

Appendix 7: Post 16 Operational Board – concept exemplars

1. Concepts

Attached to this paper is the Version 2 of the concepts discussed at the Board meeting on 22nd March. In order to provide more substance to these concepts I am providing links to examples across Wales of the different versions that have been debated. Please would you follow these links and familiarise yourself with the different types of institutions in order to better understand what each concept has to offer.

a. **Status Quo – 6th forms**

As an example of a 6th form setting I have provided links to Porthcawl Comprehensive School's 6th form information. This is the second largest 6th form in BCBC and can therefore provide a wide range of opportunities for students which may be more limited in the smaller 6th forms. With regard to facilities the schools vary with some have accommodation set aside for post 16 students and others not. The amount of dedicated facilities is of course not on the same scale as in a 6th form centre, college or FE setting.

<http://www.porthcawlschool.co.uk/pdf/porthcawl-prospectus.pdf>

<http://www.porthcawlschool.co.uk/pupils/sixth-form.asp>

<http://www.porthcawlschool.co.uk/pdf/sixth-form-prospectus-2017.pdf>

The current sizes of 6th forms in BCBC are:

Archbishop McGrath	159	Maesteg	177
Brynteg	383	Pencoed	128
Bryntirion	179	Porthcawl	269
CCYD	148	YGG Llangynwyd	113
Cynffig	77	Total population	1633

b. **A 6th Form Centre**

In the scale of institutions this would be the next step up and would be formed from the merger of a number of 6th forms (which ones and the number would be determined if Cabinet asked us to pursue this concept further). As an example I have provided links below to the Deeside College 6th form centre. This centre was formed as a result of the merger of 3 6th forms in Flintshire and the project was a joint venture between Flintshire CC, Coleg Cambria and Welsh Government. The secondary schools were re-designated as 11-16 schools. The centre has a student population of 700.

In this example the governance lies with Coleg Cambria under the joint venture. However this type of provision could also be delivered with joint governance by schools which would retain their 11-18 status.

<https://www.cambria.ac.uk/deeside-sixth/>
<https://images.cambria.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/DEESIDE-6TH-ENG-44PP-FULL-ENG-LR.pdf>

c. A 6th Form College

This is really a scaled up version of the 6th form centre. There are many examples of 6th form colleges in England many of which are now converting to academies. In Wales we only have one designated 6th form college – St. David's Catholic 6th Form College in Cardiff. This was originally formed from the merger of the 6th forms from local Catholic high schools – Corpus Christi, Mary immaculate and St. Illtyd's in Cardiff and St. Richard Gwyn in the Vale of Glamorgan. These schools were re-designated as 11-16 high schools. The college was originally designed for around 700 students but it has proved a popular destination for students and has grown to 1500 students drawing from some 30 secondary schools. Around half the students are Catholics with the remaining learners coming from a broad mix of backgrounds.

The College was established as an independent FE institution with its own governance and funded directly by Welsh Government. As an FE college it specialises in Level 3 programmes which are predominantly, but not exclusively, A levels. Under the WG Transformation agenda the College has explored collaborations with other FE partners and also developed a strong partnership with St. Teilos' Church in Wales High School and its 6th form. Currently St. David's College is consulting on an option to re-join the local authority as a voluntary aided school. The links below are to the college web site, it's prospectus and to the current consultation document. I would recommend colleagues read the latter as it provides interesting contextual information on how the college views itself as an independent but small college in the current climate.

<https://www.stdavidscollege.ac.uk/>

<https://www.stdavidscollege.ac.uk/uploads/Brochures/St%20David%27s%20Prospectus%202017.pdf>

<https://www.stdavidscollege.ac.uk/uploads/Docs%20%26%20Policies%2016-17/Consultation%20Doc%202016.pdf>

d. Full tertiary college

This concept has been developed in a number of settings across Wales such as Merthyr and Ebbw Vale with schools moving to 11-16 or 3-16 and the local FE provider delivering post 16 provision. Some FE colleges offer

the full range of vocational and academic provision within LAs that still retain 6th forms, for example, Cardiff & Vale College and Coleg y Cymoedd in RCT. RCT are also engaged in merging 6th forms within each of the valleys whilst the FE college is expanding its facilities such as the new campuses at Nantgarw and Aberdare. The links below provide illustrations of a full tertiary approach.

<http://www.merthyr.ac.uk/>

http://www.merthyr.ac.uk/sites/default/files/2017-2018_prospectus.pdf

http://www.coleggwent.ac.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=248#.WN4iQE2QxYU

In Neath Port Talbot the secondary schools have become 11-16 with post 16 provision provided by the FE sector – NPTC Group (see links below). The exceptions are Welsh medium provision at Ysgol Gyfun Ystalyfera and Faith provision at St. Joseph’s Catholic High School. The 6th form centre at St. Joseph’s is being given a distinct profile and has taken in more numbers in recent years. Meanwhile the College is undertaking a major refurbishment of its 6th form provision.

<https://www.nptcgroup.ac.uk/index.php>

<https://www.nptcgroup.ac.uk/en/study-at-nptc/neath-campus-development.php>

One of the ambitions for Bridgend College is to be able to provide a campus and facilities in Bridgend that matches the provisions we are seeing in surrounding local authority areas.

2. The Learning Offer - meeting the Measure

The Learning & Skills Measure requires, for Post 16, a minimum of 30 subjects at Level 3 with at least 5 of those being vocational across 3 out of the 5 learning domains and including 1 from Science & Technology.

School	Timetabled subjects for AS 2016-17	School	Timetabled subjects for AS 2016-17
Archbishop	18	Pencoed	20
Brynteg	30	Porthcawl	26
Bryntirion	18	Llangynwyd	17 (+8 with Llanhari)
CCYD	22	Common timetable in options X&Y	19
Cynffig	16	Twilight available to all at Bridgend College	5
Maesteg	18	Total offer	53