

Date · Dyddiad 4th March 2019
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Pembrokeshire County Council Cyngor Sir Penfro

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Chief Executive / Prif Weithredwr

KATE EVAN-HUGHES
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Please ask for
Os gwelwch yn dda gofynnwch am

Huw Jones Ext 5502

To all statutory consultees

Dear Sir/Madam

Proposal to discontinue St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Pembroke Dock

I write to inform you that Pembrokeshire County Council, at its meeting on 21st February 2019, considered the proposal of the governing body of the above school to discontinue the school with effect from 26 April 2019. The decision of Council was to approve the proposal as published.

The reasons for the decision were set out in the Consultation Document to the proposal and which are as follows:

- Falling rolls and the non-sustainable number of statutory age pupils.
- A poor organisational culture, particularly in relation to the Catholicity and ethos of the school.
- A lack of stable and consistent leadership since September 2016.
- A decision by the acting executive headteacher and the deputy headteacher not wishing to undertake the headteacher role from September 2018.
- The local authority and diocese have been unable to find a replacement leader.
- Significant concerns regarding the budget despite the addition of £75,000 from the local authority over the last year.
- Inability to fund or recruit a permanent headteacher at the current time.
- Significant audit concerns about the financial management and running of finances at the school.
- A lack of sustained improvement over time.
- A concern that the school would be placed in an official category if inspected with no prospect of coming out of that category due to instability in leadership.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh and English, and will respond within a maximum of 15 working days. We will respond in the language in which the correspondence is received (unless you ask us to do otherwise). / Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a Saesneg a byddwn yn ymateb cyn pen 15 diwrnod gwaith fan bellaf. Byddwn yn ymateb yn yr un iaith â'r ohebiaeth a dderbyniwyd (oni bai eich bod yn gofyn i ni wneud yn wahanol).

For a copy in large print, easy-read, Braille, audio, or an alternative language, please contact Pembrokeshire County Council on the number above. / Os am gopi mewn print mawr, fformat hawdd ei ddarllen, Braille, sain neu mewn iaith arall, cysylltwch â Chyngor Sir Penfro ar y rhif uchod.

Prior to reaching its decision, the County Council took account of the above, and:

- the factors to be taken into account in preparing, publishing, approving or determining school organisation proposals;
- the comments received as part of statutory consultation;
- the objections received to the proposal and the proposer's responses thereon (The Objections Report).

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kate Evan-Hughes', written in a cursive style.

Kate Evan-Hughes
Director for Children and Schools