

The potential re-organisation of post-16 provision across Bridgend County Borough.

Consultation report

Date of issue: 11 March 2020

Contents

Contents	2
1. Overview	3
2. Introduction.....	3
3. Promotional tools and engagement methods	3
4. Response rate	7
5. How effective was the consultation?.....	7
6. Headline figures	7
7. Question and analysis - consultation survey	9
8. Social media responses	26
9. Parents and carers meetings.....	26
10. Staff and Governor Meetings.....	27
11. Letters and emails	29
12. Communication regarding the consultation	29
13. Conclusion.....	29
14. Appendix 1.	31

1. Overview

A public consultation reviewing the organisation of post-16 provision across Bridgend county borough was undertaken over a 12 week period from 2 December 2019 to 21 February 2020. The consultation received 5159 interactions from a combination of:

- Survey completions;
- Workshops held with comprehensive school pupils;
- Staff and governor engagement sessions;
- Parent and carer engagement sessions;
- Social media engagements;
- Emails;
- Letters.

This paper details the analysis associated with the consultation.

2. Introduction

The public survey was available to complete online through a link on the consultation page of the council's website. Paper copies of the consultation were made available via request to the consultation and engagement team. Surveys were available in several formats, including large print, standard and youth versions. All were available in English and Welsh. The content of the page remains available online.

In total, there were 18 questions (within all survey formats) that required a reply from respondents. These were made up of questions about three overall options in relation to the provision of post 16 education throughout the county borough. Within options one and two there were seven outcomes and two outcomes respectively. The council's standard set of equalities monitoring questions were also included with the survey in line with recommended good practice for all public-facing surveys carried out by the council. One additional question was asked if students selected that they attended Bridgend College.

A programme of engagement events were held in comprehensive schools across the county borough and Bridgend College, engaging with learners, staff and governors, and parents and carers.

Comments regarding the consultation were also invited via social media, letter, email and phone call.

3. Promotional tools and engagement methods

Details of the consultation were shared with:

- The public
- Learners and their parents/carers
- Schools and colleges
- School governors

3.1 Promotional tools

This section details the methods used to raise the profile of the consultation and encourage participation.

3.1.1 Social media

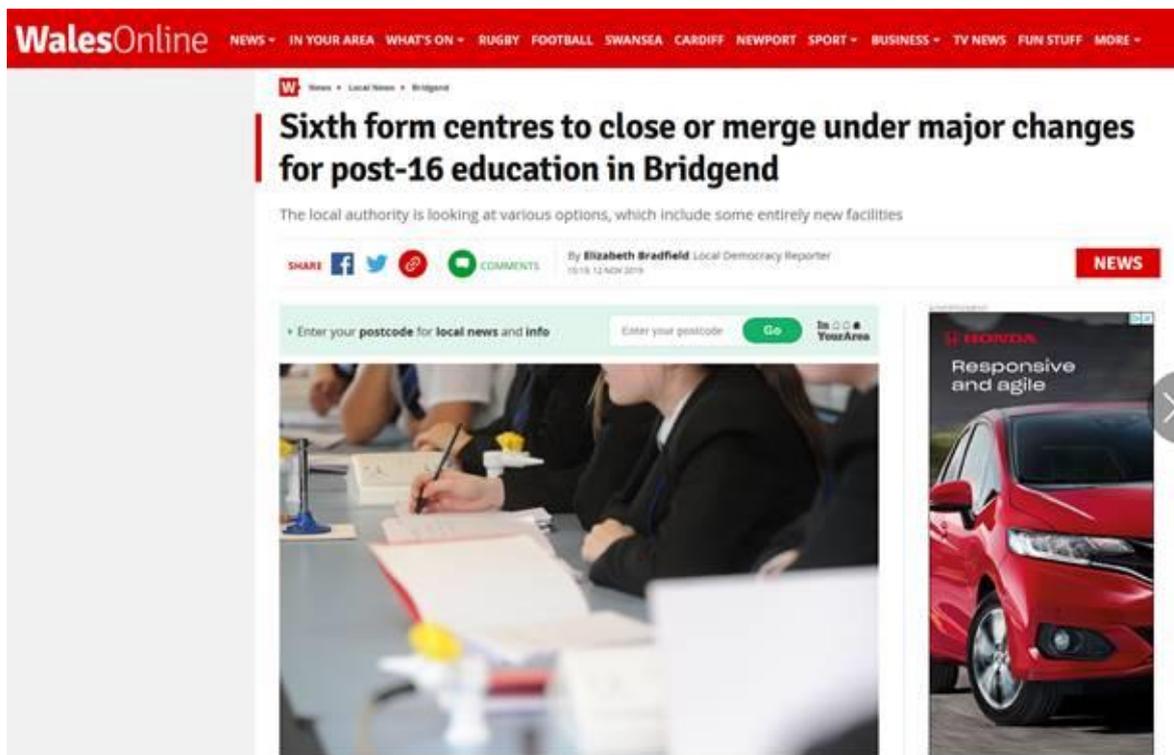
Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram have been widely used to promote the consultation and the overall post-16 consultation social media campaign reached 51,737 people which generated 328 interactions (Link clicks, shares, reactions and comments).

Information was posted to the council's corporate Twitter accounts throughout the consultation period to raise awareness of the consultation and to encourage citizens to share their views on the proposals. The council currently has 12,110 followers on its corporate Twitter accounts. During the period, the authority 'tweeted' 68 times and the information was seen by 32,949 people.

Information was also posted to the council's corporate Facebook page during the consultation period to raise awareness of the consultation and to encourage citizens to share their views on the proposals. The council currently has 12,426 followers. During the period, the authority posted eight times on Facebook and the posts were seen by 17,142 people, these posts generated 99 link clicks, 59 shares, 5 reactions and 9 comments. The comments received have been themed and can be seen in section eight.

3.1.2 Press and media

Details of the consultation were sent as part of media releases emailed to local and national press before and during the consultation (23 October 2019, 9 December 2019, 21 January 2020 and 14 February 2020), and supported with social media messages throughout the live period.





FEATURED / SCHOOLS
More details of proposed sixth form shake-up revealed ahead of consultation

October 29, 2019 - by Owen Donovan - Leave a Comment



(Title Image: Brynffrion Comprehensive School)

Tomorrow, a Bridgend Council scrutiny committee will discuss a number of papers which go into more detail on proposed reforms to post-16 education (namely sixth forms) in Bridgend county (pdf).

A fresh public consultation on the remaining three options is set to open in November - subject to Cabinet approval.

Post-16 Education Under Review

Wednesday 26th Feb 2020

Share: [f](#) [t](#) [in](#)

A major consultation over the future of post-16 education in Bridgend County Borough will begin next month.

Bridgend County Borough Council is reviewing whether the current provision should be altered to ensure that young learners have the best possible opportunities to excel, and is inviting the public to have their say.

There are currently sixth forms in every secondary school in Bridgend County Borough, varying in size from 76 to 347 pupils.

Around 40 pupils also attend the sixth form provision at each of the county borough's two special schools, while Bridgend College provides a range of vocational pathways for approximately 2,000 learners aged 16 to 18.

Media releases have resulted in local and national press coverage including Wales Online, Ogy Bloggy Ogwr and News.Wales.

3.2 Engagement methods

This section details the mechanisms available for stakeholders to engage with the council and share their views.

3.2.1 The potential reorganisation of post 16 provision across Bridgend county borough survey

A standard survey, large print version of the survey and youth survey were all made available in Welsh and English. All were available in paper format and online. The consultation feedback is contained in section seven.

3.2.2 Parents and carer meetings

Parents and carers sessions took place in all comprehensive schools across the county borough and Bridgend College. Parents and carers were given an overview of the consultation and the proposals and were invited to give views and comments which were recorded by the consultation and engagement team and are themed in section nine. We engaged with 193 parents and carers during the engagement sessions.

