

**PEMBROKESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
CYNGOR SIR PENFRO**



CHILDREN & SCHOOLS

MILFORD HAVEN SCHOOL

Future Proposals for Sixth Form Provision

CONSULTATION REPORT

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Interim Director for Children & Schools**

July 2020

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Foreword

Pembrokeshire County Council is responsible for promoting high educational standards and for delivering efficient primary and secondary education. Having the right schools in the right places and ensuring that they are fit for the 21st century learner is a challenge facing councils across Wales.

Meeting this challenge involves reviewing the number and type of school the Council has in its area and assessing whether or not best use is being made of its resources and facilities.

The Council reviews its provision on the basis of:

- Quality and future sustainability of educational provision
- Sufficiency and accessibility of school places
- The condition, suitability and standard of school buildings
- Value for money

This Consultation Report sets out the findings of the statutory consultation undertaken with regard to the proposal to remove sixth form provision from Milford Haven School. All responses received during the consultation period are recorded, together with a summary of each of the issues raised by consultees. These are accompanied by a clarification or rejection (as appropriate) of any concerns.

Steven Richards-Downes
Interim Director for Children & Schools

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1. Introduction

Pembrokeshire County Council has a statutory duty to secure sufficient and suitable school places in its area and to determine whether it is making the best use of the resources and facilities to deliver the opportunities that children deserve.

At its meeting on 10th October 2019, Pembrokeshire County Council considered a report which outlined a request from the governing body of Milford Haven School to consult on the removal of the sixth form from the school. The report referred to a letter that had been received from the chair of the governing body of the school which outlined a number of factors that had led to its decision. The decision of Council was as follows:

That the Director for Children and Schools be authorised to undertake statutory consultation on the proposal to make a regulated alteration to Milford Haven School in order to remove its sixth form provision.

The subsequent statutory consultation was undertaken during the period 5th February 2020 to 20th March 2020.

This document represents the County Council's responsibility as part of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 to publish a Consultation Document. This document:

- Summarises each of the issues raised by consultees;
- Responds to these issues by means of clarification or rejection of the concerns with supporting reasons, and
- Sets out Estyn's view of the overall merits of the proposal.

2. Distribution of Consultation Report

This Consultation Report will be distributed to the following:

The Governing Bodies, Parents/Carers/Guardians and Staff of:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Milford Haven School • Milford Haven CP School • St Francis Catholic Primary School • Gelliswick VC School • Coastlands CP School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Johnston CP School • Neyland CP School • Haverfordwest High VC School • Ysgol Harri Tudur/Henry Tudor Sch.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul Davies AM – Constituency • Helen Mary Jones AM – Regional • Joyce Watson AM – Regional • Eluned Morgan AM – Regional • Neil Hamilton AM - Regional • Stephen Crabb MP • Cllr. Reg Owens • Cllr. Peter Morgan • Cllr. Ken Rowlands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr. Vivien Stoddart • Cllr. Mike Stoddart • Cllr Rhys Sinnett • Cllr Stephen Joseph • Cllr. Stanley Hudson • Cllr. Guy Woodham • Cllr. Paul Miller • Cllr. Simon Hancock • Cllr. Robert Summons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEU • NASUWT • UCAC • ATL • NAHT • ASCLE • UNISON • UNITE • GMB 	<p>The following Town or Community Councils:</p> <p>Milford Haven, Dale, Marloes & St Brides, St Ishmaels, Walwyns Castle, Herbrandston, Tiers Cross, Llanstadwell, Johnston, Neyland, Rosemarket, The Havens</p>
<p>Diocesan Directors of Education:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St David's • Menevia 	<p>Dyfed Powys Police and Crime Commissioner</p>
<p>The Welsh Ministers</p>	<p>Estyn</p>
<p>ERW – Regional Education Consortium</p>	<p>Pembrokeshire College</p>
<p>Carmarthenshire County Council</p>	<p>Ceredigion County Council</p>

In addition, this report will be distributed to all consultees who have specifically requested to be advised of its availability.

3. Consultation Arrangements

3.1 General Arrangements

The Consultation Document was published on 5th February 2020; this date also represented the beginning of the statutory consultation period. The consultation period ended on 20th March 2020. The Consultation Document was distributed / links sent to all statutory consultees listed on Page 5 of that document.

The Consultation Document was made available on the County Council's website at www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/haveyoursay.

3.2 Stakeholder Meetings

The following meetings were arranged with stakeholders:

Staff and Governors

Monday 24th February 2020 – Milford Haven School

Staff – 16:00

Governing Body – 17:30

Community “Drop-in” session

Tuesday 10th March 2020 – Torch Theatre, Milford Haven

09:30 – 18:30

4. Consultation Correspondence

4.1 Volume and Profile of Responses Received

A total of 168 responses were received via the online web link and general and “pupil-friendly” response forms. A further 680 names completed a Change.org online petition to “Keep MHS Sixth Form Open”.

In relation to the 168 responses made directly to the Council, the profile of respondents is given below and reflects all descriptions given. This profile indicates respondents’ role as part of the consultation and may indicate multiple roles, e.g. parent, staff and local resident; as a result the total does not equal the total number of responses received.

Profile	Number
Pre-school parent	12
Parents	59
Staff	7
Governors	13
Residents	43

In relation to pre-school and current parents, the following table shows the schools that these groups identified with. Again, the total does not equal the total number of responses received from parents.

School	No.	%
Milford Haven School	21	36.8
Milford Haven Community Primary School	9	15.8
St Francis Catholic Primary School	4	7.0
Gelliswick VC School	11	19.3
Coastlands CP School	3	5.2
Johnston CP School	5	8.7
Neyland CP School	3	5.2
Henry Tudor School	1	1.8

4.2 Response from Estyn

The County Council has received a detailed response to the proposal from Estyn. Its overall conclusion of the proposal is as follows:

The proposal to close the sixth form at Milford Haven School and for pupils to attend other provision instead appears to be a reasonable way forward. It is Estyn’s view that this proposal is likely to at least maintain the current standards of education and provision in the area.

The full response to the proposal from Estyn is attached in **APPENDIX A**.

5. Consultation Responses

5.1 General Consensus

Where respondents chose to utilise the online or hard-copy form provided, they were asked to respond to a single question in order to establish which of the following statements best reflected their views. The findings are as follows:

*Please indicate which of the following reflects your views on the proposal:
To make a regulated alteration to Milford Haven School in order to remove its sixth form provision*

	Total	
	Number	%
I do not feel strongly one way or the other	9	5%
I support the proposal	21	13%
I do not support the proposal	135	81%
Blank	2	1%
TOTAL	167	

5.2 Pupil views

In relation to respondents '16 or under', i.e. not including the School Council response, 45 responses were received. Of these 80% indicated opposition to the proposal. The response of the school council of Milford Haven School is referenced as number 186 in the Consultation Report.

5.3 Analysis of comments made during consultation

A list of all comments received during the consultation period is attached as **APPENDIX B**.

The correspondence received reveals a number of issues which have been raised by consultees. These reflect support and areas of concern, and include suggested alternatives.

5.3.1 Comments in support of the proposal

The comments below are listed in order of the most common themes:

- Support for the proposal on the basis of various issues concerning Milford Haven School;
- Matters in relation to Pembrokeshire College and Further Education provision generally;
- The need for an orderly and structured sixth form closure, including the provision of alternative school-based provision and free transport.

5.3.2 Comments against the proposal:

The comments below are listed in order of the most common themes:

- A school based sixth form provides a better level of pastoral care to learners than can be expected in a 'college setting';
- The school's contribution and role within the local community;
- It is absolutely essential that the status quo is retained;
- Concerns regarding Pembrokeshire College's suitability and or appropriateness to deliver A levels;
- It is important to retain choice between a school-based or FE-based A level provision;
- Finance related matters;
- In order to protect the sixth form, sharing provision with other providers is important;
- Retaining the sixth form is important as it contributes to increasing skills and qualifications, wellbeing and self-confidence;
- The motivational and aspirational effect of the sixth form:
- Transport related matters.

5.4 Identification of themes arising from the consultation

A qualitative analysis of these comments has been undertaken and this reveals a number of themes, a detailed list of which, along with the Authority's appropriate responses, are given below. The aim of the analysis has been to capture, interpret and present the public's perception in relation to the proposal as faithfully as possible. All comments have been afforded equal weighting, regardless of their source, or the extent of the content.

Estyn Concerns / Comments	Authority Response to Concerns Raised
<p>The proposer has considered the potential advantages of the proposal. These include the school being able to focus more on improving 11-16 provision and learners being able to follow a greater range of subject choices with more modern facilities at Pembrokeshire College. The proposer has also identified that the subjects of 'DT' and 'IT' are offered by the school but are not offered by the college. However, the proposer has not provided any suggestion as to how it intends to address these deficits.</p>	<p>Pembrokeshire College offers a mix of 27 AS and A2 options and the breadth of choice is significant. The College does not offer DT, but there are other vocational routes e.g. Extended Diploma (ED) in Fashion and Textiles and ED in Graphic Design which cover many elements of the syllabus that is available in DT. In addition, ED Construction, Engineering and Food Science courses also have elements of Design. As for IT, the College does offer an A level in Computer Science, which aligns with the Regional Learning and Skills Partnership requirement as it provides greater opportunities for young people to enter the field of computing where there are significant job and career opportunities. Also, in terms of A levels, Computer Science is recognized by universities as the preferred qualification over A level IT. The College does offer a vocational Extended Diploma in IT Practitioners course for those who are more interested in this area of computing.</p>
<p>The proposer has identified four relevant risks associated with the proposal. These risks mainly related to procedural aspects associated with the proposal. The proposer has also considered counter measures to address these risks. However, it is not always clear enough as to how well these counter measures will address the risks identified.</p>	<p>The risks identified in Paragraph 5.7 of the Consultation Document aim to demonstrate those that are most likely to occur and are, by their nature, mostly procedural. The counter measures noted aim to describe how best to minimise the identified risks, but there cannot be any guarantees in that respect. It is important to understand that the process being followed complies with the requirements of the School Organisation Code, including minimum timescales and publication of all information required. The counter measures listed serve merely to explain that great care is taken to minimise risk wherever possible.</p>
<p>The proposer has provided details of pupil numbers forecasts for the next few years including sixth form numbers. It has also included pupil numbers and forecasts for other schools in the area. However, the proposer has not provided sufficient</p>	<p>Five year forecasts for schools which are the subject of school organisation proposals and those 'likely to be affected' are required to be provided as part of the information contained in the Consultation Document. In relation to Milford Haven School, both whole school and Sixth Form pupil forecasts are included in paragraphs 3.7 and 3.8 of the document. In relation to whole school figures, the forecasts demonstrate that pupil numbers are growing year on year reaching over 1300 learners by 2024. In</p>

