricular issues and develop joint plans.</p>	<p>Opportunities to share staff and share expertise across the schools. Opportunities to collaborate on curricular issues and develop joint plans.</p>
The Community	<p>Retaining school presence in the village – no effect on the relationship between the school and the local community.</p> <p>Uncertainty remains regarding the long-term sustainability of the school.</p> <p>High percentage of Ysgol Abersoch catchment area pupils already attend out of catchment schools.</p>	<p>Retaining school presence in the village – no effect on the relationship between the school and the local community.</p> <p>Should the numbers remain low, the uncertainty regarding the long term sustainability of the school would continue.</p> <p>High percentage of Ysgol Abersoch catchment area pupils already attend out of catchment schools.</p>	<p>Retaining school presence in the village – no effect on the relationship between the school and the local community.</p> <p>Should the numbers remain low, the uncertainty regarding the long term sustainability of the school would continue.</p> <p>High percentage of Ysgol Abersoch catchment area pupils already attend out of catchment schools.</p>	<p>Retaining school presence in the village – no effect on the relationship between the school and the local community.</p> <p>Uncertainty remains regarding the long-term sustainability of the school.</p> <p>High percentage of Ysgol Abersoch catchment area pupils already attend out of catchment schools.</p>	<p>Retaining school presence in the village – no effect on the relationship between the school and the local community.</p>
Financial Resources	<p>Ysgol Abersoch remains financially unsustainable and therefore receives an additional minimum staffing protection allocation from the authority to ensure appropriate staffing levels (£52,582 in 2020-21)</p> <p>Average cost per pupil remains high, £17,404 over four times the county average, and the highest in the county.</p>	<p>Ysgol Abersoch remains financially unsustainable and therefore receives an additional minimum staffing protection allocation from the authority to ensure appropriate staffing levels (£52,582 in 2020-21)</p> <p>Average cost per pupil remains high, £17,404 over four times the county average, and the highest in the county.</p>	<p>Ysgol Abersoch remains financially unsustainable and therefore receives an additional minimum staffing protection allocation from the authority to ensure appropriate staffing levels (£52,582 in 2020-21)</p> <p>Average cost per pupil remains high, £17,404 over four times the county average, and the highest in the county.</p>	<p>Ysgol Abersoch remains financially unsustainable and therefore receives an additional minimum staffing protection allocation from the authority to ensure appropriate staffing levels (£52,582 in 2020-21)</p> <p>Average cost per pupil remains high, £17,404 over four times the county average, and the highest in the county.</p>	<p>Ysgol Abersoch remains financially unsustainable and therefore receives an additional minimum staffing protection allocation from the authority to ensure appropriate staffing levels (£52,582 in 2020-21)</p> <p>Cost per pupil likely to remain high.</p> <p>Opportunity to share resources and access to budgets across the schools in the federation.</p>

	With the opening of a Cylch Meithrin and Ti a Fi on the Ysgol Abersoch site, there is potential to generate income by charging childcare providers for the use of the school.	If the numbers were to increase, it would lead to a reduction in the cost per pupil.  With the opening of a Cylch Meithrin and Ti a Fi on the Ysgol Abersoch site, there is potential to generate income by charging childcare providers for the use of the school.	If the numbers increased, it would lead to a reduction in the cost per pupil.  With the opening of a Cylch Meithrin and Ti a Fi on the Ysgol Abersoch site, there is potential to generate income by charging childcare providers for the use of the school.	Opportunity to share resources and access to budgets across the schools in the federation.  Any managerial saving resulting from the arrangement would be retained by the schools to run the federation.  With the opening of a Cylch Meithrin and Ti a Fi on the Ysgol Abersoch site, there is potential to generate income by charging childcare providers for the use of the school.	If the numbers increased, it would lead to a reduction in the cost per pupil.  Any managerial saving resulting from the arrangement would be retained by the schools to run the federation.  With the opening of a Cylch Meithrin and Ti a Fi on the Ysgol Abersoch site, there is potential to generate income by charging childcare providers for the use of the school.
<b>Welsh Language</b>	No change in the situation regarding the language.  Welsh medium education continues in Abersoch village - continue to promote and facilitate the use of Welsh locally / within the community.	No change in the situation regarding the language.  Welsh medium education continues in Abersoch village - continue to promote and facilitate the use of Welsh locally / within the community.	No change in the situation regarding the language.  Welsh medium education continues in Abersoch village - continue to promote and facilitate the use of Welsh locally / within the community.	No change in the situation regarding the language.  Welsh medium education continues in Abersoch village - continue to promote and facilitate the use of Welsh locally / within the community.	No change in the situation regarding the language.  Welsh medium education continues in Abersoch village - continue to promote and facilitate the use of Welsh locally / within the community.