3.2.3 Staff and Governor meetings

Staff and governor sessions took place in all comprehensive schools across the county borough and Bridgend College. Staff and governors were given an overview of the consultation and the proposals and were invited to give views and comments which were recorded by the consultation and engagement team and are themed in section ten. We engaged with 322 staff and governors during the engagement sessions.

- Bryntirion Comprehensive;
- Porthcawl Comprehensive;
- Maesteg School;
- Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen;
- Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd;
- Brynteg Comprehensive;
- Cynffig Comprehensive;
- Bridgend College;
- Pencoed Comprehensive/ Pen Y Bont Sixth Form College.

3.2.4 School engagement sessions

In order to gather the views of young people the consultation team attended comprehensive schools across the county borough. Pupils were given an overview of the consultation and then were guided through the paper version of the survey.

The consultation team engaged with **1235 young people** in a variety of pupil workshops.

Engagement sessions took place in:

- Bryntirion Comprehensive school;
- Maesteg School;
- Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen Comprehensive school;
- Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd;
- Brynteg Comprehensive school;
- Cynffig Comprehensive school ;
- Bridgend College;
- Pencoed Comprehensive school/ Pen Y Bont Sixth Form College.

The consultation and engagement team sent the youth survey link to Porthcawl Comprehensive and Archbishop McGrath Catholic High School as they were unable to participate in the school engagement sessions. This enabled the school to share the link with pupils so that they had the opportunity to share their views.

The feedback from young people is detailed in appendices 2-11:

Archbishop McGrath Catholic High School	Appendix 2
Bridgend College	Appendix 3
Brynteg Comprehensive School	Appendix 4
Bryntirion Comprehensive School	Appendix 5
Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen Comprehensive School	Appendix 6
Cynffig Comprehensive School	Appendix 7
Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwydd	Appendix 8
Maesteg School	Appendix 9
Pencoed Comprehensive School/ Pen Y Bont Sixth Form College	Appendix 10
Porthcawl Comprehensive School	Appendix 11

3.2.5 Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen ‘Save our sixth form’ evidence

Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen submitted 1822 pieces of evidence as part of a campaign to 'Save our sixth form'. The evidence includes:

- Head teacher introduction;
- MP/AM letter;
- Alternative proposal to provide post-16 education;
- Challenge to facts presented within the consultation;
- CCYD 6th form video;
- Change.org petition (signed by 733 people);
- Paper survey completions;
- Letters of support from learners, parents/carers past present and future and the wider community of Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen.

The evidence from Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen can be seen in appendix 13.

4. Response rate

In total, there were **5159** interactions during the consultation. The response rate has been segregated into several areas: consultation survey responses, engagement event attendees, social media interactions, emails and letters.

Interactions	Number
Survey completions	1435
School parent and carer meetings	193
School staff and governor meetings	322
Bridgend College staff/governor/parent meeting	19
Pupil workshops	1235
CCYD evidence submission	1823
Emails	13
Letters	110
Social media comments	9
Total interactions	5159

During the consultation a series of automated responses were received, this resulted in 6971 computer generated completions, this data was removed from the analysis. The data including the computer generated responses can be viewed in appendix one.

5. How effective was the consultation?

The potential reorganisation of post 16 provision consultation was conducted over 12 week period. The data collection methods, which include the online survey and paper survey were developed using plain English to maximise understanding.

6. Headline figures

Headline figures taken from the main survey are detailed here:

- 6.1 48% of respondents strongly disagreed with the proposal for Brynteg School to become a sixth form centre and host sixth form students from Bryntirion Comprehensive. A further 18% of respondents disagreed with this proposal;

- 6.2 27% of respondents agreed with the proposal that Porthcawl Comprehensive should keep its sixth form and a further 20% agreed with this proposal;
- 6.3 34% of respondents strongly disagreed with the proposal for Cynffig Comprehensive to close or merge its sixth form with Porthcawl Comprehensive and a further 15% disagreed with this proposal;
- 6.4 49% of respondents strongly disagreed with the proposal that Cynffig Comprehensive could host a sixth form centre and host students from Pencoed and Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen. A further 19% disagreed with this proposal;
- 6.5 46% of respondents disagreed with the proposal that Maesteg School hosts a sixth form centre and hosts students from Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen;
- 6.6 49% of respondents strongly disagreed with the proposal that Maesteg School and Pencoed Comprehensive both become sixth form centres and host pupils from Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen and Cynffig. A further 17% of respondents disagreed with this proposal;
- 6.7 When asked to rank the outcomes within option one respondents selected:
- **Outcome A2** Brynteg school and Bryntirion Comprehensive develop a joint sixth for provision, followed by;
 - **Outcome A1** Brynteg School becomes a sixth form centre and hosts sixth form students from Bryntirion Comprehensive, followed by;
 - **Outcome B** Porthcawl Comprehensive keeps its sixth form;
 - **Outcome C** Cynffig Comprehensive closes or merges its sixth form with Porthcawl Comprehensive, followed by;
 - **Outcome D** Cynffig Comprehensive hosts sixth form centre and hosts sixth form students from Pencoed Comprehensive and Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen, followed by;
 - **Outcome E** Maesteg School hosts a sixth form centre and hosts sixth form students from Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen and finally;
 - **Outcome F** Maesteg School and Pencoed Comprehensive both become sixth form centres and host sixth form students from Cynffig Comprehensive and Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen.
- 6.8 53% of respondents strongly disagreed with the proposal to develop a sixth form centre in Bridgend Town centre run by the college, drawing sixth form students from Cynffig Comprehensive, Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen, Pencoed Comprehensive and Bryntirion Comprehensive. A further 17% of respondents disagreed with this proposal;
- 6.9 47% of respondents strongly disagreed with the proposal of a sixth form centre at Bridgend College's Campus run by the college and hosting sixth form students from Pencoed Comprehensive, Cynffig Comprehensive and Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen, a further 17% disagreed with this proposal;
- 6.10 When asked to rank the outcomes within option two respondents selected Outcome A Bridgend town centre sixth form centre run by the college, followed by

outcome B, sixth form centre at Bridgend College's Pencoed campus run by the college;

- 6.11 75% of respondents strongly agreed with the proposal to retain sixth forms in all schools but with further development in order to improve the delivery of this option. A further 10% agreed with this proposal;
- 6.12 When asked to rank the options respondents selected option 3, keep all sixth forms, followed by option 1, keep some sixth forms and merge some sixth form centres run by the council and then option 2, keep some sixth forms and merge some sixth forms to make centres run by the college.

7. Question and analysis - consultation survey

The consultation contained 18 questions related to the re-organisation of post 16 education across the county borough. All questions were optional, so participants could choose to answer all or some of the questions. One additional question was asked if students selected that they attended Bridgend College.

Respondents were provided with information about each of the potential options and outcomes and asked if they agreed with the proposals. After each option respondents were asked to rank their preferred outcome within that option. Finally respondents were asked to rank the three options into their preferred options and make any other comments about the proposals.

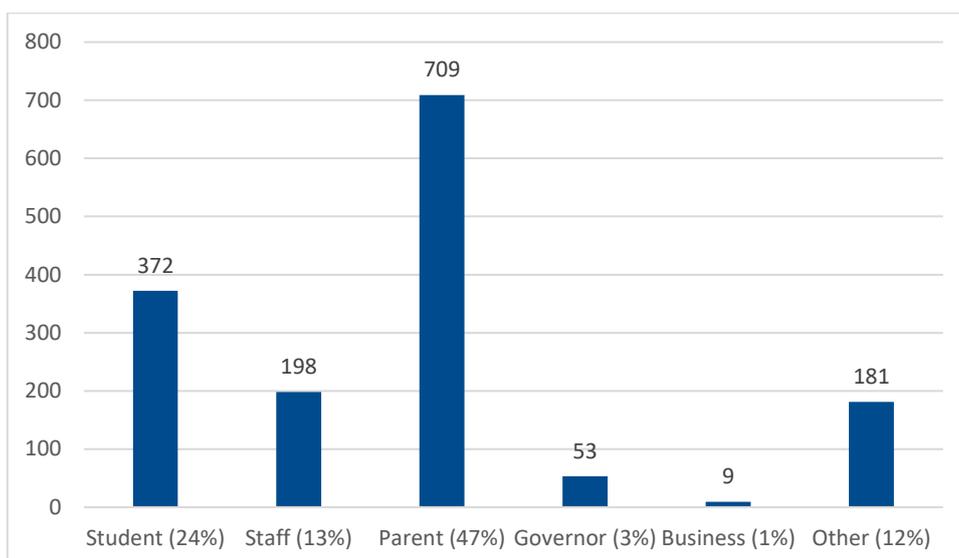
This section details the responses received to the main survey.