Estyn Concerns / Comments	Authority Response to Concerns Raised
commentary regarding the relevance of including these forecasts.	relation to 6 th form numbers, the average progression of learners from years 11 to 12 and 12 to 13 means that the number of students is unlikely to reach 100 by 2025. Of note here is that despite the growing demographic of the school, sixth form numbers are unlikely to follow the same growth trajectory.
The proposer has suitably demonstrated that transport times to alternative post 16 provision including Pembrokeshire College will be less than one hour by car. It has not, however, indicated transport times for those pupils who may need to use public transport.	There are effective public transport links between Milford Haven and Haverfordwest, with both trains and buses being available. A train journey between the two towns takes 15 minutes, but the onward journey to Merlins Bridge (nearest stop to Pembrokeshire College) takes a further 10 minutes. Similarly a service bus journey from Milford Haven (Hamilton Terrace) to Merlins Bridge takes approximately 21 minutes.
The proposer suggests that the proposal will allow the school to potentially restructure its leadership and management arrangements and to deploy resources to specific activities as needed. The proposer states that the school will be extensively redeveloped and will have a number of specialist areas, including a Learning Resource Centre for pupils with complex learning needs and autistic spectrum disorder. However the proposer has not demonstrated clearly enough that it has considered the impact of the proposal on post 16 learners with special educational needs.	<p>Currently, the school offers one-to-one Specialist Study Support which is pupil-centred and designed around individual academic needs. It involves an exploration of their own Specific Learning Differences and how it impacts on their learning along with developing the strategies most appropriate to them, as an individual. The time it takes will vary depending on where they are on their learning journey. The school offers support for pupils in the following areas; dyslexia, dyspraxia, ADHD, ADD, ASC and mental health concerns and discuss how these difficulties affect their studies.</p> <p>The support that is actually taken up by post 16 learners is very low. The next steps are to ensure that there is an identified member of staff within the school that links with post 16 pupils and the ALN department. Also, to promote what the ALN department are able to offer pupils post 16.</p> <p>Post 16 pupils continue to receive access to school Counsellors who endeavour to create a welcoming environment and listen in a non-judgemental way to enable pupils to talk about their feelings and experiences. It is a collaborative process concentrating</p>

Estyn Concerns / Comments	Authority Response to Concerns Raised
	<p>on what is important to the pupils. Counselling works at their own pace and according to their needs.</p> <p>The majority of post 16 pupils with ALN access college provision because it offers a greater range of vocational courses which suit their academic ability and future career choices. As a result, the school's ALN department works very closely with Pembrokeshire College. The school identifies pupils who require additional transition and additional open days. There are opportunities for pupils to attend courses during the summer holidays before the start of their official course. The school invites Pembrokeshire College to attend its Year 11 Annual Reviews so that pupils and parents are able to ask questions about courses; this results in the college being fully aware of how best to support the pupils. The school Youth Worker also supports identified pupils who require additional transition and supports pupils during transition days.</p>

General Concerns / Comments	Authority Response to Concerns Raised
<p>Support for the proposal on the basis of various issues concerning Milford Haven School:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Adding more subjects to the school offer and increasing staffing is essential; ○ The quality of the provision needs to improve; 	<p>These arguments encapsulate the reasons why the governing body of Milford Haven School made the decision to consult on the sixth form's future.</p>

General Concerns / Comments	Authority Response to Concerns Raised
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The school has other things to worry about and should concentrate on its compulsory provision. 	
<p>Matters in relation to Pembrokeshire College and Further Education provision generally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Best to concentrate sixth form provision at Pembrokeshire College where there are better facilities; ○ The College has good results; ○ There should be a wider scope of post 16 provision catering for a wider range of needs/specialisms, e.g. a STEM based provision. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pembrokeshire College has invested heavily in its A level resources. A new £7million build, Campus6, was opened in September 2017 which encompasses state-of-the-art science laboratories and classrooms. A further suite of A level classrooms was refurbished in the Summer of 2019 to provide learners with an excellent study environment which is conducive to learning. All learners access the online learning platform, Moodle. Monitoring of learner progress is via a college-wide web-based grade tracking system integrated with Moodle in September 2019 for all full-time learners. This means learners can see their progress at any time and a holistic view of individual learners' or cohorts progress is readily available to teaching teams. ● Results are strong, the last year's A level results showed an A*-C outcome of 82% compared to a 76% national comparator. Last year's AS outcomes were exceptional with 25% of learner exam entries achieving a grade A. Eight learners had interviews at Oxford or Cambridge, with 4 receiving offers and 2 learners being eligible for adjustment at Cambridge (meaning if they achieve their grades they will be further considered). ● There is a strong STEM provision at the College. Results in STEM subjects at A level have been exceptionally strong over the last four years with results in STEM subjects clearly surpassing all National Comparators for 2018-2019. These are provided below and include Maths, Further Maths, Chemistry, Biology and Physics. <p>A* - A 29/90 32% A* - B 56/90 62% A* - C 86/90 96%</p>

General Concerns / Comments	Authority Response to Concerns Raised
	<p>A* - E 90/90 100%</p> <p>The college has also had significant success in extra-curricular STEM activity. These include team participation in the prestigious EESW engineering project, submission of independent research for a Gold CREST Award and participation in annual national STEM Olympiad competitions, with individual awards being won at Gold, Silver, Bronze and Highly Commended across A2 and AS.</p> <p>In 2018-2019, the college was successful in preparing all of the students interested in Medicine/ Optometry / Dentistry for successful applications to their chosen universities through a combination of their own MAT programme and through the activities available through the Seren Hwb.</p>
<p>The need for an orderly and structured sixth form closure, including the provision of alternative school-based provision and free transport:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It is important that learners have access to alternative options – these should include being able to access a school sixth form elsewhere; ○ Important that if the sixth form does close, free transport to alternative provision is provided. ○ The sixth form should close after the current Year 12 cohort has finished – no intake in September 2020; ○ There needs to be a planned transition period so that all key stage 4 pupils 	<p>The need for an orderly and structured sixth form closure is acknowledged and a proposed timetable is set out in Paragraph 5.4 of the Consultation Document. This sets out an assumption that all current Year 11 learners would be able to stay in Milford Haven School for their sixth form studies. However, it is important to note that the school would need to determine the viability of individual courses if there is insufficient demand. For example, if there is an insufficient number of learners entering Year 12 in September 2020, the governing body may decide to advise its learners to access alternative provision elsewhere.</p> <p>Alternative A level provision is available at Pembrokeshire College and at some other county secondary schools, Haverfordwest High VC School and Henry Tudor School being the closest.</p> <p>The Council's school transport policy states that "The Authority will provide discretionary transport beyond the compulsory school age where a Pembrokeshire learner resides over three miles from the nearest school or college where a suitable programme of study is available. The learner must be studying full time and under 19</p>

General Concerns / Comments	Authority Response to Concerns Raised
<p>have the opportunity to access the sixth form.</p>	<p>years of age on 1st September of the academic year in which the course is taken. It should be noted that if this proposal was implemented, free transport would be provided to pupils who live more than 3 miles from Pembrokeshire College.</p>
<p>A school based sixth form provides a better level of pastoral care to learners than can be expected in a 'college setting':</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Learners aged 16 are not always ready to leave a nurturing school environment; ○ Familiarity with teachers who have known learners for the previous five years is important, as they are able to provide greater support to learners; ○ The school's sixth form has smaller classes which makes for better learning, particularly for vulnerable learners. 	<p>There is no evidence to suggest that the school's sixth form provides a better level of pastoral care to learners than can be expected in a 'college setting'. It is interesting to note that "Care, support and guidance" was judged to be Excellent as part of Pembrokeshire College's inspection in January 2017 with the following comments made, e.g.</p> <p><i>"Provision for care, support and guidance is highly effective and assists all of its learners from the pre-entry stages through to achievement of their main programmes and their progression into further levels of education and training or employment";</i></p> <p><i>"The college prioritises the health and wellbeing of its learners effectively. Learners are able to access a wide variety of worthwhile support services... There is also a college counselling service, which makes innovative use of on-line counselling for hard to reach learners, or those who do not want face-to-face meetings";</i></p> <p><i>"Nearly all learners within the college benefit from a well-qualified advice and guidance team. The team offer high quality impartial advice and guidance to all learners, including re-direction to other pathways if applicants are not yet ready for their initial choice of programme. The team continue to provide this advice and guidance to learners for up to two years after they leave".</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The College has already developed strong transition links with other schools where there is no sixth form which enables learners to become familiar with key college staff and systems prior to coming to college. The schedule of transition begins in Year 9 and continues throughout KS4 providing advice, support and guidance. The schedules are bespoke to each school. The LA has testimonials from current

General Concerns / Comments	Authority Response to Concerns Raised
	<p>students in their first and second year of study which show the support that is available to all learners.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the college all students are strongly supported by their lecturers. The College is most concerned with how well and how soon their teachers get to know them and how this might affect their progress and their evidence shows how quickly this fear is laid to rest. On each subject, learners are spending up to 5 hours a week with each of their subject teachers which is a significant increase in the time that they would have spent per week with any one teacher across KS3 and KS4, in group sizes that average across AS at 18 pupils per group. The group size is also important in how quickly this barrier is removed. In addition, college teachers are happy to be in contact with students outside of their teaching hours via accepted college systems such as subject fora on Moodle or using college e-mail. Whilst this is a valid fear, it is also important for school pupils to reflect that even within their own school careers across KS3 and KS4, they are likely to have started a new school year with different teachers across different subjects and already have had the experience of getting to know a new teacher and that teacher getting to know them. • It is in the College's best interests to get to know learners as quickly as possible so that they can be offered them the best possible support as quickly as possible. Prior to coming to college, college staff visit partner schools and they have the opportunity to visit the college. With YBG for example, the Curriculum Area manager has already visited Year 11 three times this academic year and there have been three opportunities for pupils to come to the College. • In the first 6 weeks, the college asks all subject teachers and pastoral support coaches to complete comments on the learner profile which very quickly builds up a picture of how a learner is doing and what support might be needed. This picture can then be shared with parents and learners at a 6 week progress meeting. • All learner progress is reviewed at 6 weeks in order to ensure that everyone is progressing, settling in and attending. If there are any concerns, learners and parents are invited in to a meeting with the Curriculum Area Manager or the Head

General Concerns / Comments	Authority Response to Concerns Raised
	<p>of Faculty, both of whom take overall responsibility for monitoring progress. Monitoring and supporting of this kind takes place throughout the year, including half-termly attendance clinics where settling in and attending. If there are any concerns, learners and parents are invited in to a meeting with the Curriculum Area Manager or the Head of Faculty, both of whom take overall responsibility for monitoring progress. Monitoring and supporting of this kind takes place throughout the year, including half-termly attendance clinics where students are invited to discuss poor or falling attendance, and three A level parents' evenings.</p> <p>It should be noted that Estyn's judgement of Milford Haven School for "Care, support and guidance" as part of the school's inspection in November 2017 was "Adequate and needs improvement". However, it stated that "<i>the school has an inclusive and caring ethos</i>".</p>
<p>The school's contribution and role within the local community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The school and its sixth form has always played a significant role in the local community; ○ The sixth form has always had a good reputation; ○ The closure of the sixth form should not be considered in an area of deprivation where there are few opportunities; ○ It is important that learners can walk to school. 	<p>There can be little doubt from the many responses received as part of the consultation that the school plays a significant role within Milford Haven and that it has a good reputation. It is also acknowledged that in a number of cases, respondents' experience of the sixth form was that it allowed them to grow up and mature in a safe, local school environment and allowed them to take on additional responsibilities.</p> <p>However, the fact remains that the young people of Milford Haven have chosen, for a number of years and for whatever reason, not to stay in the school sixth form. Since 2009, the number of learners in the school's sixth form has fallen by more than 77%, from a total of 201 Year 12 and 13 learners to 46 learners in 2020! It is acknowledged that this period has seen a small overall decline in pupil numbers attending the school, but this cannot account for the obvious choice being made by learners to look for post 16 choices elsewhere. There is no correlation between the small decline in the number of learners at the school, as a whole, with the significant decline encountered in the sixth form.</p>

General Concerns / Comments	Authority Response to Concerns Raised
	<p>Being able to walk to school is clearly important to a number of people but is a luxury found only in Pembrokeshire’s largest towns. As a predominantly rural county, many pupils rely on school transport to get to and from school. Certainly, from a post 16 perspective, learners in the Fishguard and St David’s areas have had to travel daily to be able to access alternative sixth form provision for the last two years. Similarly, learners wishing to pursue A levels taught through the medium of Welsh have, for many years, had to travel extensive distances to Ysgol y Preseli in Crymych. In accepting the fact that not all post 16 learners have access to their own transport, the distance between Milford Haven and other alternative post 16 provision is 7.3 miles at most.</p>
<p>It is absolutely essential that the status quo is retained:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Milford Haven School is growing considerably – it is therefore short-sighted to remove the provision now when it is likely that more pupils will choose the sixth form in the future; ○ Many learners don’t want to go to Pembrokeshire College or another school sixth form; ○ The school needs to encourage more pupils to enter the sixth form; ○ Learners have a right to be taught in their school until 18 years of age. 	<p>The arguments provided are acknowledged, but the following responses provide some additional context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The school is growing significantly with pupil numbers forecast to reach in excess of 1300 pupils by January 2024. It is also reasonable to expect that larger cohorts of pupils will result in more pupils entering the sixth form. The question however is how many and by when? The analysis of learner numbers in the sixth form over the last ten years is shown in paragraph 3.3 of the Consultation Document; this shows a steady decline in numbers during this period. Of interest, however is the fact that sixth form numbers are not showing a correlation with the already increasing number of learners in the school. During the last five years, pupil numbers have increased in the school by 13%. However, during the same period, the number of sixth form learners has decreased by 53%. Sixth form forecasts are based on an average progression from Year 11 to Year 12, and Year 12 to Year 13 over a four year period. On the basis of paragraph 3.8 of the Consultation Document, applying this methodology sees an increase in the sixth form to 92 learners by 2025. Arguably, this represents an improvement but falls far short of the estimated 150+ learners considered to make a sixth form viable.