<b>Geographical Factor</b>	No change.  School within walking distance of the home of most Abersoch catchment area pupils.	No change.  School within walking distance of the home of most Abersoch catchment area pupils.	No change.  School within walking distance of the home of most Abersoch catchment area pupils.	No change.  School within walking distance of the home of most Abersoch catchment area pupils.	No change for FP pupils. School within walking distance of the home of most Abersoch catchment area FP pupils. <b>Some pupils would have to travel further to school than they do at present - need to consider the environmental impact.</b>
<b>Further considerations</b>		No disruption to the school's KS2 provision - may lead to better curriculum continuity as the school offers 2 full phase teaching (FP + KS2)  The age range of the school would be consistent with most of the county's primary schools.  <b>The existing building / site, without modifications, would not be suitable for a large increase in pupil numbers.</b>	<b>The age range of the school would not be consistent with most of the county's primary schools.</b>  <b>The existing building / site, without modifications, would not be suitable for a large increase in pupil numbers.</b>	Federation is a model that depends on the willingness of other schools to join the co-operation arrangement.	Federation is a model that depends on the willingness of other schools to join the co-operation arrangement.  The federation could be subject to a statutory process to change the age range of schools.  Potentially it would lead to a reduction in number of pupils attending the nearby school, as it would be restricted to provide KS2 education only.
<b>Comments from SRP members</b>	Small classes can be an advantage.  Potential for numbers to increase through local housing initiative.  Continuing opportunities to strengthen the Welsh language in the school and community.  Ysgol Abersoch has been awarded the Gwynedd Language Charter Gold Award.	Small classes can be an advantage.  Ysgol Abersoch has been awarded the Gwynedd Language Charter Gold Award	Small classes can be an advantage.  Pupils have the option to continue their education for an additional year at Ysgol Abersoch.  Ysgol Abersoch has been awarded the Gwynedd Language Charter Gold Award	Small classes can be an advantage.  Concern about the lack of full representation of the communities on the federal governing body.  Ysgol Abersoch has been awarded the Gwynedd Language Charter Gold Award	Concern about the lack of full representation of the communities on the federal governing body.  Classes too large in terms of pupil numbers can be disadvantageous - but, isn't it true that there would be room for two CS classes at Ysgol Abersoch and three KS2 classes at Ysgol Sarn Bach?  The change could lead to parents choosing not to send their children to the school.  Ysgol Abersoch has been awarded the Gwynedd Language Charter Gold Award.

	5	6	7	8 (a)	8 (b)
	<b>Federalise with neighbouring schools locating Foundation Phase + Years 3 and 4 + Years 5 and 6 on 3 different school sites</b>	<b>Close Ysgol Abersoch and offer pupils a place at a nearby school</b>	<b>Locate a Language Centre on the site of Ysgol Abersoch</b>	<b>Establish a Cylch Meithrin at Ysgol Abersoch</b>	<b>Change the age range of Ysgol Abersoch from 3-8 years to 3-9 years and establish a Cylch Meithrin at Ysgol Abersoch</b>
<b>Class Sizes and Age Range</b>	Pupils educated in more viably sized classes.  Pupils educated with more children in the same age group.	Pupils educated in more viably sized classes.  Pupils educated with more children in the same age group.  Age range of up to 4 years remains in FP class + KS2 class.	Ysgol Abersoch class sizes remain small – 1 class of 10 (September 2020),  Age range of up to 5 years remains in the class.	Ysgol Abersoch class sizes remain small – 1 class of 10 (September 2020),  Age range of up to 5 years remains in the class.	Ysgol Abersoch class sizes remain small – 1 class of 10 (September 2020),  Age range of up to 5 years remains in the class.