The responses received from learners during school engagement sessions have been analysed by individual school/college and can be seen in appendices 2 to 11:

7.1 About you

7.1.1 Please tick the option that best described you as a respondent

1522 people responded to this question.



Respondents were able to choose multiple options to represent themselves. The most common respondents were parent (47%), followed by student (24%) and then staff (13%).

7.1.2 Please specify (if you chose other)

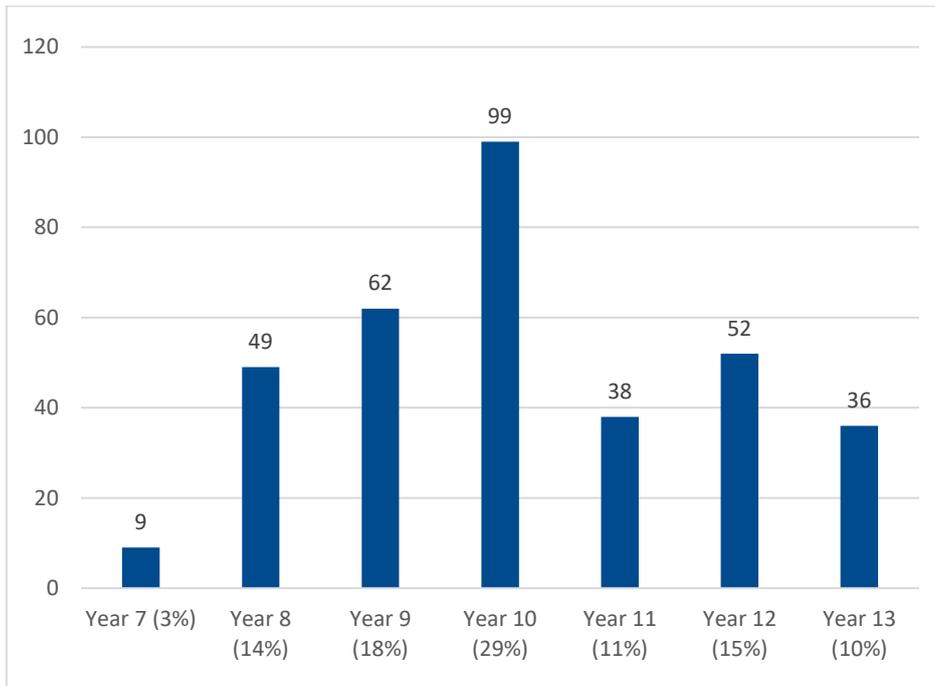
Where respondents selected other they were asked to specify. 167 respondents provided a response to this question and their responses are detailed in the table below:

Alumni/ Former sixth form student	71
Student family member	24
Year 5/6 student	17
Local resident	16
University student/representative	9
Current teacher/ Head teacher	7
Retired teacher/Head teacher	6
Employee in Bridgend Education/Agency working in a school	3
Future Parent	3
Councillor	2
College student	2
Sixth Form teacher in a different local authority/ England	2
Brynteg Pupil Governor Year 11	1
All of the above	1
Youth Worker	1
Previous parent	1
GP Practice Manager	1

7.1.3 Year group

Respondents that said they were a student were then asked to select their year group.

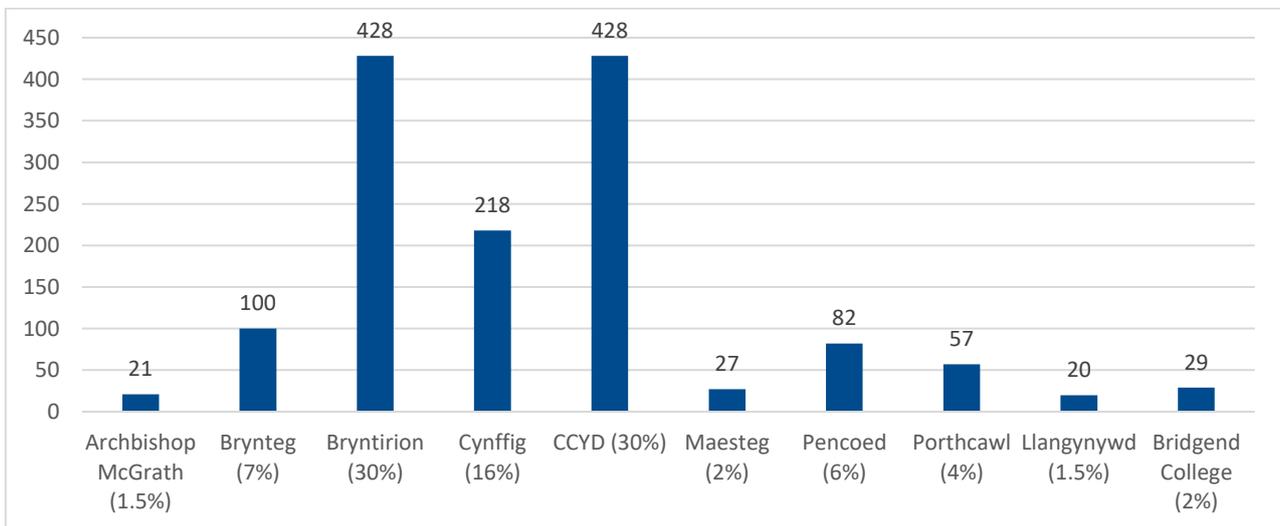
345 people responded to this question.



29% of respondents stated that they were in year 10 (29%), followed by year 9 (18%) and then year 12 (11%).

7.1.4 Which secondary school are you connected to?

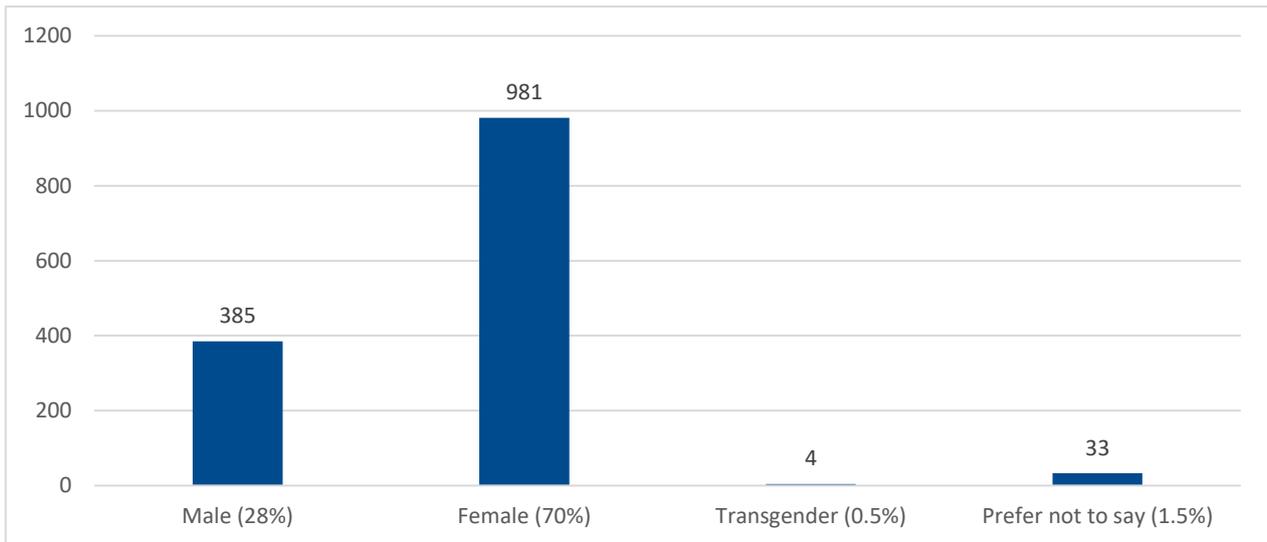
1410 people responded to this question.