General Concerns / Comments	Authority Response to Concerns Raised
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In relation to learner choice, the claim made that “many learners don’t want to go to Pembrokeshire College...” is not borne out by the facts. Paragraph 3.4 of the Consultation Document shows an analysis of learner destinations for the last five years. In all cases, the largest percentage of learners transfer to Pembrokeshire College to follow vocational courses. In relation to A level courses, most learners have chosen to stay at the school. However, in 2019, nearly equal numbers chose to follow an A level course at the school and the College. • There can be no doubt that the school has endeavoured to retain as many students as possible for its sixth form. However, this should not be at the expense of learners making incorrect or ill-advised choices for their course of study – learners do not have a right to be taught in their local school until 18 years of age! It is reasonable to suspect that in the past, learners have been encouraged to remain in school (in the sixth form), even if perhaps the chosen course of study was not in the best interest of the young person. It is also likely that this situation has been exacerbated with the limited choice of subjects available.
<p>Concerns regarding Pembrokeshire College’s suitability and or appropriateness to deliver A levels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The college is for vocational subjects only; ○ A perception that college is not a stepping stone to Higher Education, i.e. university; ○ There is no reason to develop or maintain stronger links with the college; ○ Isn’t the college oversubscribed? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The college enrolls around 900 level 3 learners. Over 300 of these learners follow A levels which is why the college is able to offer such a broad range of subjects. • This year the college have 263 applications in UCAS for university entrance. These applications come from learners on A level, Extended Diploma and Access to HE courses. Almost 90 of the applications are from A level students, the remainder, over 170 are from learners following vocational programmes. Of these applications 50 are to Sutton Trust and Russell Group Universities (the research led university groups). In 2019-2020 the college has also seen an increase in the volume of learners with successful applications to interview at Oxford and Cambridge, with 8 of 9 applicants receiving an interview and 4 of 8

General Concerns / Comments	Authority Response to Concerns Raised
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Little faith in the quality of lecturers at the college – question qualifications; ○ College A level experience lacks structure, is disruptive, and has no identity. 	<p>being offered a place. Since 2017, there has been a year on year increase in the number of learners who meet the criteria of the Seren Hwb (6 A* at GCSE). There are currently 22 learners at AS and 17 at A2 who are actively involved in the Seren Hwb. In addition to the links that the college develops and maintains with prestigious national universities, the college has also developed international links through Equal Education, securing a visit from a STEM specialist from MIT and securing a place for one of its own lecturers to attend a world renowned teaching symposium. Links such as this enable the college to raise learners' aspirations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are a number of reasons to maintain links with the college and the strong transition work being undertaken between the college and Ysgol Dewi Sant and Ysgol Bro Gwaun presented within the consultation document provides evidence of the benefits of maintaining and developing such links. • The college is not oversubscribed and has developed the campus accordingly. • <u>All</u> A level lecturers have a degree and a professional post graduate teaching qualification. Many have a Masters degree with a small number also having PhDs. Staff teaching A levels within the College are subject specialists. Many staff have also taught in schools and there is a strong commitment to ensuring students have the best learning experience. Learner feedback on the quality of the provision that they receive in A levels is consistently excellent. • The A level activity in the college is overseen by an A Level Committee chaired by the Director for Children and Schools. The chairs of governors from Ysgol Bro Gwaun and Ysgol Penrhyn Dewi are members of the committee along with the Cabinet Member for Education, the College Principal and the Curriculum Area Manager for A levels, who was appointed by the committee. The committee reports directly to the Corporation Board. • The A Level Faculty has a coherent structure. It is led by a Head of Faculty, a Curriculum area manager and a team of Pastoral and Learner Coaches working with teaching teams to ensure that students have the all the support

General Concerns / Comments	Authority Response to Concerns Raised
	<p>that they require. The College has invested in a team of Pastoral Support Coaches to ensure that every learner has a member of staff focusing on their wellbeing. The pastoral support coach makes the link between academic progress and learner wellbeing. There is a coherent, structured timetable, regular group and individual (1:1) tutorials and a schedule of whole cohort thematic seminars or 'Assemblies'. The A level team ensure that learners have the opportunity to engage in A level specific events, group and activity as well as college-wide activity. The college offers the opportunity for learners to engage in fundraising activities, social events such as Prom and wide-ranging leadership opportunities e.g Student Governor, Course representatives, Safeguardians, Llysganhedon Gymraeg (promoting Welsh Culture and Language) and School Link Ambassadors. Students on A levels and across the College are encouraged to host, plan and organize college events and groups such as the Enterprise fair, the debating society etc. Every effort is made to ensure that learners have a well-rounded A Level experience and that the success of their time at the college is not measured by their grades alone.</p>
<p>It is important to retain choice between a school-based or FE-based A level provision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Unfair if Milford Haven learners don't have a choice; ○ Learners should be offered alternative 6th form provision at Haverfordwest High or Henry Tudor schools if the sixth form is closed. It should not be limited to Pembrokeshire College. 	<p>Learners will retain the option of a school-based or FE-based A level provision. Such provision exists at Haverfordwest High VC School and Henry Tudor School, and Pembrokeshire College. It should be noted that if this proposal was implemented, free transport would be provided to pupils who live more than 3 miles from Pembrokeshire College.</p>
<p>Finance related matters:</p>	<p>All schools are funded according to a formula which is largely pupil based and this is the funding which is delegated to school governing bodies for schools' revenue</p>

General Concerns / Comments	Authority Response to Concerns Raised
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The school should be given more funding in order to offer a greater subject choice, particularly as Milford Haven is a deprived area; ○ The decision to be taken in relation to the sixth form should not be about money – it should be about pupils’ needs; ○ There is a perception that the proposal is a cost saving exercise. 	<p>expenditure. In relation to Sixth Form provision, this is funded directly from Welsh Government with the level of funding received based on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learner numbers, including Year 11 and Year 12 retention, i.e. the number of learners transferring to the sixth form from Year 11, and the number staying on in the sixth form after Year 12; • Deprivation; • Sparsity. <p>In essence, the Council takes little or no part in the funding made available to the sixth form; this is determined by Welsh Government. In relation to the perception that Milford Haven School should be given additional funding in recognition of it being a deprived area, this is already addressed as part of Welsh Government’s formula.</p> <p>The argument that the proposal is a cost saving exercise is acknowledged. However, the fact remains that the school governing body has a responsibility to make ends meet and to achieve a balanced budget. On the basis of its letter to the Leader of the Council requesting that a consultation is undertaken, the school has clearly faced difficult choices in relation to providing reduced curriculum options and the provision not meeting the needs of learners. Added to this, the fact that the school has yet to address Estyn’s recommendation to improve key stage 4 outcomes, suggests that the school cannot afford to continue subsidising its sixth form offer.</p>
<p>In order to protect the sixth form, sharing provision with other providers is important:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Continue to apply federation approach with some subjects being offered by Pembrokeshire College or other schools; ○ Consideration should be given to satellite provision where, for example, 	<p>The school has been an active member in the County’s collaborative Post-16 Federation for a number of years. Whilst this has benefitted learners to date by broadening choice, in particular to subjects that traditionally attract low numbers of learners, the decision to move to a closure of the sixth form is specific to low learner numbers at the school, a restricted A Level offer, and outcomes that are below expectation. A continuation of federated activities is unlikely to solve any of these challenges.</p>

General Concerns / Comments	Authority Response to Concerns Raised
<p>lessons can be delivered locally via electronic link.</p>	<p>Following successful approaches undertaken with other 11-16 schools in the county, a number of innovative approaches to satellite community engagement will be considered. These include learners completing Community Challenges associated with the Welsh Baccaulaureate in a number of different ways including sports, literacy and numeracy coaching, peer mentoring and participation in the creative arts and music.</p>
<p>Retaining the sixth form is important as it contributes to increasing skills and qualifications, wellbeing and self-confidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There are benefits to all school learners arising from teachers who are qualified to teach at A level; ○ 6th form is a good positive experience which gives confidence and knowledge; ○ Closing the 6th form would limit educational options and opportunities; ○ Young people should be encouraged to stay in education and gain as many skills and qualifications as possible. 	<p>It is important to emphasise that the proposal is one to remove sixth form provision from Milford Haven School only. Alternative A level provision, at Pembrokeshire College, Haverfordwest High VC School and Henry Tudor School (Pembroke) will remain, meaning that learners can access such provision at a minimum of less than six miles from Milford Haven.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that a 6th form provides confidence and knowledge to many learners and provides the positive springboard from which they can proceed to higher education. However, given that ample opportunities exist to access 6th form provision elsewhere in Pembrokeshire, the proposal will not undermine this benefit. It is not accepted that closing the 6th form would limit options and opportunities; neither is it accepted that its closure would discourage young people from staying in education and gaining as many skills and qualifications as possible. The important factors with regards to encouraging young people to stay in education are to ensure that learners receive:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The best possible outcomes at the end of compulsory education, i.e. at GCSE and; ii. That learners receive the appropriate information, advice and guidance when considering their post 16 pathways.
<p>The motivational and aspirational effect of the sixth form:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pupils in younger age groups look forward to progressing to the sixth form; 	<p>This matter was considered as part of paragraph 5.1.2 of the Consultation Document. This referred to the experience of previous Pembrokeshire schools which have lost their sixth forms, i.e. Ysgol Bro Gwaun and Ysgol Penrhyn Dewi. In both cases, the headteachers report that they have experienced little or no effect on the aspiration of</p>

General Concerns / Comments	Authority Response to Concerns Raised
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The sixth form has an aspirational effect on younger learners. 	<p>younger learners. In both cases, the headteachers report that the schools have raised the status of key stage 4 (year 11 learners in particular) within the school hierarchy and that these learners have filled the vacuum created by the loss of the sixth form. For example, both schools now have Head Boy/Girl and other senior prefects drawn from respective Year 11 cohorts; furthermore, school drama or musical productions now draw from a younger group of pupils, thus raising their confidence and aspirations.</p>
<p>Transport related matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Not everyone has a car or is able to afford a daily commute to attend Pembrokeshire College; ○ The environmental impact of transporting pupils daily to and from Haverfordwest is significant; ○ Peak time traffic between Milford Haven and Haverfordwest is significant. 	<p>It is acknowledged that not all post 16 learners have independent means of transport, including access to a car. It is also acknowledged that the travel times to alternative provision (as outlined in Appendix 4 of the Consultation Document) are generic times as per Google Maps, and may therefore not account for travel during peak times. However, it should be noted that a significant number of Milford Haven learners are already travelling daily to Haverfordwest to attend Pembrokeshire College. As outlined in Paragraph 3.4 of the Consultation Document, of the 157 learners in the 2019 cohort, 119 chose to attend Pembrokeshire College, either for A Level provision or post 16 vocational provision; this equates to over 75%. Over the last five years, an average of 63% of a cohort have chosen to attend Pembrokeshire College.</p> <p>It should be noted that if this proposal was implemented, free transport would be provided to pupils who live more than 3 miles from Pembrokeshire College.</p>

Estyn response to the proposal by Pembrokeshire County Council to make a regulated alteration to Milford Haven School in order to remove its sixth form provision

This report has been prepared by Her Majesty's Inspectors of Education and Training in Wales.