<b>Pupil Numbers</b>	School pupil numbers would likely increase as Ysgol Abersoch would be the provider of FP education for pupils in the 3 schools within the catchment area.  Restricting the neighbouring schools to provide education for 3 and 4 + 5 and 6 pupils only would lead to a reduction in pupil numbers at those schools.  Cylch Meithrin and Cylch Ti a Fi opened on the school site in February 2020, this could lead to an increase in pupil numbers.	Numbers at the school providing education in the area would be much stronger and sustainable for the future.  Reduction in the percentage of surplus places in the area.	Numbers would remain low at Ysgol Abersoch.  School projections continue to appear fragile in terms of numbers.  Cylch Meithrin and Cylch Ti a Fi opened on the school site in February 2020, this could lead to an increase in pupil numbers.	Numbers would remain low at Ysgol Abersoch.  32 surplus places (76%).  School projections continue to appear fragile in terms of numbers.  Cylch Meithrin and Cylch Ti a Fi opened on the school site in February 2020, this could lead to an increase in pupil numbers.	Numbers would remain low at Ysgol Abersoch.  32 surplus places (76%).  School projections continue to appear fragile in terms of numbers.  Extending the provision to year 4 is likely to lead to an increase in pupil numbers, and consequently reduce surplus places, but not as much as option 2 (a).  Cylch Meithrin and Cylch Ti a Fi opened on the school site in February 2020, this could lead to an increase in pupil numbers.
<b>Leadership and Staffing</b>	Opportunities to share staff and share expertise across the schools. Opportunities to collaborate on curricular issues and develop joint plans.	Staff redundancies.	No change to the headteacher's non-contact time.	No change to the headteacher's non-contact time.	No change to the headteacher's non-contact time.
<b>The Community</b>	Retaining school presence in the village – no effect on the relationship between the school and the local community.	Loss of school presence in Abersoch village.  A high percentage of Ysgol Abersoch catchment-area pupils already attend out-of-catchment schools, therefore a link between the neighboring schools and the community in Abersoch already exists.	Retaining school presence in the village – no effect on the relationship between the school and the local community.  Uncertainty remains regarding the long-term sustainability of the school.  High percentage of Ysgol Abersoch catchment area pupils already attend out of catchment schools.	Retaining school presence in the village – no effect on the relationship between the school and the local community.  Should the numbers remain low, the uncertainty regarding the long term sustainability of the school would continue.  High percentage of Ysgol Abersoch catchment area pupils already attend out of catchment schools.	Retaining school presence in the village – no effect on the relationship between the school and the local community.  Should the numbers remain low, the uncertainty regarding the long term sustainability of the school would continue.  High percentage of Ysgol Abersoch catchment area pupils already attend out of catchment schools.
<b>Financial Resources</b>	Opportunity to share resources and access to budgets across the schools in the federation.  If the numbers were increased, it would lead to a reduction in the cost per pupil.  Any managerial saving resulting from the arrangement would be	May lead to increased transport costs for the authority (if alternative school is more than 2 miles from pupils' homes)  The school would not remain in the minimum staffing protection allocation.  Cost per pupil for teaching would be closer to the county average.	Ysgol Abersoch remains financially unsustainable and therefore receives an additional minimum staffing protection allocation from the authority to ensure appropriate staffing levels (£52,582 in 2020-21)  Average cost per pupil remains high, £17,404 over four times the county average, and the highest in the county.	Potential to generate income by charging a fee on the child care providers.  Ysgol Abersoch remains financially unsustainable and therefore receives an additional minimum staffing protection allocation from the authority to ensure appropriate staffing levels (£52,582 in 2020-21)	Potential to generate income by charging a fee on the child care providers.  Ysgol Abersoch remains financially unsustainable and therefore receives an additional minimum staffing protection allocation from the authority to ensure appropriate staffing levels (£52,582 in 2020-21)

	<p>retained by the schools to run the federation.</p> <p>With the opening of a Cylch Meithrin and Ti a Fi on the Ysgol Abersoch site, there is potential to generate income by charging childcare providers for the use of the school.</p> <p>The 3 schools may require an additional allocation to ensure appropriate staffing levels.</p>		<p>Implementing the option would not generate income for the school in terms of the language centre.</p> <p>With the opening of a Cylch Meithrin and Ti a Fi on the Ysgol Abersoch site, there is potential to generate income by charging childcare providers for the use of the school.</p> <p>If the numbers were increased, it would lead to a reduction in the cost per pupil.</p>	<p>Average cost per pupil remains high, £17,404 over four times the county average, and the highest in the county.</p> <p>If the numbers were increased, it would lead to a reduction in the cost per pupil.</p>	<p>Average cost per pupil remains high, £17,404 over four times the county average, and the highest in the county.</p> <p>If the numbers were increased, it would lead to a reduction in the cost per pupil.</p>