30% of respondents were connected to Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen and 30% were connected to Bryntirion, this was followed by Brynteg (7%) and then Pencoed (6%).

7.1.5 Gender

1403 people responded to this question.



70% of respondents stated that they were female and 28% stated male. 1.5% of respondents stated that they would prefer not to say and 0.5% stated they were transgender.

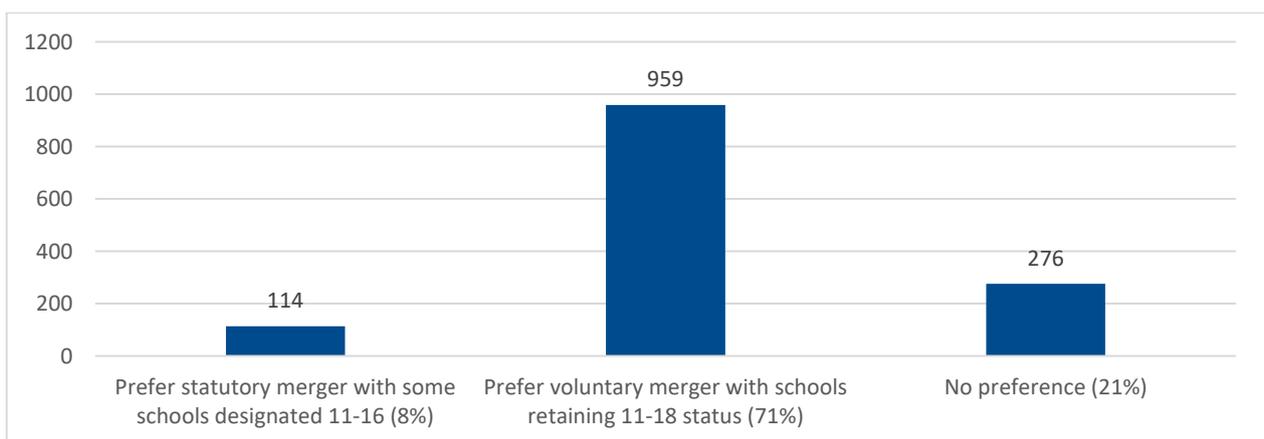
7.2 Survey questions

7.2.1 Sixth form mergers

Respondents were given information about the types of mergers under consideration, described as statutory and voluntary mergers.

Please indicate if you have a preference or not for either type of sixth form merger.

1349 people responded to this question.

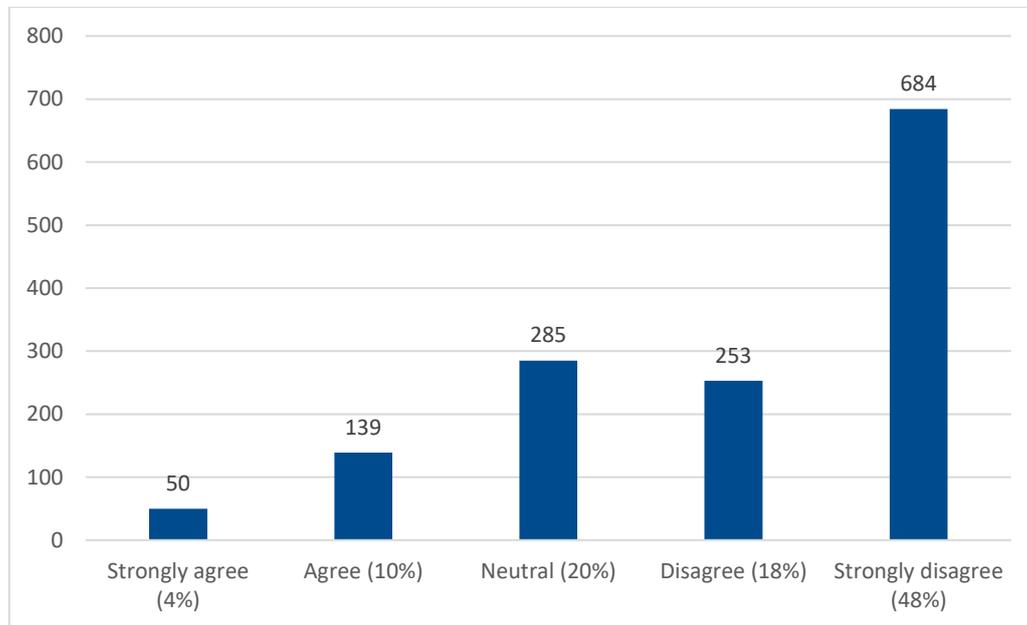


71% of respondents preferred voluntary merger with both schools training 11-18 status, 21% of respondents stated that they had no preference and 8% of respondents preferred a statutory merger with some schools being designated 11-16.

7.2.2 Option one – a mix of school sixth forms with some mergers to create new local authority maintained sixth form centre(s)

7.2.2.1 Outcome A – Brynteg School becomes a sixth form centre and hosts sixth form students from Bryntirion comprehensive

1411 people responded to this question.



48% of respondents strongly disagreed with the proposal for Brynteg School to become a sixth form centre and host sixth form students from Bryntirion comprehensive, a further 18% disagreed. 20% of respondents gave a neutral responses. 10% of respondents agreed with this proposal and a further 4% strongly agreed.

Respondents were asked to add any further comments on this outcome

299 comments were received in relation to this proposal. These have been themed and are detailed in the table below:

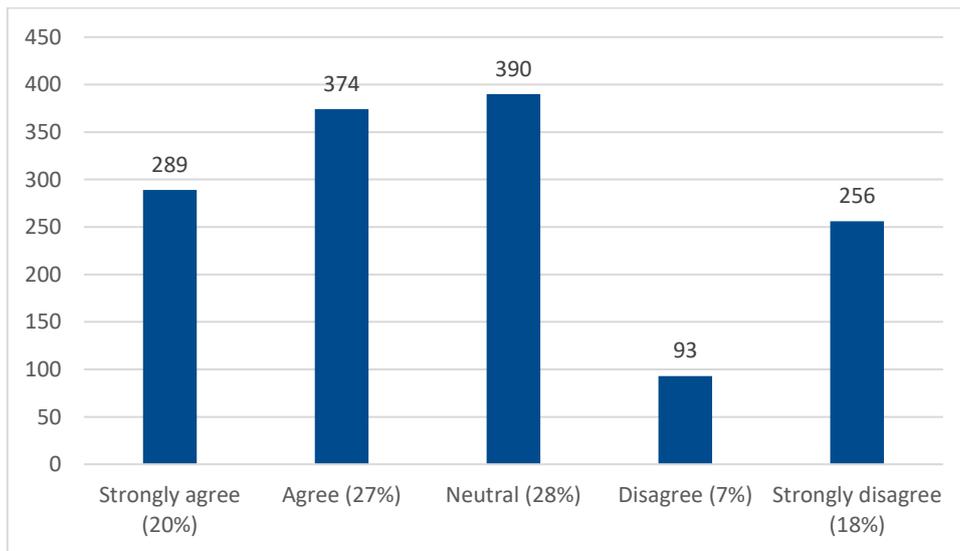
Theme	No.
Pupils will lose familiar teachers/environment/support	52
Keep all sixth forms	48
Bryntirion should keep its sixth form	43
Additional travel, especially if it is not provided by the council, is unfair	26
Disagree with proposal	23
Sixth forms act as role models/positive impact on community	15
Pupils will not want to stay in sixth form if they change	14
School/classes will be overpopulated	13
Will be a difficult transition for pupils at an important time	12
Will offer more subject choice and opportunities	11
Agree with proposal	9

Does not affect me	9
CCYD should keep six form	5
There should be one centre: all schools should merge or no schools should merge	5
Save money elsewhere/ waste of money	4
Parents would not want to send their children to a 11-16 school	3
Creates a two tier education system	2
Invest in sixth forms and improve collaboration	2
Archbishop should keep its sixth form	1
Ask the welsh assembly for more money	1
Welsh education should be protected	1

The most common responses were pupils will lose familiar teachers/environment/support (52), followed by keep all sixth forms (48) and then Bryntirion should keep its sixth form (43).