Under the terms of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and its associated Code, proposers are required to send consultation documents to Estyn. However, Estyn is not a body which is required to act in accordance with the Code and the Act places no statutory requirements on Estyn in respect of school organisation matters. Therefore as a body being consulted, Estyn will provide their opinion only on the overall merits of school organisation proposals.

Estyn has considered the educational aspects of the proposal and has produced the following response to the information provided by the proposer.

Introduction

This is a consultation proposal from Pembrokeshire County Council.

The proposal is to make a regulated alteration to Milford Haven School in order to remove its sixth form provision.

Summary/ Conclusion

The proposal to close the sixth form at Milford Haven School and for pupils to attend other provision instead appears to be a reasonable way forward. It is Estyn's view that this proposal is likely to at least maintain the current standards of education and provision in the area.

Description and benefits

The proposer has provided a rationale for the proposal. This appears to be reasonable and valid. It is in response to a letter from the school's governing body to address the following factors in the sixth form:

- Declining pupil numbers since 2010.
- Reduced curriculum options.
- The provision not meeting the needs of learners.

The letter also refers to the belief that 'ascertaining the true appetite' for maintaining a sixth form at the school can only be achieved through consultation and that opportunities for stronger links with Pembrokeshire College should be explored as part of that consultation.

The proposer has considered the potential advantages of the proposal. These include the school being able to focus more on improving 11-16 provision and learners being able to follow a greater range of subject choices with more modern facilities at Pembrokeshire College. The proposer has also identified that the subjects of 'DT' and 'IT' are offered by the school but are not offered by the college.

However, the proposer has not provided any suggestions as to how it intends to address these deficits.

The proposer has considered suitably the potential disadvantages of the proposal. These include the perceptions that removal of the sixth form will have a detrimental effect on pupil aspirations, travel arrangements and loss of teaching staff. In responding to these perceptions, the proposer has referred to the positive experiences of other schools within the local authority that have had sixth forms removed.

The proposer has identified four relevant risks associated with the proposal. These risks mainly relate to procedural aspects associated with the proposal. The proposer has also considered counter measures to address these risks. However, it is not always clear enough as to how well these counter measures will address the risks identified.

The only alternative option considered as part of developing this proposal is to maintain the status quo. The proposer has reasonably determined that maintaining the status quo would be difficult particularly when the school can only provide reduced curriculum options to a significantly declining number of pupils.

The proposer has appropriately considered the impact of the proposal on learner travel arrangements. It states that discretionary transport is currently provided free of charge to post-16 learners and concludes that there are no changes proposed to the council's home to school transport policy.

The proposer has provided details of pupil numbers forecast for the next few years including sixth form numbers. It has also included pupil numbers and forecasts for other schools in the area. However, the proposer has not provided sufficient commentary regarding the relevance of including these forecasts.

The proposer has suitably considered the targets in the approved Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP). It concludes that the proposal will not support the targets set out in the council's WESP neither will it expand or reduce Welsh language provision.

The proposer has suitably demonstrated that transport times to alternative post-16 provision including Pembrokeshire College will be less than one hour by car. It has not, however indicated transport times for those pupils who may need to use public transport.

The proposer has provided suitable impact assessments for community and wellbeing, equality and Welsh language as appendices to the proposal.

Educational aspects of the proposal

The proposer has considered suitably the impact of the proposals on the quality of outcomes, provision and leadership and management. It lists the outcomes of the most recent Estyn inspection reports and support categorisation for schools in the area but provides little commentary on this information.

The proposer states that if the sixth form is closed, the school can focus more on pupils at key stage 3 and key stage 4. In particular, it suggests that this may help the school to work better towards addressing the first recommendation from its most recent inspection, which centres on raising standards at key stage 4. The Estyn follow-up visit in September 2019 judged that the school had made insufficient progress in relation to the recommendations following its most recent core inspection.

The proposer states that the school will no longer have the challenge of timetabling sixth form provision for a small number of learners. It reasonably asserts that this will enable greater flexibility in the allocation of subject teachers in key stage 3 and key stage 4. In addition, the re-allocation of staff from the sixth form will facilitate an enrichment of curriculum offer at key stage 3 and key stage 4. The proposer also concludes that learners will have a significantly broader A-level choice at other delivery centres than that currently on offer in the school.

The proposer suggests that the proposal will allow the school to potentially restructure its leadership and management arrangements and to deploy resources to specific activities as needed. The proposer states that the school will be extensively redeveloped and will have a number of specialist areas, including a Learning Resource Centre for pupils with complex learning needs and autistic spectrum disorder. However, the proposer has not demonstrated clearly enough that it has considered the impact of the proposal on post-16 learners with special educational needs.

The proposer has also included a helpful set of frequently asked questions and responses to these questions.

Milford Haven School – Future Proposals for Sixth Form Provision
Correspondence received as part of statutory consultation

Ref.	Comments
1	<p>Provision could be provided in the old library on Hamilton Terrace for a 6th form. In this day of reducing a carbon footprint this would ease the dreadful congestion in Merlins Bridge with traffic from St. Davids, Fishguard and Haverfordwest High</p> <p>No faith in the quality of lecturers in Pembroke College. You have to have a degree to teach in school but not in college</p> <p>It's removing 6th form by the back door shame on PCC</p>
2	<p>Keep the sixth form in place and find your cuts elsewhere., Many students wish to continue in sixth form</p> <p>Video links are already easily available and used by many places</p>
3	<p>[Redacted]</p> <p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
5	<p>The sixth form is needed and should remain at Milford Haven School</p> <p>Two of my children have attended Milford Haven sixth form. Had they had to go to college to study A levels then they most probably would not have done A levels at all. Some students need that extra 2 years at school as they aren't ready or confident enough for the change. The step up from GCSE studies to A levels is huge and some say more difficult than the step to university. This is enough pressure for some without the change of a new environment of college. We have a daughter in year 8 at Milford Haven school who too was eager to attend sixth form, with sixth form now moving to the college she has completely changed her mind with her future plans and is looking at more vocational courses than academic, which is disappointing as she is a bright girl, all because of your choice to stop sixth form at our school. With the catchment area for our school now including Neyland and Johnston chances are that in a few years there could be larger numbers choosing sixth form at Milford Haven, so why remove it. Sixth form at Milford School has been the making of my sons, they matured and gained so much confidence as well as their qualifications., it is a great disappointment that the same opportunity will not be available for our daughters.</p>
6	<p>The school needs to provide provisions for those children wanting to go to 6th form locally if they are closing the 6th form at the school.</p> <p>What happens if the 6th form at the college is over subscribed? Considering they take people from all over our children then miss out?</p>
7	<p>[Redacted]</p> <p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
9	<p>Keep the sixth form in Milford Haven it's such a big town to not have any provision for children over 16.</p> <p>Shuttle buses going backwards and forwards several times during the day. Lectures and lessons in Milford Haven. A study library/ hall/ computer lab just for sixth form students in Milford Haven</p>

Ref.	Comments
	Please don't remove yet another service from the children of Milford haven. They have enough battles to fight coming from an area like this.
11	Essential that free transport is continued to be provided for all pupils in the Milford Haven School catchment in order to remove any financial barrier to attending 6th form provision at Pembrokeshire College, or other locations. Although many pupils are registered as e-fsm many more are in families with low incomes (with significant parts of Milford recognised high on the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation) and as such small changes to family outgoings can have significant repercussions. Thought and a support package needs to be developed for current Year 11's in particular (and Year 10's) who face a Welsh Minister decision before September 2020. I would expect the more mature students to take the change in their stride and have made plans to attend a new location, however a minority may display low emotional resilience and need help.
12	It will be such a shame to lose the 6th form in Milford Haven School, it's always seemed to have such a good reputation and I feel it needs to be there for the pupils. Some children aren't ready or don't want to go to college when they're 16 and want to stay in school.
14	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
15	My son who's currently in year 11 really wants to attend MHS Sixth form in September 2020
16	<p>Investigate why 6 th form pupil numbers have decreased since 2009 , ask year 11 students if they would stay on at 6th form and if they answer no ask why they wouldn't stay on and potentially remedy given reasons.</p> <p>Milford haven school should see how 6th form is run at the college and compare the differences , I suggest Milford haven school is overly secure with electric all round fencing and corridors locked between lessons , I do not know the full extent of reasoning why security is req but I know from my own children that they feel restricted and hemmed in by these security gates / measures , Pembrokeshire college has a much more open and relaxed atmosphere</p> <p>My youngest son in year 9 is doing very well in his classes and is keen to stay on to gain a levels this would be made a lot more difficult if he had to travel to Haverfordwest for A levels rather than Milford school.</p>
20	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
22	<p>To keep Milford Haven School sixth form by any means necessary. For the purpose of achievements for the school and the satisfaction for teachers seeing student do well in A levels and for the extra curricular activities that the pupils will do in sixth form.</p> <p>It will be a shame for children who have gotten so far to be moved and unsettled, when we should be providing a choice for pupils to decide where they want to go.</p>
23	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
24	I do not think the council should be making stronger links with the college.

Ref.	Comments
	Please ensure that that these pupils, as well as those from St David's and Fishguard, are aware of the provision of sixth form in Haverfordwest other than at the college. I would like my children to have the choice of a college or school 6th form route when they reach that age, and the council still seems bent on supporting the removal of all English medium a level teaching from schools.
26	<p>Do not remove The sixth form from the school.</p> <p>As is now, we should continue to encourage our children to progress into further education and have a choice about staying in their local school or moving on to college should they wish.</p> <p>Removing the sixth form will only result in more children not going on to further education. The sixth form has a lot of pupils and will continue to if they agree to keep it open.</p>
27	Keep the sixth form open, the children need and deserve it.
30	<p>To continue to have them teach the A levels to the children as they do currently. I believe the schools and also the more junior pupils benefit from having an 16 + academic section to the school.</p> <p>I believe Pembrokeshire College is a good institution but having had a daughter that has already attended there for her A Levels, she went to school in Haverfordwest and was discouraged to stay on in STP. She found going to the College was very disruptive and found learning much more difficult with so little structure. I would not be happy for this option for my two younger children.</p> <p>Stay as we are please.</p>
32	Children no longer hate school. Children enjoy school. Removing the sixth form is destroying children's education in a local environment. A local sixth form encourages children to walk to and from school together. As a community.
33	<p>Give the school more money so it can offer more subjects like it used to do.</p> <p>Keep the 6th form open!</p>
34	<p>Keep the 6th form open and fund it properly.</p> <p>Better find the school to supply a wider range of A Level options in order to keep students at the school. Satellite provision would be great. Some pupils really aren't suitable for studying at college and need the nurture that 6th form provides. Ensure the college don't offer courses at post 16 that have ridiculously low entry requirements.</p>
35	<p>Keep the 6th form and stop encouraging pupils to leave school and go to the college.</p> <p>Why not federate subjects like Haverfordwest does?</p>

