



Eich cyf / Your ref:
Fy nghyf / My ref:
Dyddiad / Date: 14/10/2026

Gofynner am / Please ask for: MEP Team
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MEPConsultations@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Dear Stakeholder,

**Notification of County Council Decision –
Proposal to discontinue Ysgol Gynradd Meidrim**

On Wednesday, 14 October 2026, the decision was made by Carmarthenshire County Council to approve the following proposal:

To discontinue Ysgol Gynradd Meidrim from 31 December 2026, to transfer pupils to Ysgol Hafodwenog or Ysgol Griffith Jones and re-designate and include the catchment area of Ysgol Gynradd Meidrim within the existing catchment areas of Ysgol Hafodwenog, Ysgol Griffith Jones and Ysgol Bancyfelin from 1 January 2027.

Objections to the proposal

In reaching its decision, the County Council has had regard to the School Organisation Code (2018) issued under the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and has considered the relevant factors set out therein. The Council noted that 151 objections and 9 supportive comments had been received during the statutory objection period.

The Council carefully considered the content of the objection and supportive comments received and the Local Authority's response as set out in the published Objection Report. The Council is satisfied that the issues raised in the objections have been appropriately addressed and that they do not outweigh the benefits of the proposal.

The Objection Report for the above proposal is available to view on Carmarthenshire County Council's website by following the link below:

[Objection Report](#)

Consideration of Factors under the School Organisation Code (2018)

In determining the proposal, the County Council took into account the following factors as outlined in the School Organisation Code 2018 as follows:

Quality and standards in education

The Local Authority's view is that Ysgol Griffith Jones and Ysgol Hafodwenog would provide education for pupils which is of at least equivalent quality as that provided at Ysgol Gynradd Meidrim, so it is not anticipated that implementation of this proposal, would have a negative impact on standards and progress overall. It is Estyn's view that the proposal is likely to at least maintain the standard of education provision in the area.

The Local Authority will work closely with the Headteacher and respective governing body to ensure a smooth transition to alternative schools.

Need for places and the impact of accessibility of schools

In approving this proposal, Carmarthenshire County Council has considered the sufficiency of places and the likely demand for places in the future. There is a high level of surplus places at Ysgol Gynradd Meidrim due to low pupil numbers. There are sufficient places at Ysgol Griffith Jones and Ysgol Hafodwenog to accommodate current and forecasted pupils. which, in turn, will have a positive impact in reducing the surplus places at Ysgol Griffith Jones and Ysgol Hafodwenog.

Resourcing of education

In reaching this decision a number of factors have been taken into account, in particular the low pupil numbers and projections, the deficit budget and the budget share per pupil.

Impact on the Welsh Language

In determining the proposal, the County Council has had regard to paragraph 1.4 of the School Organisation Code (2018), including the requirement to consider the impact of the proposal on Welsh-medium provision and its alignment with the Authority's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan.

Whilst the proposal would result in the closure of a Welsh-medium school within the Meidrim community, Welsh-medium education would continue to be available at Ysgol Griffith Jones and Ysgol Hafodwenog. It is also noted that, as of September 2026, a number of pupils formerly attending Ysgol Gynradd Meidrim have already transferred to one of the proposed receiving schools or to neighbouring schools, demonstrating that alternative Welsh-medium provision is already being accessed by families. Overall, the Authority is satisfied that the proposal would not have a significant adverse impact on the Welsh language and remains consistent with the objectives of *Cymraeg 2050* and the Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan.

Presumption against the closure of a rural school

The second edition of the Code (2018) makes special arrangements in regard to rural schools establishing a procedural presumption against their closure and requires proposers to demonstrate a strong case for closure, supported by a thorough assessment of all viable alternatives. Ysgol Gynradd Meidrim has been designated as a rural school which required the Local Authority to follow a more detailed set of procedures and requirements in formulating a rural school closure proposal.

The implementation of the proposal to discontinue Ysgol Gynradd Meidrim is seen as the most appropriate response to address the reasons identified in formulating the proposal due to the following factors:

- There are significant surplus places at Ysgol Gynradd Meidrim due to the falling roll over a number of years and only 32 pupils registered at the school at the January 2026 census point. The Local Authority acknowledges that this number has reduced to 24 pupils on roll as of September 2026.
- Pupil projections remain low for the school.
- The school is currently in a deficit budget.
- The school's budget share per pupil is £6,544. This is £571 higher than the Carmarthenshire County Council primary school average of £5,973 for 2026/27.
- Leadership within the school remains unsettled.
- Have a positive impact on reducing the surplus places at Ysgol Griffith Jones and Ysgol Hafodwenog.
- Supports Carmarthenshire County Council's Primary Education Footprint Principles.

Determination

Having had regard to the factors set out in the School Organisation Code (2018), and for the reasons outlined above, the County Council has determined to approve the proposal.

Referral of local authority decisions to the Welsh Ministers

Please note that the information below is not applicable to parents / guardians but has been provided for completeness.

Should any of the following bodies believe that an incorrect decision has been made by the Local Authority then, under section 54 of the 2013 Act, they may within 28 days refer the proposal to the Welsh Ministers for consideration:-

- Another Local Authority affected by the proposals;
- The appropriate religious body;
- The governing body of a voluntary or foundation school;
- A trust holding property on behalf of a voluntary or foundation school;
- A further education institution affected by the proposals.



Changing School

Children who are on roll or have been allocated a place at Ysgol Meidrim will not be able to continue their education (or start) at the school after 31st December 2026.

We strongly recommend that parents/carers submit a new application as soon as possible for an alternative school for pupils to continue their education via the council website.

[Changing schools - Carmarthenshire County Council](#)

Should you require any assistance in applying for an alternative school place, please contact the Admissions team on 01267 246449 or e-mail admissions@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Please contact the MEP Team if you have any queries.

Yours Sincerely,

Modernising Education Programme Team