7.2.2.2 Outcome B – Porthcawl Comprehensive keeps its sixth form

1402 people responded to this question.



28% of respondents provided a neutral response to this proposal. 27% agreed with the proposal that Porthcawl should keep its sixth form and a further 20% strongly agreed with the proposal. 18% of respondents strongly disagreed with this proposal and 7% disagreed.

Respondents were asked to add any further comments on this outcome.

141 comments were received in relation to this proposal. These have been themed and are detailed in the table below:

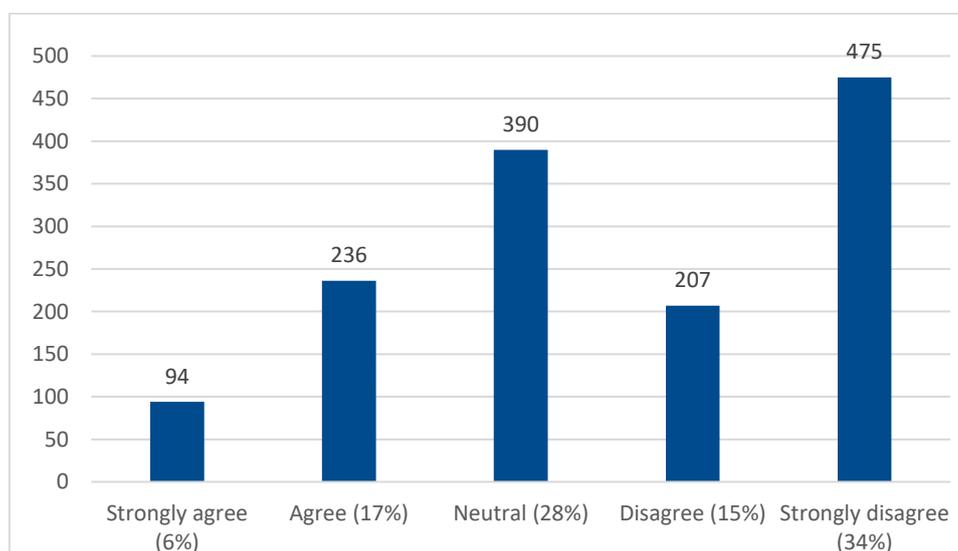
Theme	No.
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Keep all sixth forms	41
Why does Porthcawl keep its sixth form, this is unfair on other schools/students	32
Agree with proposal - good standards, unique location, familiar environment for pupils	28
Does not affect me/ should not comment on other schools	13
Cynffig should keep its sixth form	7
CCYD should keep its sixth form	5
Transport should be provided and paid for	4
Cynffig could merge with Porthcawl	3
Make savings elsewhere/waste of money	2
Porthcawl needs investment	2
Why is Archbishop not included in proposals	1
There should be one centre for all sixth form students	1
Provide the services you are funded to provide	1
Welsh education should be protected	1

The most common responses were keep all sixth forms (41) followed by why does Porthcawl keep its sixth form, this is unfair on other schools/students (32) and then agree with proposal - good standards, unique location, familiar environment for pupils (28).

7.2.2.3 Outcome C – Cynffig Comprehensive closes or merges its sixth form with Porthcawl Comprehensive

1402 people responded to this question.



34% of respondents strongly disagreed with this proposal and a further 15% disagreed with the proposal. 28% provided a neutral response. 17% of respondents agreed, and 6% strongly agreed with the proposal for Cynffig comprehensive to close or merge its sixth form with Porthcawl comprehensive.

Respondents were asked to add any further comments on this outcome

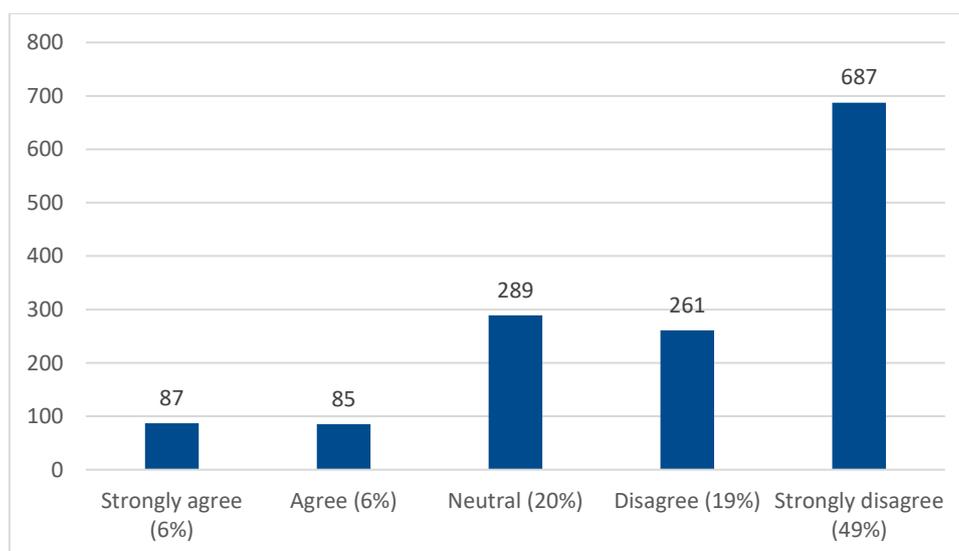
170 comments were received in relation to this proposal. These have been themed and are detailed in the table below:

Theme	No.
Disagree with proposal	77
Increased travel would be too costly and too long	28
Agree with proposal	18
Discouraging people to attend sixth form /decrease numbers	12
All sixth forms should remain the same	14
BCBC should invest in deprived area	13
Prefer voluntary merger	8

The most common responses were disagreed with proposal (77), followed by increased travel would be too costly and too long (28) and then agree with proposal (18).

7.2.2.4 Outcome D - Cynffig Comprehensive hosts sixth form centre and hosts sixth from students from Pencoed Comprehensive and Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen

1409 people responded to this question.



49% of respondents strongly disagreed with the proposal that Cynffig could host a sixth form centre, attended by pupils from Pencoed and CCYD. A further 19% disagreed with the proposal. 20% provided a neutral response. 6% of respondents agreed with this proposal and 6% strongly agreed with the proposal.

Respondents were asked to add any further comments on this outcome

306 comments were received in relation to this proposal. These have been themed and are detailed in the table below:

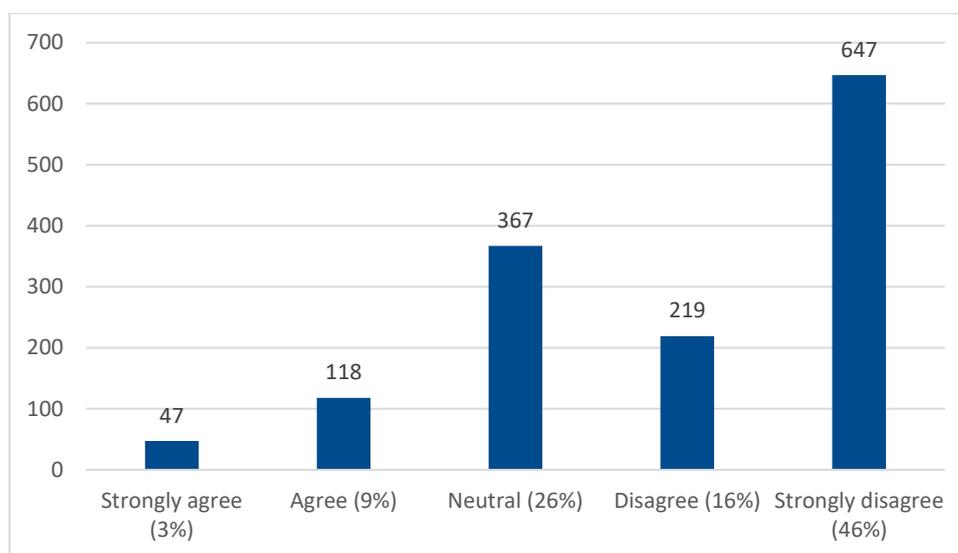
Theme	No.
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Increased travel would be too costly and too long	115
Disagree with proposal	96
CCYD should host a sixth form	63
All sixth forms should remain the same	26
Agree with proposal	6

The most common responses were increased travel would be too costly and too long (115), followed by disagree with proposal (96) and then CCYD should host a sixth form (63).