Ref.	Comments
	(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – individuals named or may be identified)
38	<p>Why does the school need stronger links with Pembs college? Surely opportunities should be offered to pupils in their local areas? I would say that stronger vocational courses should be offered in Milford Haven and links made to businesses for a more vocational qualification at sixth form age. Positive links with apprenticeships could work well e.g the port authority etc... these courses could be offered as a foundation in years 10 and 11.. for lower ability pupils courses such as ASDAN, Agored and Entry level would be useful in sixth form and fit the current ALN bill. I also feel that a more vocational offer would support positive behaviour management in the younger years with a goal to sixth form. With regard to the A-level pupils links could be made with Pembs college to the gifted and talented grouo that is run in order to mimic the same opportunities.</p>
39	<p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
40	<p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
41	<p>I do not support the proposal on the basis that a " sixth form " is an inherent part of a secondary school. Students between Years 7 and 11 learn from their elders and there usually a significant support network between Year groups. The loss of a sixth form would also limit staff teaching opportunities and, in my view, also limit applications for future posts within the school. I note the minimal numbers within the sixth form and if there is no opportunity for these to improve, then I would like to see the Years 12 and 13 groups given a choice of sixth form venue.</p> <p>The consultation document seems to be loaded in favour of Pembrokeshire College giving no information or opportunity of alternative sixth form teaching within the remaining secondary schools in Pembrokeshire which retain sixth forms. Both Henry Tudor and Haverfordwest High secondary schools are as close to Milford Haven as Pembrokeshire College. I have nothing against a College education but from experience, such education is not suitable for all at sixth form level. Yet again, PCC is taking away the "choice " element in education which it notablr failed to do in Haverfordwest after a tremendous public outcry. Will PCC never learn.</p> <p>If a sixth form in Milford Haven is not viable, please consider what might be the best alternative for the students and not PCC. The whole document is loaded in favour of a college education yet the PCC education department has an inherent responsibility to support both primary and secondary schools in the County. The Council and education department will be renegeing on its duty if it fails to provide choice to the students - and "choice" is readily available. The Memorandum of Understanding loudly trumpeted by PCC is most certainly not working for all and now needs to be kicked into touch to enable schools and college to fully collaborate as required by the Welsh Minister of Education - who pointedly does not say that all sixth formers must or should receive a college education.</p>
42	<p>Sixth form education to remain within Milford Haven School</p> <p>Possible link with specialist A' level subjects not traditionally available within a school environment. This is what the college was originally set up for not to steal subjects and pupils form local schools where they employ unqualified lecturers at a lower rate to teachers.</p>

Ref.	Comments
	<p>Scandalous!!! This proposal is purely a cost saving exercise and not one being made for improving provision whatsoever. Grow a pair PCC and start making decisions based on what's best for our young people and not what saves money.</p> <p>Sixth form provision within the school is key to ensuring all learners are able to access level 3 education. The school environment nurtures and supports pupils with ALN post 16, teachers have the history of pupils to be able to better cater for their needs.</p>
43	<p>It's ridiculous that the opportunity for further education is being made more complicated just to save money! These young people should be given every opportunity to continue studying in their familiar environment of school, and those that wish to can choose to go the the college!</p> <p>I don't think there needs to be any stronger links with the college. College is a completely different learning environment that certainly suits some students, but definitly doesn't work for others who are far more successful staying in school!</p>
44	<p>Not all children are mature enough for college at 16, some thrive in the school setting to remove the 6th form provision is detrimental to future children's possibility to thrive and achieve all they can.</p>
45	<p>Retain the sixth form provision with further development to encorage more numbers to attend.</p> <p>sixth form to be retained at current location.</p> <p>My child wants to attend 6th form next year but he does not want to enter into a College Enviroment to continue his studies. He is concerned that his education with be affected by the need for the College to remain profitable.</p>
46	<p>In the short term, yes the numbers are falling, but in the long term, the numbers appear to be increasing. In five years time when the numbers projected are 1307, will there then be a move to re-open the 6th form? School populations are cyclical; they go up and down every so often.</p> <p>Why should Pembrokeshire College be the only establishment that is considered suitable for teaching A Levels? What about the other schools such as HHVC? Henry Tudor? These are two nearest to Milford.</p> <p>If some students do not want to be taught A Levels by Pembrokeshire College, will they be given the opportunity to be taught at other schools in the area?</p>
47	<p>[Redacted]</p> <p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
49	<p>[Redacted]</p> <p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
50	<p>Milford Haven School needs to keep it's current Sixth Form Provision. Milford Haven is rated as a deprived area, access to high quality education is the main hope our children have to improve their lives and town as a whole. Milford Haven Sixth form has produced many successful pupils over the years and it's positive reach goes further than that. Even the pupils who do not go onto sixth form benefit from</p>

Ref.	Comments
	<p>looking up to the sixth formers as they progress through school. Also having teachers qualified to teach at A level on site means pupils benefit from this high level of teaching.</p> <p>Pembrokeshire College is a great asset and many pupils go on to do their KS4 education there especially for the practical courses or where the A Level subjects are not currently covered in school. However, some pupils need the sixth form provision local to them. They may have care needs or be carers within their family. Pupils from Milford Haven travelling to Pembrokeshire College by bus can spend up to 2 hours commuting each day in traffic jams. During extreme weather pupils are unable to attend. The young people of Milford Haven should be entitled to get their further education in their own locality so the hours outside school can be spent revising and taking part in extra curriculum activities. I can see how it is of benefit for Pembrokeshire College and Secondary Schools to share courses and course tutors. Perhaps, tutors could rotate the bases and take advantage of learning by video feed where needed (but all pupils should see the tutor in person too).</p> <p>I feel the loss of Milford Haven Sixth Form would be felt hugely by Milford Haven School and by the community of Milford Haven. The school is working hard constantly to improve but without the oldest, top performing pupils I worry they will struggle to continue the improvements. It will be demoralising to current pupils of Milford Haven School. Milford Haven Sixth Form do so much in the community and this would be lost with the A Level pupils as KS3 do not have the flexible study time to make such a difference. Keeping the Sixth Form will be a positive message that we care about the young children in the town and we are willing to keep investing in them! They are our future.</p>
52	<p>For sixth form to remain in MHS.</p> <p>Not all children are mature enough at age 16 for studying in college. I do not think it is fair to expect these children to not have the opportunity to undertake 6th form education</p> <p>As above</p>
53	<p>Keep it open</p> <p>It is unfair to make Milford Haven pupils' choice of where they go to continue further education. It is also a lot easier for pupils who live in Milford Haven to get to Milford Haven School for their education.</p>
54	<p>Keep the sixth form as many pupils dont want to go to college and also the education in this schools sixth form has in the past got better results than the college. Pupils will also know their teachers and know the style of the teaching and the tea her will know them and will make them feel more inclined for that pupil to do well.</p> <p>We could make more visits to better inform pupils about the teaching and opportunities there</p>

Ref.	Comments
	I think it is incredibly unfair to get rid of sixth form as we are depending on the amazing teaching here and our future to go to university and get a higher education.
55	Because both my child go to Milford school and what too go on to sixth on one will start September 21 and the other one would start 23.
57	<p>Milford haven needs to retain a sixth form so that students can continue with their education to a level if they do wish. College is not for everyone. Schools I understand get additional funding for a level students and also for any university places those students secure, so I think concentrating on a smaller number of core a level subjects such as for example English, maths, science etc makes sense. For the more vocational subjects that the college are so good at let them continue with those. My concern is that the college is going to be use too full- Haverfordwest vic school still isn't up to standard and I think people will leave there and go to college putting increasing pressure on their resources.</p> <p>Here's a radical suggestions, why not collaborate with Haverfordwest vc school on a level provision. I'm sure you could arrange a timetable for core subjects for students from both schools and use the college for vocational courses, diplomas, hoc/hnd etc. That way students have a choice.</p> <p>Removing a level provision from Milford haven school removes the chance for a lot of young people to achieve. Many don't want to go to the college and prefer the school environment.</p>
58	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
60	I believe that the 6th Form provision at HHVCS should also be considered as an option for KS5 Learners. Not all pupils will be comfortable in the College environment.
61	<p>If services can not be provided to the required standards at MHS, address the issues at the core of the problem rather than remove the provision all together for children living and in education in Milford Haven.</p> <p>Satellite sixth form centre built on the MHS site or in the local area - not in the college.</p> <p>Level of support, the environment, familiarity with children and their capabilities would be reduced if sixth form provision is transferred to Pembs College. Sixth form is fantastic for building confidence, delegating responsibility and preparation for university, career choices and further education. College is not the best choice for all children!</p>
62	Keep 6th Form at Milford Haven School.
63	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>

Ref.	Comments
64	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
65	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
66	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
68	<p>Keep the 6th form open, so that students in Milford Haven have the option of a 6th form and access to tailored post 16 education.</p> <p>I, and many others believe that 6th form numbers can improve at Milford Haven. As I understand what the school has told students has not been accurate and that current year 11 students have been advised to look elsewhere, despite only recently saying that 6th form would open if there were good numbers. I firmly believe that the school has already made up its mind that they want the 6th form to close and have now made it very difficult for any year 11s to apply. Indeed my daughter in year 11 was not aware that the option of 6th form was even available, and is only now hearing that there will be an options evening running. This is a time for Milford Haven school to become passionate about its 6th form again, and sell it as an alternative to college education which simply does not suit all learners. Not only will the loss of a 6th form at Milford Haven school be a loss to the community here, but will also deprive students of the option of studying in families surroundings with staff who know them and their needs.</p>
69	<p>All students should be offered a choice between continuing their post 16 education in Pembrokeshire College or in a school environment. If that is not Milford Haven School then another school should be considered. It is unhelpful to only consider Pembrokeshire College in the consultation document and it is unfair to those students currently in Milford Haven School and to HHVC which is not allowed to be considered as a destination sixth form. I do not support the proposal in its current limited form. I would support the proposal if the pupils were given a clear, transparent choice of where to study post 16 and not channelled wholesale into Pembrokeshire College.</p> <p>Why is Pembrokeshire College considered the only educational establishment requiring opportunities to develop stronger links. Pembrokeshire County Council have sixth form provision within their educational establishments already. What is the draw to Pembrokeshire College? Why don't Pembrokeshire County Council support their own schools' sixth forms and their growth. Developing satellite provision was talked about loudly when the schools in Haverfordwest were fighting to keep their sixth forms - it was considered by many to be a difficult option at that time and was not pursued in favour of all students from Fishguard and St David's being handed over to Pembrokeshire College.</p> <p>Pembrokeshire County Council should support the educational establishments within their area. Pembrokeshire College has other financial streams they do not need the local authority to keep them afloat. What is the huge draw to a further education establishment when you have first class sixth form provision in your local schools? Pembrokeshire County Councillors should be supporting their secondary school sixth forms or at the very least allowing them to operate on a level playing field.</p>
70	<p>Keep the sixth form please</p>

Ref.	Comments
	I do not want to go to the college as I feel that sixth form is a better environment for me to learn in
71	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
72	Because there are too many people to allocate to other schools
73	keep it open
75	<p>To leave it open.</p> <p>i dont have any</p> <p>Dont close it</p>
76	<p>Milford Haven School sixth form provision to remain.</p> <p>Milford Haven School is a very good school with excellent teaching staff. I believe all pupils should have a choice of where to study in sixth form, and believe it is unfair to take the choice of Milford Haven School's sixth form away. There has always been a sixth form at the school, and feel it provides inspiration for younger pupils. My daughter, who is in Year 10, would like to attend sixth form in Milford Haven School. She is settled in school and works well in a school environment. I feel her learning would be disrupted by having to study A levels either in Pembrokeshire College or at another school with sixth form provision. Also, she is able to walk to and from school at the moment which she will not be able to do if she is attending college or school in Haverfordwest.</p>
77	sixth form staying.
78	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
79	Why should Milford pupils not have the same opportunities as other Secondary school pupils in different areas of the County. All the secondary schools provide 6th form provision. By taking this away from Milford, it would limit the opportunities for the pupils. Many pupils do not want to move to a college provision and feel more comfortable in an environment they already no. You would limit educational options for the pupils
80	<p>Keep the Milford sixth form open aslong as people want to go to learn for their future.</p> <p>There are already strong links in place, but not enough money is going towards the sixth forms.</p> <p>I believe the council have some gut to ask other schools if they should close the Milford sixth form. If your a 'enemy' school then you are going to want to get rid of Milford sixth form so it's just the council's way of tactically voting to get rid of the sixth form to save money or because they have been given a bribe from the collage or other businesses. I believe aslong as people want to go to Milford sixth form it shall stay open. If this sixth form gets closed then the council will be sure to get rid of all other sixth forms in the area which is not building a better educational future for inspiring young adults.</p>