Welsh Language	<p>No change in the situation regarding the language.</p> <p>Welsh medium education continues in Abersoch village - continue to promote and facilitate the use of Welsh locally / within the community.</p>	<p>Loss of Welsh medium education in Abersoch village.</p> <p>Similar Welsh-medium education provision offered at alternative school.</p>	<p>No change in the situation regarding the language.</p> <p>Welsh medium education continues in Abersoch village - continue to promote and facilitate the use of Welsh locally / within the community.</p>	<p>No change in the situation regarding the language.</p> <p>Welsh medium education continues in Abersoch village - continue to promote and facilitate the use of Welsh locally / within the community.</p>	<p>No change in the situation regarding the language.</p> <p>Welsh medium education continues in Abersoch village - continue to promote and facilitate the use of Welsh locally / within the community.</p>
Geographical Factor	<p>No change for FP pupils. School within walking distance of the home of most Abersoch catchment area FP pupils.</p> <p>Some pupils would have to travel further to school than they do at present - need to consider the environmental impact.</p>	<p>No pupil in the area will travel an unreasonable distance to school.</p> <p>Some pupils would have to travel further to school than they do at present - need to consider the environmental impact.</p>	<p>No change.</p> <p>School within walking distance of the home of most Abersoch catchment area pupils.</p>	<p>No change.</p> <p>School within walking distance of the home of most Abersoch catchment area pupils.</p>	<p>No change.</p> <p>School within walking distance of the home of most Abersoch catchment area pupils.</p>
Further considerations	<p>Federation is a model that depends on the willingness of other schools to join the co-operation arrangement.</p> <p>It is not possible to federate schools with different legal status.</p> <p>The federation could be subject to a statutory process to change the age range of schools.</p> <p>Potentially it would lead to a reduction in number of pupils attending the nearby school, as it would be restricted to provide KS2 education only.</p> <p>Pupils transferring 3 times during their time in primary school.</p>		<p>Sacrifice learning space to locate centre.</p> <p>Concerns regarding the lack of demand for additional language centre provision in the area.</p>	<p>Sacrifice learning space to locate a Cylch Meithrin.</p>	<p>Sacrifice learning space to locate a Cylch Meithrin.</p>
Comments from SRP members	<p>Concern about the lack of full representation of the communities on the federal governing body.</p> <p>Classes too large in terms of pupil numbers can be disadvantageous.</p> <p>The change could lead to parents choosing not to send their children to the school.</p>	<p>Closing the school will lead to the closure of Cylch Meithrin, Ti a Fi, Urdd, Hunaniaith Craft Club and all other community initiatives the school is involved in including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• using the weekly bus service to the Leisure Center (children buy their own tickets, learn how to handle money, use public transport)</li> <li>• judging shop / business window decoration competitions for Christmas and St David's Day</li> <li>• Christmas and St David's Day concerts</li> </ul>	<p>Small classes can be an advantage.</p> <p>Ysgol Abersoch has been awarded the Gwynedd Language Charter Gold Award.</p>	<p>Small classes can be an advantage.</p> <p>Ysgol Abersoch has been awarded the Gwynedd Language Charter Gold Award.</p>	<p>Small classes can be an advantage.</p> <p>Ysgol Abersoch has been awarded the Gwynedd Language Charter Gold Award.</p>

	<p>Ysgol Abersoch has been awarded the Gwynedd Language Charter Gold Award.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• singing at Age Cymru's Coffee Mornings, local shops and other organisations</li> <li>• beach visits</li> <li>• and much more!</li> </ul> <p><b>The Community:</b> Neighboring schools do not have a significant presence or link with the local Abersoch community. It is not possible to emulate the contribution of the community if the school is not located in the village, e.g. the cost of transport in terms of the impact on money and environment versus walking</p> <p>Impact on daily contact with parents as each child is dropped off and collected at Ysgol Abersoch rather than catch a bus, allowing for invaluable and vital ongoing communication and development, encouraging Welsh learners to improve their Welsh.</p> <p><b>The Welsh Language:</b></p> <p>The loss of Welsh-medium education in Abersoch and the wider community would affect the use of Welsh as a living language and work (see Hunaniaith Gwynedd - Action Plan for Promoting the Welsh Language in Abersoch).</p> <p>Miss being involved in activities such as Shwmae Su'mae to distribute leaflets to the shops / businesses.</p>			
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