7.2.2.5 Outcome E – Maesteg School hosts a sixth form centre and hosts sixth form students from Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen

1398 people responded to this question.



46% of respondents strongly disagreed with the proposal that Maesteg School could host a sixth form centre, attended by pupils from CCYD. A further 16% disagreed with the proposal. 26% provided a neutral response. 9% of respondents agreed with this proposal and 3% strongly agreed with the proposal.

Respondents were asked to add any further comments on this outcome

273 comments were received in relation to this proposal. These have been themed and are detailed in the table below:

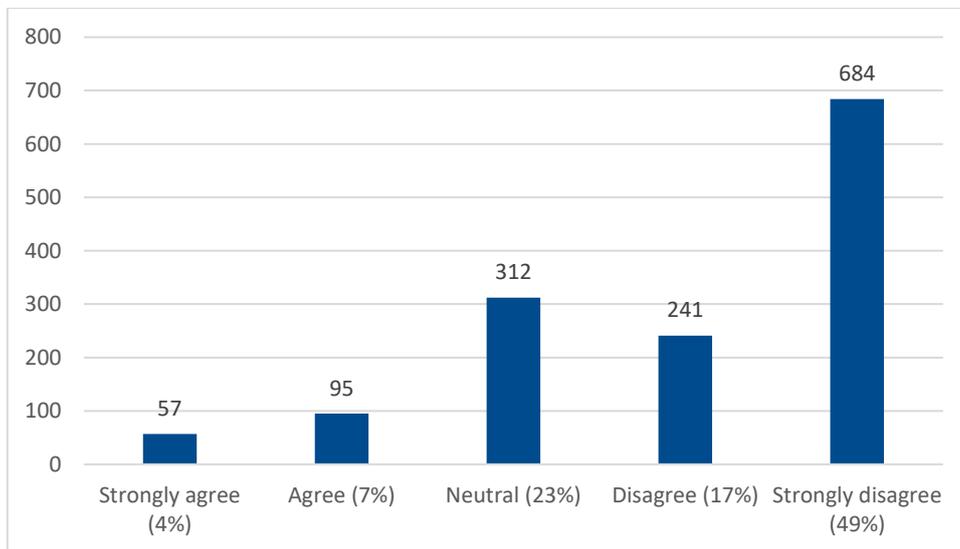
Theme	No.
Too far/too long/ too expensive to travel	134
CCYD should keep its sixth form/ host sixth form centre	44
Keep all sixth forms	19
How will standards of teaching be maintained?	17
Pupils will lose familiar teachers/environment/support	15
Pupils will not stay on in sixth form if they change	15
Disagree with proposal	9
Agree with proposal	4

It will be a difficult transition for pupils	4
Should invest in sixth forms	4
It will be overpopulated/have bigger class sizes	3
Maesteg should keep its sixth form	2
Cynffig should keep its sixth form	1
All sixth form education centre should be at Bridgend college	1
Welsh education has not been considered in proposals	1

The most common responses were too long/too far/too expensive to travel (134), followed by CCYD should keep its sixth form/ host sixth form centre (44) and then keep all sixth forms (19).

7.2.2.6 Outcome F – Maesteg School and Pencoed Comprehensive both become sixth form centres and host sixth form students from Cynffig Comprehensive and Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen.

1389 people responded to this question.



49% of respondents strongly disagreed with the proposal that Maesteg School and Pencoed Comprehensive both become sixth form centres and host pupils from CCYD and Cynffig. A further 17% disagreed with the proposal. 23% provided a neutral response. 7% of respondents agreed with this proposal and 4% strongly agreed with the proposal.

Respondents were asked to add any further comments on this outcome

205 comments were received in relation to this proposal. These have been themed and are detailed in the table below:

Theme	No.
Too far/too long/ too expensive to travel	68
Will become overpopulated/more competition for places	26
Keep all sixth forms	24
CCYD should keep its sixth form/ host six form centre	18

Disagree with proposal	17
Agree with proposal	10
Pupils will lose familiar staff/environment/support	8
Either all schools merge or no schools merge	6
Disadvantaged students are being further disadvantaged	6
How will standards be maintained?	6
Pupils would not stay on in sixth form if they change	5
All six form education at Bridgend college	1
Cynffig should keep its sixth form	1
It will be a difficult transition for pupils	1
Should invest in sixth forms	1
Welsh education has not been considered in proposals	1

The most common responses were too long/too far/too expensive to travel (68), followed by will become overpopulated/more competition for places (26) and then keep all sixth forms (24).

7.2.2.7 Overall consideration of the options

Respondents were asked to rank in order of preference the options outlined in outcomes A-F.

The overall list of preferred concepts are:

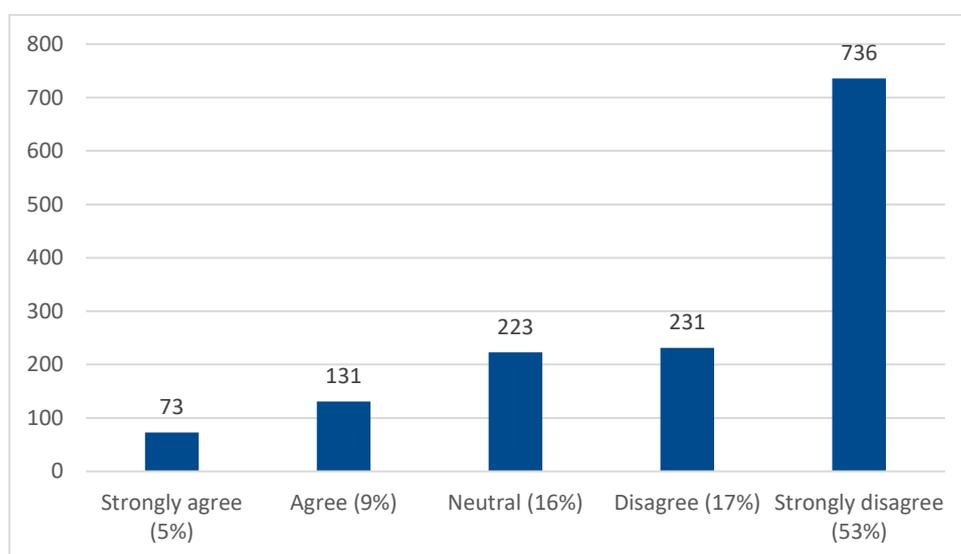
Rank	Outcome	Number of respondents who ranked each concept in position	% of respondents who ranked each concept in position
1	Outcome A2 Brynteg school and Bryntirion Comprehensive develop a joint sixth for provision;	214	23%
2	Outcome A1 Brynteg School becomes a sixth form centre and hosts sixth form students from Bryntirion Comprehensive	165	30%
3	Outcome B Porthcawl Comprehensive keeps its sixth form	165	22%
4	Outcome C Cynffig Comprehensive closes or merges its sixth form with Porthcawl Comprehensive	168	24%
5	Outcome D Cynffig Comprehensive hosts sixth form centre and hosts sixth form students from Pencoed Comprehensive and Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen	170	24%

6	Outcome E Maesteg School hosts a sixth form centre and hosts sixth form students from Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen	200	28%
7	Outcome F Maesteg School and Pencoed Comprehensive both become sixth form centres and host sixth form students from Cynffig Comprehensive and Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen.	166	23%

7.2.3 Option two – a mix of school sixth forms with some mergers to create a new FE college governed sixth form centre(s)

7.2.3.1 Outcome A – a sixth form centre is developed in Bridgend Town centre and run by Bridgend College, drawing sixth form students from Cynffig Comprehensive school, Coleg Cymunedon y Dderwen, Pencoed Comprehensive school and Bryntirion Comprehensive school (if the merger with Brynteg school listed in Option 1/Outcome A did not take place).