Ref.	Comments
81	Keep Milford Haven School Sixth Form open. As a year 10 pupil in Milford Haven School I am disappointed that I can no longer have the choice to complete my A-Levels in my hometown school. If this proposal goes through, the possibilities of completing my A-Levels with familiar teachers in a community school environment is being unfairly ripped away from me. I believe this will have a massive negative effect on my school life, as I want to be apart of Sixth Form life. I have always looked up to the Sixth Formers and think that they provide inspiration and motivation to younger students. I would like to be part of a senior prefect team, however if this proposal goes through I will never have the opportunity again. This would have a huge detrimental effect on my university applications and CV for future career applications. I know personally, from having conversations with my peers, that the Sixth Form is a valued part of our school that does stand us out from others and even though it's being portrayed as we don't appreciate it, we definitely do.
82	I wish to see Milford Haven retain its sixth form provision.
86	the lower year groups are increasing in size across all primary and secondary schools. If the Sixth form at MHS closes, the choices and options to the young people of Milford Haven and the surrounding area severely reduced. College is not for everyone. If HHVC and MHS can collaborate offering different subjects at each site and giving satellite provision with each other and the college, the young people of Pembrokeshire will have far greater options and we will be supporting the education and growth of the county rather than stifling it so that the young people move away. To continue in the way it has, provide links with HHVC and Pems college to all work together to provide a good range of subjects to pembrokeshire. HHVC and MHS could work together and offer different subjects each to reduce costs and offer a good range of A-Levels and other qualifications. To be patient for a couple of years as the number of pupils in the lower years is increasing.
88	Keep the sixth form with a full range of A level subjects. Look beyond the finances and at the pupil's needs. Pembrokeshire college does not have adequate facilities for even more pupils. Their level of support is much lower than what a school can provide. Federate on highly specialist subjects not just with Pembrokeshire College but with other secondary schools in the County.
89	Leave things as they are, with pupils having a choice whether to go to 6th form or college. The competition between both sectors ensures standards are kept high. The college environment works well for some pupils but others are better suited to the school structure. I have two children who study differently; my son was better suited to 6th form but I know that college would be better for my daughter, so plan to send her there. It will be a shame if not all pupils in the county will have that choice! The federation arrangement between HHVCS and Pembrokeshire college works well. Maybe this could be extended to Milford? The traffic congestion around the college roundabout is bad enough at peak times now, without additional vehicles. Is it environmentally responsible to transport hundreds of young people across the county when the alternative is to walk to school?
90	Keep the sixth form open with a wider range of subjects which could be run. E.g. Psychology, a Criminology like a BTEC option, Economics, Welsh 2nd language, etc. Offer the college students to transfer to sixth like we do with college. I am speaking from personal experience in the sense that I didn't enjoy the course I was doing at college as that is all I could do because of the grades I got however I thankfully had the chance to go back to the school where I grew up and was the most comfortable because it hadn't been closed.
91	<div style="background-color: black; height: 15px; width: 100%;"></div> (Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)
92	<div style="background-color: black; height: 15px; width: 100%;"></div> (Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)

Ref.	Comments
100	<p>Sixth form should stay open to support a school that is increasing in size on a yearly basis. The school intake in 2018 was nearly double the amount in 2013, this is more than enough to support a sixth form. If Milford school continue with sixth form it will get bigger again. They should also include a wider range of vocational courses such as BTEC qualifications to support those who want a more practical route but also want the option to go to university.</p> <p>I believe all pupils already have the chance to mix their school subjects with subjects available through college.</p> <p>This is wrong, it has been done with no long term thought to the children or the whole community of Milford. I firmly believe that sixth form offers the security and nurture to pupils that would otherwise be lost. It helps children to decide on their future. I know plenty of teenagers and older that would not have survived college but did really well in sixth form and went on to get degrees or good jobs thanks to the support of the school. I also know people who went to college and dropped out because they feel like they did not belong and were not supported enough. The college may only be a few miles away but it may as well be 25 miles, this is another barrier for our children to have to overcome.</p>
101	<p>I believe that the Sixth form is the heart and soul of our school and an irreplaceable link with our community. It was a pleasure and a highlight to go through 6th form as a pupil of this school and to see it produce amazing academics year after year as a member of staff. Sixth form taught me to be resilient and hardworking in a safe and caring environment that has helped me achieve two degrees and a masters. Without the staff, who knew me well, I would not have carried on into further education.</p>
102	<p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
105	<p>either add more subjects to offer and improve the quality of the 6th form, if not close it and move money back into the school and improve other facilities.</p> <p>I would like to see the 6th form stay open only if it were to thrive, if not I believe fully it should be closed as if it is not keeping up with standards it shouldn't be treated differently.</p>
106	<p>To keep the 6th Form open</p> <p>Closing the 6th form would be a very sad decision - I am a former pupil of the school and had the most enjoyable rewarding education here, which was topped with spending 2 amazing years at 6th form - the positive experience I had gave me the confidence and knowledge I needed to go off to university - having such happy memories of being here as a pupil is what led me to want to come back here to work to be able to support pupils to help them try and have the amazing educational experience that I did</p>
107	<p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
109	<p>Keep Milford Haven School Sixth Form open and functional</p>

Ref.	Comments
	The mention of transport to Pembrokeshire college is unrealistic.
110	<p>Do not shut the sixth form</p> <p>Stop holding fake meeting like these just to show face and pretend that you haven't made your mind up already. Actually use these meetings to hear people concerns instead of pushing your agenda</p> <p>College is not suitable for everyone, the county council spent a lot of many creating the sixth form study room at the comprehensive school and should put it to use. I went to this sixth form and I would not have been able to cope at the county college as the environment was not right for me. Milford pupils deserve the to have the option of where to complete there A levels</p>
111	<p>None - they should be kept separate.</p> <p>We need to support our local school and the provision of sixth form within it - college is for vocational subjects</p>
112	I believe that Milford Haven School sixth form should remain open for younger years, as a year 10 student I had my path planned out for my future and this include attending sixth form in Milford Haven School, I decided on this because not only do I feel apart of my school, it is also easier to access and I feel more comfortable with the teachers than I would of I were to have to move to college sixth form. I feel very passionate about this proposal because my future depends on it.
114	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
120	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
122	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
126	I believe that the milford haven school sixth form should be kept open to those who want to use it.
127	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
131	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
132	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
133	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
134	keep the sixth form
138	there is no acceptable alternative, sixth form needs to remain at milford haven school.

Ref.	Comments
	with the catchment area increased last year in a few years the sixth form figures will increase. I have had 2 children successfully complete sixth form at milford have,. If they would of had to go to the college then they wouldnt of studied Alevels at all. Some students at 16 are not ready socially or may lack confidence and so prefer to continue their studies with familiar adults and adults that not them well and their capabilities. My 2 gained so much staying on at school and were ready to move onto university owing to the support they had from the caring staff at this school. The same support our other 2 children will hopefully be able to have too.
139	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
140	<p>No alternatives, our children have a right to education just like everyone else in the county</p> <p>Use outreach service so some sessions held within school but some within college like transitions between primary to secondary schooling</p>
141	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
143	Hold courses the college doesn't I.e Resistance Materials. Welsh Bac.
144	<p>keep sixth form, allow students to federate between campus 6, haverfordwest high and harry tudor if necessary.</p> <p>it's important to develop links with college however students should be given a CHOICE to study in milford school</p> <p>i think the council have mishandled the whole situation and have tried to force their own way without consulting the community properly, i personally would love to go to sixth form and many others like me would love to go to sixth form but the council are allocating enough of the budget to MHS for them to be able to offer subjects students wish to study</p>
145	Students need this option
151	<p>This petition had over 600 signatures in the first week, it goes to show just how much everyone wants this sixth form open. On this petition there are a number of comments from past pupils, parents of pupils and local residents that all speak of how beneficial Milford haven sixth form is for the community https://www.change.org/p/pembrokeshire-county-council-keep-mhs-sixth-form-open?recruiter=1007922569&recruited_by_id=fc469990-e69d-11e9-9e07-2d5ecf47741e&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=copylink&utm_campaign=petition_dashboard</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Milford Haven Sixth Form Petition Comments</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sixthform was one of the best experiences of my life! • School should be full of options and opportunities. Don't go taking an option away

Ref.	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both my daughters thoroughly enjoyed sixth form at MHS. Both left with great results which allowed them both to go onto University. Children need have a further education option in Milford, to inspire them to gain further qualifications. By removing our sixth form, it's like saying the children and young adults don't warrant a further education option in our town. The standard of teaching and support offered by staff at MHS is second to none. • Milford Haven Sixth Form is an asset to every pupil at Milford Haven School and the community. • Some of my best memories are from the sixth form in MHS and I want my children to be able to experience this too! • It is important that mhs sixth form remains open for the young people who want to stay at school for further education x • All my children have stayed on at sixth form. Going to college to do A levels isn't for everyone. Our children should be able to have the choice. • My 6th Form years were the best two years of my teenage life. Don't ruin the opportunity for so many young people, wishing to stay in full time education. • I'm a former student of the school and the importance of having local education with the appropriate subjects and support is a must. This cannot be lost from MH school • This is so important, especially with the Haverfordwest school struggling as it is and not everyone wants to/has the confidence to go to college • Milford haven needs pupils to go to 6th form in their own town. • Very sad news.. Sixth form has been by far the best choice for us as a family. I feel for the children in years 10 who were looking ahead to attend..Also the staff at the school who have been affected by this..I wish the remaining 6th formers who are currently studying an enjoyable time ahead and wish them all the best with their studies they are getting on with. • I think it is important for students to have a choice of where they learn. • I went to MHS 6th form in 1990-1991 and the people of Milford Haven should continue to have access to local further education. • I feel passionate about Milford Haven pupils keep their sixth form. Look at all the good role models these pupils are to the younger pupils and how amazing these pupils are at raising money for children in need. Outstanding role models • I care about education • The best memories! • Both my children went to this school, yes it has gone downhill but so have most of the schools in Pembrokeshire, there is enough pressure on children today, feel sorry for the pupils involved. • Both our children attended Milford school and sixth form. It is a great pathway for them to develop their education and to foster links in the community.

Ref.	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My son, in year 11, had planned on attending 6th form next year, We need this to stay open!! • My daughter is wanting to stay on in school! • Alumni • The area needs a sixth form. It is wrong to expect children to travel all over pembrokeshire for their education. • The Sixth Form was a massive benefit to our daughter when she wanted to go to university. She got the best grades possible to help her achieve this goal. It would be a sad loss if Milford School did not have this facility for future pupils • For my niece • My daughter uses this facility. College isn't for everyone. Some young adults need more support, encouragement and structure than college can offer. • As an ex Deputy Head Boy, it would be a real shame to see the 6th form close. • 6 form • This guy needs his 6th form • My eldest son thrived at sixth form at Milford Haven school and not only gained excellent A level results but confidence too and now he has just started his 2nd year at Aberystwyth uni. If the option to stay on at school for A levels wasn't there I honestly don't think he would of studied A levels at all. <p>My 2nd eldest is currently studying in upper 6 at Milford. He too wasn't ready to leave school, in fact he chose his subjects for A levels on what was available at the school as wasn't ready in himself to go to any other sites for the subjects that weren't available at Milford, let alone be ready to go to the college.</p> <p>Personally I feel 6th form needs to stay at Milford, many students need those extra years to study where they are comfortable to gain more confidence. Therefore the school need to offer all Alevel subjects not take Alevels away altogether.</p> <p>My daughter is currently in year 8 and upset that the option to stay on at school isn't available to her as she really doesn't want to go to college.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sixth form should remain at mhs • My son attends this school this could possibly effect his future • Not everyone is ready to leave the community of school after GCSE's. Give people the choice of staying at their own school for A levels. • I went to this school, and to the sixth form, and loved every minute of it all! If like my children to have this same opportunity when the time comes. The sixth formers from MHS have achieved great things over the years, and this shouldn't be taken away from pupils who may want it in the future. • Best years of school, amazing memories, everyone should experience!!

