



## CARDIFF COUNCIL

### SCHOOL STANDARDS AND ORGANISATION (WALES) ACT 2013

#### ENGLISH MEDIUM SECONDARY SCHOOL PROVISION, CATHAYS HIGH SCHOOL

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** in accordance with Section 42 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the School Organisation Code, that Cardiff Council (herein after “the Authority”), having consulted such persons as appeared to them to be appropriate, propose to alter Cathays High School, Crown Way, Gabalfa, Cardiff, CF14 3XG as follows:

- Increase the capacity of Cathays High School from 1,072 places (5.5 Forms of Entry with 247 sixth form places) to 1,450 places (8 Forms of Entry with 250 sixth form places) from September 2023
- Replace the Cathays High School buildings with new build accommodation on the Maindy Centre site adjacent to Crown Way and North Road
- Expand the current Specialist Resource Base (SRB) for learners with Autism Spectrum Condition from 16 to 50 places in purpose-built accommodation in the new school buildings

It is proposed to implement the proposed increase of the capacity, and the expansion of the Specialist Resource Base, from September 2023.

It is anticipated that pupils would occupy the new build accommodation on the Maindy Centre site from September 2025.

Cathays High School is currently maintained by Cardiff Council.

The Authority undertook a period of consultation before deciding to publish this proposal. A consultation report containing a summary of the issues raised by consultees and the Authority’s responses and the views of Estyn is available to view at:

[Agenda for Cabinet on Thursday, 17th June, 2021, 2.00 pm : City of Cardiff Council \(moderngov.co.uk\)](https://www.moderngov.co.uk/Agenda-for-Cabinet-on-Thursday-17th-June-2021-2.00-pm-City-of-Cardiff-Council)

The current school capacity is 1,072 places with 247 sixth form places. The current number of pupils at the school is 873 (11-16) and 173 (sixth form)

The number of pupils to be admitted to the school in Year 7 (the relevant age group), at age 11, in the first school year in which the proposal is to be implemented will be 240.

The school's proposed capacity once the proposal is implemented will be 1,450 places including sixth form.

Admissions to the school are managed by the local authority.

The SRB is currently resourced for 16 pupils aged 11 – 19 with statements of special educational need specific to autism spectrum conditions. It is proposed to increase the SRB places from 16 to 50 to meet predicted demand for places.

Admissions to the SRB are managed by the local authority. Placements would be subject to a statement of Special Educational Need in accordance with the Special Education Code of Practice for Wales 2002 and the new Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 (when in force).

There are no plans to change the Council's policy on the admission of children to schools as a result of these proposals.

Any arrangements for the transport of pupils will be made in accordance with the Authority's existing policies on school transport.

Within a period of 28 days of the date of publication of these proposals, that is to say by 26 July 2021, any person may object to these proposals.

Objections should be sent to the Director of Education and Lifelong Learning, Cardiff Council, County Hall, Atlantic Wharf, Cardiff CF10 4UW.

Objections may also be sent to the Director of Education and Lifelong Learning, Cardiff Council using the following e-mail address: [SchoolResponses@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:SchoolResponses@cardiff.gov.uk)

Please note that any such objection must contain the full name and postal address of the objector.

The Authority will publish a summary of any such objections made (and not withdrawn in writing) within the objection period, together with their observations thereon, before the end of 28 days beginning with the end of the objection period, that is to say by 26 July 2021.

Dated this 29<sup>th</sup> day of June 2021

Signed: Davina Fiore  
Director of Legal, Governance and Monitoring Officer  
For the Council of the City and County of Cardiff

## **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

(This does not form part of the Notice but is intended to explain its general meanings)

It is proposed that the capacity of Cathays High School is increased from 165 pupils per year group to 240 pupils per year group and that the existing SRB provision at the school be expanded from 16 to 50 places from September 2023.

It is proposed to replace the existing school with enlarged new build accommodation.

The proposal would also:

- provide upgraded community facilities in Cathays and Gabalfa through the significantly enhanced school facilities being made available for shared use with the wider community
- provide space for the local community to continue to have access to off-road open spaces for informal leisure use, recognising this is the current use at the Maindy site.

An indicative site map is available to view on the Council website at:

[www.cardiff.gov.uk/cathayshighproposals](http://www.cardiff.gov.uk/cathayshighproposals)

The map identifies the open access space that would be available, the retained leisure centre and BMX track areas outside of the development boundary, the required land for the school and remaining community open access land.

The map also identifies a large area of community space, outside of the school and leisure centre boundary of c13,500m<sup>2</sup> which would be retained. This represents an increase in unrestricted open access space available for use by the local community.

The open access space areas would be in addition to the facilities which would be provided within the boundary of the school that would be available to the community outside of school hours.

Any new buildings required in the event of the proposal proceeding to implementation would be designed to meet Welsh Government Funding conditions such as BREEAM and also be designed in accordance with the Department of Education Building Bulletins which sets out that the following facilities need to be included in any school:

- Teaching space: internal and external
- Halls
- Dining area
- Learning resource areas
- Staff and administration
- Storage
- Toilets and personal care
- Kitchen facilities
- Circulation
- Plant and internal walls