1394 people responded to this question.



53% of respondents strongly disagreed with this proposal and a further 17% disagreed with the proposal. 16% provided a neutral response. 9% of respondents agreed with this proposal and a further 5% strongly agreed with the proposal.

Respondents were asked to add any further comments on this outcome

257 comments were received in relation to this proposal. These have been themed and are detailed in the table below:

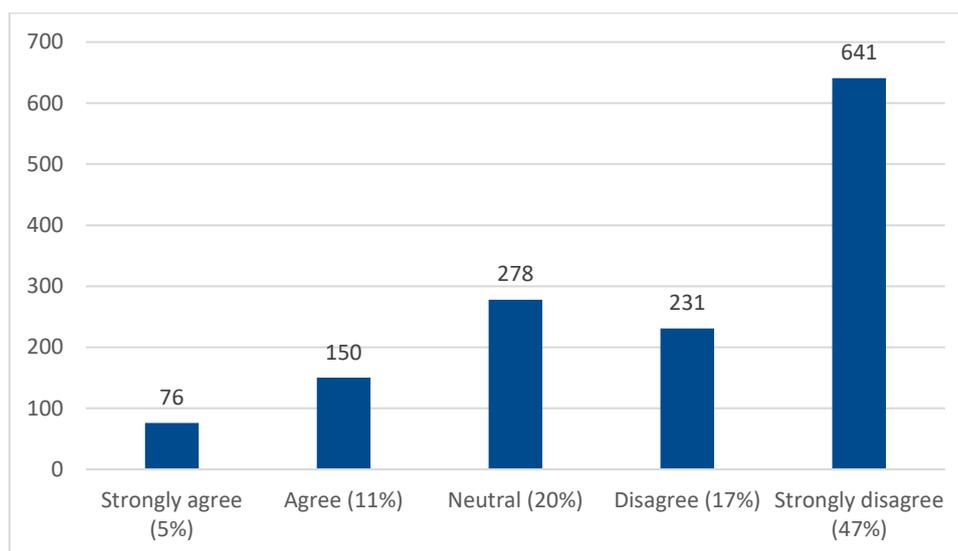
Theme	No.
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Keep all sixth forms	29
Either all schools attend a centre or no schools attend, unfair that only some schools lose sixth form	24
Additional travel is unfair/affects students if they have to pay for transport	23
Pupils will lose familiar teachers/environment/pastoral and wellbeing support	19
Staffing issues/may negatively affect standards	19
If a student wanted to go to college they would have/ some students prefer school environment	16
Will be expensive to build/not enough space in town centre	16
Disagree with proposal	15
Centre will be too big/too many students/bigger class sizes	12
Difficult transition for pupils/may be cultural differences	9
Sixth formers are role models/create a school community	9
This is better than option one (merging schools)	9
Agree with proposal	8
Location and paying for transport to a centre will impact pupils from disadvantaged areas	8
CCYD should keep its sixth form	7
Town centre is not suitable/ too many students in town	7
Bryntirion should keep its sixth form	6
Will offer more subject choices (including Welsh) and offer better opportunities	6
Pupils would not attend a centre for sixth form	3
Does not affect me	2
Location to Brynteg would increase competition and may damage Brynteg admissions	2
Cynffig should keep its sixth form	1

The most common responses were keep all sixth forms (29), followed by either all schools attend a centre or no schools attend, unfair that only some schools lose sixth form (24) and then additional travel is unfair/affects students if they have to pay for transport (23).

7.2.3.2 Outcome B - Sixth form centre at Bridgend College's Pencoed Campus run by the college and hosting sixth-form students from Pencoed Comprehensive, Cynffig Comprehensive and Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen.

1376 people responded to this question.



47% of respondents strongly disagreed with this proposal and a further 17% disagreed with the proposal. 20% provided a neutral response. 11% of respondents agreed with this proposal and a further 5% strongly agreed with the proposal.

Respondents were asked to add any further comments on this outcome

155 comments were received in relation to this proposal. These have been themed and are detailed in the table below:

Theme	No.
Additional travel is unfair/affects students if they have to pay for transport	41
Keep all sixth forms	15
CCYD should keep its sixth form	13
Expensive to build, invest in sixth forms instead	12
Disagree with proposal	9
Transport costs will be expensive, negative impact on pupils from disadvantaged areas	9
Staffing issues/may negatively affect standards	8
Agree with proposal	7
Pupils would not get to sixth form if they change and/or have to pay transport costs	7
Centre will be too big/too many students/bigger class sizes	6
If a student wanted to go to college they would have/ some students prefer school environment	6
Will offer more subject choices/opportunities	4
Better than merging schools	3
Pencoed should retain its 11-18 status	3
Sixth formers are role models/create a school community	3
What about other subjects?	3
Cynffig should keep its sixth form	2

Either all schools attend a centre or no schools attend, unfair that only some schools lose sixth form	2
Does not affect me	1
Welsh education should be protected	1

The most common responses were additional travel is unfair/affects students if they have to pay for transport (41), followed by keep all sixth forms (15) and then CCYD should keep its sixth form (13).

7.2.3.3 Overall consideration of the options

Respondents were asked to rank their preferred choice for outcome A and B by numbering the options one and two.

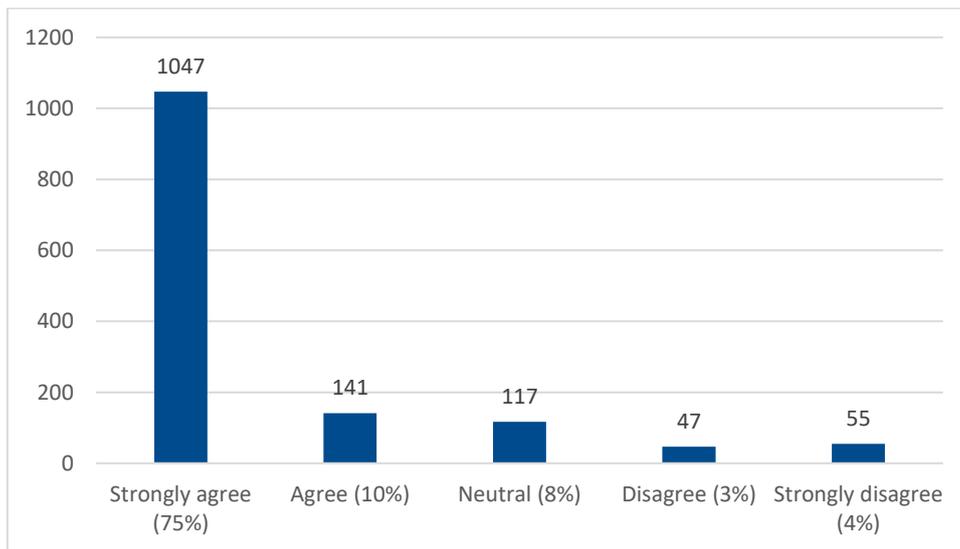
Respondents ranked outcomes A and B as:

- Outcome A Bridgend town centre sixth form centre run by the college (52%)
- Outcome B Sixth Form centre at Bridgend College’s Pencoed campus run by the college (48%)

7.2.4 Option three Keeping sixth forms in all schools

7.2.4.1 The retention of sixth forms in all schools – the current position (ie a distributed tertiary model based on collaboration, but with further development in order to improve the delivery of this option)

1407 people responded to this question.