Ref.	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I loved going to sixth form here, it's fantastic • This town and it's young students more than ever need the 6th form Do the right thing • Both my children want to attend sixth form and they are upset this may not be a possibility • It's important the children have six form some children struggle with change and to leave school and go to college is to much for some so going to six form helps ease the change into college. • Otherwise closing all the 6th forms like the council want to makes the college a super hub, and makes it harder for some kids to get there. 6th form can be better for some teenagers finding it hard to transitions into adulthood. At least connected to their old school they are being rsyght to fly, rather than kicked out the best. • I would never have had the confidence to attend a levels at college much perfer the smaller support at the school. • My 2nd eldest is currently in year 9 and is absolutely gutted he may not have the opportunity to attend sixth form • My granddaughter [REDACTED] is in year 8 and loves this school • Sixth Form was the cherry on the top of the cake for me!! My school years were some of the best years of my life, and ending it with 2 amazing years at Sixth Form gave me memories that I still hold fondly now. • Its an absollute disgrace if this happens • MHS has a great tradition of 6th Form & students going on to University including Oxbridge. Closure would hugely reduce choice for students in Pembrokeshire. • Milford School must keep its 6 form! The pupils need to be able to have this experience and be part of many memories!! • If it wasn't for milfords sixth form I wouldn't have had such a successful career. I made amazing friends too. • Without a 6th form option in the town many pupils would be discouraged from engaging in further education and as a result would be at a disadvantage. • I want my children to have options past the age if 16, to have the same opportunities as others their age in the county. • This needs to be kept as some children need extra years in the same environment to prepare them for college and better things . • I attended this sixth form many years ago. I understand how important it is for young People to have the choice to further their education in their Local community. • Without a 6th form, many pupils will NOT pursue further education and I feel this would hinder them getting jobs and careers in the future. I want my son to have the opportunity to continue his education in his hometown before the option of higher education. • Not all children are ready to move on to College which would be their only option • Having the support of teachers is essential for the success of some pupils. They should have the option. • The children of Milford haven deserve to have the sixth form to continue their education. Will be a shame to lose it

Ref.	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I hope my daughters will get the opportunity to go to MHS sixth form to study A levels • I missed out on having a sixth form as going to a separate college for someone not confident can prevent their education like it did for me. (I left the college). I wouldn't wish this for any of these young people and hope it stays open. • My children should have the choice!
152	<p>Keep sixth form in Milford haven school!</p> <p>We should be able to be taught in both the college and Milford School.</p> <p>I think the sixth form is important as it gives the younger pupils a role model and someone to look up to and to learn from.</p>
153	<p>STEM Specialist college to enhance science in the area?</p> <p>I feel that there needs to be more than just Pembrokeshire college in the area.</p> <p>There needs to be more provision for sixth form from a diverse range of schools and colleges to ensure that there is a wide range of accountability rather than just one college.</p>
154	<p>Redistribute the money to make this viable, you have to offer more subjects to increase intake, you will not get a surge in uptake until the offering is enhanced. It will mean a period of non viability but will pay for itself in a couple of years</p> <p>Some children are not emotionally prepared for college however, I do concede to it being a preparation platform for university. Increase teaching staff who can focus on A levels alone and results will speak for themselves. Teachers are being targeted with GCSE results and kids who are challenging! Vast majority of 'middle of the road' kids are getting lost in the system and more troubled, disruptive kids are being encouraged. Kids who choose to go to 6th form are there to attain good enough grades in an environment that suits their needs, much like the Harbour facility at MHS. Year 11 kids deserve the same privilege</p> <p>The matter of waiting till August to ascertain where my son will be going is deplorable!! To have to wait until August is disgraceful.</p>
155	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
157	<p>Where a school lacks academic resources to provide a full 6th form curriculum - a limited number of teachers could be shared between schools. Possibly reduce spectrum of 6th form subjects, to classical core subjects - Language, Maths, Science, Geography and History.</p> <p>The college should focus on practical vocational skills training. Schools could utilise this strength for envisioning/teaching those not academically suited for 6th form.</p> <p>Sixth form provides a big benefit to able teachers to stretch their subject knowledge and keep it fresh. It is a reward for teachers to have a group of pupils who want to learn. It provides a 2 year period in which older pupils can serve the school and be an example to younger pupils. A time to give back and mature, thus providing role models.</p>

Ref.	Comments
158	<p>[Redacted]</p> <p>(Comments redacted for the purposes of this document – respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</p>
159	<p>Pembrokeshire College would be pleased to develop stronger links with Milford Haven School and indeed there are already good working relationships in existence between the leadership teams in the two educational institutions. It may be helpful to refer to the strong transition links have been established with Ysgol Bro Gwaun and Ysgol Penrhyn Dewi and the schools and College have developed these further as we better understand the needs of pupils in years 9, 10 and 11. Both the schools and we have identified specific staff to take responsibility for working on transition and there is an annual calendar of transition events which is widely shared and reviewed. The transition schedules are bespoke to meet the individual needs of each school. The schedule includes 1:1 guidance, attendance at school assemblies and workshops, a link ambassador programme and collaboration with the schools on project work. There are regular visits from the College to the schools and we also bring school pupils into College for taster sessions in years 10 and 11. The College offers 27 A level options and 16 vocational routes at Level 3 and a range of entry, level 1 and level 2 courses so needs of all learners can be met with the provision available. If the proposal goes ahead then we would expect to put in place similar arrangements with Milford Haven School which have the benefit of being tried and tested. In terms of satellite provision we have explored this with schools in the north of the county. In the end we decided against satellite delivery of A level subjects because of a number of challenges that such an approach would raise. What we have done is use the links to enable pupils to return to their former schools to undertake elements of their Welsh Baccalaureate in their school community. We are rescheduling the delivery of the challenges as part of the WBQ in order to better facilitate this community element and enable learners to retain their strong links with their former schools. Community opportunities so far have encompassed literacy and sports coaching and future plans include peer mentoring, numeracy coaching and participation in arts and music. As stated in the FAQ section 8, we have previously provided a range of information in relation to pastoral care, establishing good relationships with staff and progress of seren and all learners. Extra curricular opportunities are also highlighted.</p> <p>We fully support the proposal and if it goes ahead will work with the school to provide the best transition experience possible.</p>
160	<p>The schools - according to this report has not questioned pupils why they do not wish to enter the 6th form. My enquiries leads me to believe the school is offering too few of options.</p> <p>This question seems to imply that the college is the only alternative. There are 6th forms in Ysgol Henry Tudur & Haverfordwest High VC and pupils should be offered these alternatives.</p> <p>1. These changes seem to ignore the fact that pupil numbers are projected to increase by 2025. 2. The adverse Estyn report must have some bearing on this issue, so perhaps the school should put that into special measures immediately and the management should be told to produce a comprehensive remodel plan. 3. There should be a comprehensive questioning of immediate past pupils to gain a true insight into the problems. 4. Has there been an analysis of the low standards of external exam results. 5. The Governing body should be ashamed. 6. The education dept. should have taken action sooner.</p>

Ref.	Comments
161	<p>I believe the 6th form at MHS has been closed by stealth over the last number of years. The numbers have not changed overnight but there has been a steady decline therefore it is not realistic to expect them to suddenly increase overnight but I believe the 6th form can achieve the numbers required if: 1. investment is made in the physical facilities and 21st century schools provides the perfect opportunity for this. 2. a commitment is made by PCC to invest in school 6th forms and the benefits of school 6th form provision is promoted to parents and pupils alike over the next number of years. 3. lobby Welsh government to provide 6th form funding in schools as this funding is available to colleges</p> <p>Why do we want stronger links to Pembrokeshire College? I don't want to see stronger links with Pembrokeshire College. It has a different function i.e. to provide vocational courses. You are asking the wrong question. Why is Pembrokeshire College the Councils go to option? The consultation done at MHS by PCC youth workers used statistics which showed that: 1. Over the last 4 years, more A-level students had chosen to stay in their school 6 forms than go to Pembrokeshire College. 2. Approx 60% of students going into year 12, went to Pembrokeshire College to do vocational subjects. 3. In one of the last few years, there were 30 AS Law students at Pembrokeshire College, in the following year there were only 2! A 93.3% drop out rate!</p> <p>1. One of the arguments I have heard for closing the 6th form is the number of pupils that drop out at the end of year 12. Pembrokeshire College haven't released these numbers so how can a comparison be made? 2. Because of the current small numbers in MHS 6th form, if one pupil drops out, the percentage that correlates to may seem large, although it may only be one pupil. 3. The grades that the school achieve are not accurate because if a pupil is hosted by the school, yet studies 2 of their A-levels at the College and gets U grades in those 2 subjects, those grades are attributed to the host school but are actually not a reflection of the school's teaching. 4. Statistics used by PCC in their consultation with pupils showed that MHS A-level grades have been improving over the past few years. 5. Pupils should have the choice of studying their A-Levels in their local community. 6. The proposal to close MHS 6th form, is effectively throwing Milford students out of their school aged 16. PCC should be encouraging higher education not making it more difficult. 7. Many pupils are not ready to leave school at 16, they need a further 2 years to develop in a safe, familiar and local environment. Current mental health issues such as isolation, anxiety, suicide are soaring amongst the younger generation. A community secondary school which is what MHS is, provides pupils with familiarity, pastoral care, 7 years of teacher pupil relationships and support, 7 years of pupil pupil friendships and support, 7 years of parent teacher relationships, opportunity to be in school with younger siblings, opportunity to walk to and from school freely and not take public transport. 8. The Well-being of Future Generations Act requires public bodies in Wales to think about the long-term impact of their decisions, to work better with people and communities. If MHS 6th form is closed, it will be lost for generations. 9. The Well-being of Future Generations Act puts in place the goal to create cohesive communities and explicitly says it is about: -"Creating the conditions where people and communities can do the things that matter to them" Studying A-levels in the school and town where they have grown up matters to my children and to us as parents. - "Valuing the role and potential that community anchor organisations can play." MHS is probably the largest and hugely significant community anchor organisation with 1,000+ pupils, teachers, parents, support staff. It is in the 6th form years that pupils really come to the forefront of their community engagement. They lead the town wide Children In Need fundraising, they represent pupils at Remembrance Sunday, they represent the school at county or national events. Taking away the 6th form undermines the anchor organisation that MHS is currently. I strongly believe that taking away MHS 6th form is directly contrary to the Act. 10.. "Active Travel Act 2013 requires local authorities to map and continuously improve routes and facilities for "active travel" – defined as walking and cycling for a purpose, like accessing work or services, rather than for leisure." Moving 6th form provision to</p>

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	<p>Haverfordwest will do the opposite for pupils in years 12 & 13, a huge majority of which currently walk to school. 11. MHCPS is one of the largest primary schools in Wales, there are numerous housing developments going on in Milford, Neyland & Johnston pupils are now going to MHS. Numbers are going to increase. Now is not the time to close the 6th form, now is the time to get a new and attractive, 6th form facility build at MHS fit for the 21st century. Our community deserves it as much as Haverfordwest deserves their investment. 11. Attending a 6th form in Pembrokeshire, provided me with 2 of the best years of my life. I had opportunities that I wouldn't have had otherwise. I want this opportunity to be available for my children, their friends and the children of our town.</p>
162	<p>Maintain 6th form provision at Milford Haven School. Possibly in combination with links to Pembrokeshire College.</p> <p>Potentially sharing staff between college and school. Students to use both locations - maybe 1 or 2 days at college if timetables can be coordinated.</p> <p>It is beneficial to young students to remain in an environment where their academic and personal development is familiar to staff members. The support they need to develop the self discipline and commitment required for further education can be better achieved in a familiar environment. The responsibilities taken on by 6th formers form excellent grounding for their futures.</p>
163	<p>We need to maintain this vitally important facility for the further education of our future graduates. This is desperately needed to ensure that young people living in Milford Haven have access to good quality further education and make the area more attractive to other professionals that we are struggling to bring to the area. It will also encourage those who have grown up in the area and gone to University to return and bring their skill set with them.</p> <p>None. Pembrokeshire is fine vocational subjects but not for sixth form education. The entire set up is too fragmented and soulless as there is no sporting acumen, identity or camaraderie that you would normally find in any good school that was in the area previously. These things are vitally important to the school, the town and the students in order for them to achieve their full potential. Milford Haven school is in desperate need of better funding and not the wholesale removal of financial support that is now intended to be diverted to Pembrokeshire college.</p> <p>It is absolutely scandalous that this entire proposal appears to have been steadily engineered by central and local government who are intent on pushing this through and literally turning their backs on the next generation of local young people. I was a former pupil of Milford Haven Grammar school which was a outstanding beacon of success in the area and a great advert and magnet for attracting professionals into the county. This will ultimately kill off the chances of any future graduates returning and basically commit the area to becoming nothing more than an old peoples home.</p>
164	<p>We need maintain this important local school. The dilution of the local 6th form provision will have a significant effect on local economy as well as disenfranchise youngsters from progressing to further education. The local sixth form is the gateway for students to get to university, the numbers going have been reducing in recent years as a direct result of the reduction in the number of classes offered. This reduction has been borne out in the significant reduction in the number of students from pembrokeshire who go on to university, which in turn reduces the number who potentially may return once they have obtained their degrees. The county needs a combination of students</p>

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	<p>with work based learning skills as well as those with higher levels of education. The trend in recent years has been to promote work based learning and vocational skills at the expense of the higher levels. The result at school level is that employers now find that many new joiners have less resilience, are less able to be determined, lack getup and go and lack basic skills. We need to maintain strong local skills which interact with the commercial and social parts of our economy. Over 10 years ago, for example, Milford haven school used to be nationally recognised at comic relief. This interaction mainly by the 6th form promoted the town , gave the students critical life skill interaction, whilst still able to send large numbers to university. We need an appropriate mix of education at a local level. The proposal to close Milford is generating a post code lottery which prefers to centralise and benefit Haverfordwest at the expense of the towns with a higher level of deprivation and in fact a greater need. It is noted that there has been significant investment in local welsh speaking schools, this is welcomed. It is accepted that there have to be choices, but to prioritise some sections above others and not to treat students equally is unfair and undemocratic.</p> <p>Pembrokeshire college is located over 7 miles from Milford, but over 14 miles from its western boundary . The suggestion that it is satisfactory for students to routinely travel this is not acceptable or fair, especially as when there is , and has historically been, a good school with the ability (with the right resources) to provide the right balance of education . Pembrokeshire college is also an outstanding college in its own right , which produces large numbers of vocational qualifications in line with the targeted directives from the Cardiff assembly. However these targeted outcomes are not always in sinc with the requirements of our local economy. There is a full place for pembrokehire college in education but not at the expense of school education which provides a better alternative for many youngsters. The suggestion that the college provides a satellite provision is just not an acceptable alternative.</p> <p>It is noted that Milford school results have not been good in recent years and have been deteriorating consistently over the last 10 years. This deterioration should demonstrate the absolute need to put more resources into Milford education rather than take it away. The students need our proper support to give them and the county the opportunities we need. This help is needed at all levels not just 6th form, but to take the sixth form away will just add to the continuing disenfranchisement of the students with the effect that more will be alienated with the natural increase in social and health issues. It is accepted that the finance for schools is an issue, but an acceptable alternative needs to be discussed and found for the whole of the local community , not what is acceptable to the few. I would welcome the opportunity to properly work with the council to identify sustainable solutions to this situation, if the council considers it an appropriate priority.</p>
165	<p>Keep a sixth form at Milford School. It was a huge and important part of the Grammar School when I attended in the 80's. The sixth form were also prefects who helped with the control and running of the younger age groups. It's a tradition and a great part of a teenagers schooling and preparation for University. Disgrace to even contemplate not having a sixth form. Education system is going backwards !</p> <p>Develop links with college for vocational study, for those who decide not to go to university for now and who are likely to gain apprenticeships or like.</p>
166	<p>The 6th form should close once the existing Year 12s have completed. There should be no intake in September 2020 or if there is an intake they should transfer to the college in September 2021 to avoid a further drain in resources. The lack of numbers and disappointing results compared to other schools in the area and the college is my main reason for this. As a resident of Milford Haven and ex-6th form</p>

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	<p>pupil and both children attending the school it is very disappointing the 6th Form has to close but the results are not there. I strongly believe that due to the lack of funding given to Milford Haven school and lavished on the college the pupils voted with their feet affecting numbers. If basic subjects like Chemistry could not be offered pupils would not be attracted.</p> <p>Year 10 & 11 should be given the opportunity to attend for more opens/orientation days. The free bus provision must continue.</p> <p>Stronger links should be built with Harry Tudor and Haverfordwest High as well so that some can pursue A levels in a school environment again with free transport. It is interesting to note that Milford Haven School on page 28 the school get 3% less funding than the average excluding SEN and yet the FSM is 23% or 8% more than the county average. This coupled with the lack of funding a new school compared to Haverfordwest and Pembroke show that the council neglects Milford Haven and/or our County Councillors do not have much of a voice despite the size of Milford Haven.</p>
167	<p>Pembrokeshire Business panel would like to lodge an official response to the consultation paper 'Sixth form provision at Milford Haven School' released 10th October 2019. In recent years, Business Panel members feel there has been a decline in the standard of applicants for advertised job roles and query if this is as a result of declining educational standards and the subject choices available to pupils in Pembrokeshire's Sixth forms. The Panel recognises this situation is compounded as a result of the way the Sixth forms are funded via Welsh Government which exacerbates the pressure on School's Sixth Forms in being able to fund an appropriate range of subjects to meet the needs and aspirations of their students. The Panel considers that the problem with education in Pembrokeshire starts much earlier than with sixth form provision. Although there are some very good primary schools in Pembrokeshire, it is clear that far too many pupils leave primary education without the basic language and elementary arithmetic skills required to take full advantage of secondary education. Too many also leave without the basic social skills required to operate effectively either in an educational institution or the workplace, the latter being very evident to businesses across Pembrokeshire when seeking to recruit young people. While post-year 11 choice is important, in the first instance that there should be a strong emphasis on improving core skills. Resources should not be diverted from pre-year 12 provision to maintain sixth forms lacking viable student numbers. The Panel feels the proposed closure of Milford Haven Sixth form results from an ongoing shortfall in Primary and Secondary funding and recognises the requirement to campaign at a higher level to address a funding shortfall that results in improperly resourced schools, insufficient staff and deprives pupils of choice. The panel perceives this as having a knock on effect on the availability of employees who are 'work ready'. The school environment also offers a more 'pastoral' approach to the care of pupils which may better contribute to basic life and work skills such as improved time keeping as well as supporting a greater "sense of place" that could benefit local employers in recruiting from their immediate area. It may be that this decline in choice has led pupils to choose a more vocational and less academic route through education when considered in conjunction with other factors not limited to a desire to avoid post-university debt. The Business Panel also notes with concern a reported decline in the number of graduates applying for advertised vacancies in Pembrokeshire. We acknowledge the excellent efforts Pembrokeshire College are making to help ensure its leavers are 'work ready' and the purpose and place of vocational training but would also like to emphasise the need for educational variety and rigor as well as the widest availability of options to our students to enable them to pursue the route of their choice. The current lack of funding at each stage results in the next educational facility playing a game of 'educational catch-up' with pupils, alongside attempting to teach their own curricula. Sufficient funding is required to enable well-staffed, well-resourced</p>

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	schools at both Primary and Secondary levels that assist pupils in maximising their attainment and further enabling them to develop into well rounded individuals. This is likely to result in better outcomes for our young people, our businesses and for the economy of Pembrokeshire as a whole.
168	<p style="text-align: center;">Milford Haven School Consultation</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Removal of the 6th Form</p> <p>The Children and Young People’s Rights Officer consulted with 12 young people from the school council on 11th March 2020 on the proposal to remove the 6th form from school. They were asked their views on the proposal, which were as follows:</p> <p>Agree with the proposal: 0</p> <p>Disagree with the proposal: 12</p> <p>Comments from the young people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some people don’t do well in a college environment. It’s different socially, at school you have a bigger support group. • In the consultation it states that the council “would expect” better results at KS3 and KS4 after closing 6th form, but where is the evidence to show this has actually happened at other schools? • In our opinion the 6th form is doing well and teaching is good. • The proposal doesn’t take into account the well-being of pupils. It has been produced from data, and no-one has actually spoken to the pupils about how they feel about this. We should have been spoken to first before this proposal went ahead. • The proposal doesn’t acknowledge at the impact of 6th form on the rest of the school, and the support they offer other pupils. • The Estyn report quoted in this consultation was November 2017, and the school has improved a lot since then. • The consultation doesn’t judge us fairly. We should be compared to other schools with similar demographics in Wales, rather than other schools in Pembrokeshire. We are not the same as the other schools in Pembrokeshire. • The percentages for results make the school look bad, but with the small numbers just one pupil might affect these results quite considerably, whereas in the College they have so many pupils so the statistics reflect this difference in numbers. • 6th form has a really big role in the community. Our 6th formers take the lead as active citizens in a huge range of activities and fund-raising, such as Children in Need, soup lunches, community coffee mornings, etc. • It says in the consultation that there would be no difference in aspirations, but we disagree with this – it would make a huge difference. All the younger year groups look up to the 6th form and see them as role models. • People from the council who write these reports should come and see what impact the 6th form has – we will invite county councillors for a coffee morning.

Ref.	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The consultation is totally based on numbers, but the real issue is our well-being. This proposal would affect our well-being negatively. • I could go to college and on paper get better grades. But I wouldn't be part of a community. • I go to college for some subjects and can compare my experience between the two settings. I feel overlooked in college. I was shocked to find out that the A level co-ordinator didn't know who I was. • I also go to college and can say that here is no consistency within college to ensure everyone gets what they need. In school the teachers make sure we all get what we need. • We have to federate for subjects, but those two years are really important times in our lives. Being forced into a place I don't want to be would adversely affect my life and well-being. • I do 50:50 with college and school for A levels. I chose to be in 6th form as it offers something college can't offer, being part of the local community. • I've had the same maths teacher since Year 9. It's much easier with familiar teachers helping us with the transition from GCSE to A level. The jump in difficulty between GCSE Maths and A level is really hard to cop with, and it really helped to have a familiar teacher to help me with this. • I'm considering do I actually want to do A levels at all if I have to go to college. • We are aware that not many pupils who have gone to college have stayed to finish their A levels. Some of our friends have been encouraged to leave college rather than get bad results. • We feel that the data doesn't fairly reflect our school. For example the high numbers in 2010 reflect that people used to do more vocational courses based in school. Now they all have to go to college.