75% of respondents strongly agreed with the proposal to keep sixth forms in all schools and a further 10% of respondents agreed with this proposal. 8% provided a neutral response. 4% of respondents strongly disagreed with this proposal and a further 3% disagreed with the proposal to keep sixth forms in all schools.

Respondents were asked to add any further comments on this outcome

355 comments were received in relation to this proposal. These have been themed and are detailed in the table below:

Theme	No.
Keep all sixth forms	122
Pupils will lose familiar staff/environment/wellbeing and support	61
Invest in sixth forms/Need better collaboration/ Centre of excellence for subjects	33
There will be no additional travel for learners	24
Sixth formers are role models, raise aspirations of younger pupils and create a sixth form community	24
This is unsustainable/not all pupils have equal opportunities	16
Standards will be maintained if sixth forms remain in schools	13
Choice - people can change sixth forms or go to college if they prefer	12
Pupils will not continue/stay in sixth form if they change	9
Bryntirion should keep its sixth form	8
CCYD should keep its sixth form	8
Pupils will not have to worry about a difficult transition	5
There will be no loss of staff from schools	5
Parents will not send their children to a 11-16 school	4
Would be better for some schools, that are close together, to merge	4
Transport should be provided for free	3
Consideration needs to be given to Faith schools	1
Cynffig should keep its sixth form	1
Either all sixth forms close or all sixth forms stay open	1
The Borough is 20 years behind reorganisation of post 16 provision such as Coleg Sir Gar in Carmarthenshire.	1

The most common responses were keep all sixth forms (122), followed by pupils will lose familiar staff/environment/wellbeing and support (61) and then invest in sixth forms/need better collaboration/ centre of excellence for subjects (33).

7.2.5 Overall consideration of the options

Respondents were asked, having reviewed all the options and outcomes, to rank their preferred choice for options 1, 2 and 3.

Overall respondents ranked the outcomes in first position as follows:

- Option 3 retention of sixth forms in all schools – the current position (ie a distributed tertiary model based on collaboration, but with further development in order to improve the delivery of this option) (85%);
- Option 1 a mix of school sixth forms with some mergers to create new local authority maintained sixth-form centre(s) (9%);
- Option 2 a mix of school sixth form with some mergers to create new FE College governed sixth-form centre(s) (6%).

7.2.6 Do you have any other comments you would like to make about the proposals?

Respondents were asked if they had any further comments that they would like to make about the proposals.

437 comments were received. These have been themed and are detailed in the table below:

Theme	No.
Keep all sixth forms	149
Additional travel for some pupils is unfair and could be too expensive for some pupils/families	44
CCYD should retain its sixth form/ consider building or developing a sixth form centre at CCYD	32
Invest in sixth forms/more subject choice/collaboration	32
Familiar teachers/environment/wellbeing of pupils is important	30
Pupils would not attend sixth form if they changed	19
Bryntirion should retain its sixth form	18
Should have a college centre for all sixth form pupils	16
Decisions should focus on the best standards of education that can be provided	15
Sixth formers are role models/ form a school community/ raise aspirations	14
Education should be equal i.e. available to all pupils and schools treated the same	11
More consideration needs to be given to pupils with additional learning needs	9
Choices - keeping all sixth forms means people can go to a different sixth form or college if they prefer	8
Make savings elsewhere	8
Schools will lose staff if sixth forms change	6
Agree with some proposals/mergers	5
Cynffig should retain its sixth form	5
Parents would not send their child to a 11-16 school	5
There is no mention of Llangynwyd/ Welsh language provision	5
Maesteg should retain its sixth form	2
Disagree with proposals	1
Porthcawl should retain its sixth form	1
Whatever saves the most money and reduces household tax bills	1
Will Education Maintenance Allowance be increased?	1

The most common responses were keep all sixth forms (149), followed by additional travel for some pupils is unfair and could be too expensive for some pupils/families (44) and then CCYD should retain its sixth form/ consider building or developing a sixth form centre at CCYD (32).

7.2.7 Bridgend College students

There was one question aimed specifically at Bridgend College students, which asked if you are a student at Bridgend College, please give us your reasons for going to college.

10 people responded to this question. The comments received are detailed below:

Comment
To Study ICT
You can see all your friends and its good for you future and if you are sick you can go to wellbeing and they will help you when you got a problem
I chose Bridgend because it is the closest one to my house.
There were opportunities for be to improve my knowledge on the subject I wanted to expand upon.
I would need to travel less going to college
Messed up in sixth form and got bad grades
I need education.
I feel like it will be more beneficial for me.
Better atmosphere, more options, more excitement, less drama + no one from other school, better facilities.
To study information technology

8. Social media responses

During the consultation period there were 9 interactions on our social media channels.

The comments have been themed and are detailed in the table below:

Theme	No.
Sharing the online survey	2
Keep sixth forms as they are	2
Decisions need to be more informed and include residents views	2
Sharing Facebook page	1
Decisions need to consider where additional housing and developments will be	1
Travel would be difficult for pupils, too far and too long	1

There were two interactions where the survey was shared online, and the most comment themes were keep all sixth forms as they are (2) and decisions need to be more informed and include residents views (2).

9. Parents and carers meetings

The consultation and engagement team attended engagement sessions with parents in comprehensive schools and Bridgend College. Parents from comprehensive schools and primary schools across the county borough were informed about the engagement sessions.

We engaged with 193 parents and carers during these sessions. Parents and carers were given an overview of the consultation and were invited to ask questions and make comments about the proposals. Comments made during these sessions have been themed and are detailed in the table below:

Theme	No.
Pupils have familiar teachers/environment/pastoral support in their current settings	19
Travel is unrealistic in some options	14
Invest in sixth forms/better subject choice/collaboration	14
Pupils/families may not be able to pay for (additional) transport	14
Sixth form are important to schools/ act as role models	13
Keep sixth forms as they are	11
Consultation process/timelines	9
Should have considered this consultation in line with transport/local development plan consultation	9
Parents will not send their children to a 11-16 school	8
Staffing issues: teachers will lose jobs/who will teach at mergers/centres	7
Pupils will not attend sixth form if they change	6
There is no referral to welsh language growth in the consultation/ no link to the WESP	5
Do schools have space/capacity to take additional pupils?	5
Standards here are good, how would this be maintained?	5
This will disproportionately affect disadvantaged pupils	4
Lots of work going into English speaking schools but there is no comparable for the welsh language	4
Pupils and parents are concerned about Welsh medium post 16 provisions and the subjects/opportunities on offer	3
There are cultural differences between schools	3
Pupils already have a choice of where to go for post 16 education	3
How would mergers be managed and funded/will they affect school funding?	3
Why are some sixth forms protected?	2
Where will centres be based and how will they be funded?	2
Welsh medium education has been omitted from this consultation	2

The most common comments were pupils have familiar teachers/environment/pastoral support in their current settings (19), followed by travel is unrealistic in some options (14), invest in sixth forms/better subject choice/collaboration (14) and pupils/families may not be able to pay for (additional) transport (14).

10. Staff and Governor Meetings

The consultation and engagement team attended engagement sessions with staff and governors in comprehensive schools across the county borough and Bridgend College. Staff and governors were given an overview of the consultation and were invited to ask questions and make comments about the proposals. We engaged with 322 staff and governors during

these sessions. Comments made during these sessions have been themed and are detailed in the table below:

Theme	No.
Invest in sixth form/collaboration	14
In options that require transport will this be provided free for pupils/teachers?	13
What effect will the local delivery plan have on projected numbers and will this be considered?	12
Keep the sixth form at this school/keep all sixth forms	11
Parents will not send their children to a 11-16 school	11
Travel is unrealistic in some options	10
Subject offer and standards are very good here, how will this be maintained elsewhere?	10
Where will the proposed centres be built and how will they be funded?	9
Consultation process/timelines	9
Teachers will not want to teach at 11-16 school/ how will you attract/retain high quality teachers	9
Difficult transition for pupils/ no pastoral or mental health support	8
If pupils have to travel to other site/go to college they will not stay on in sixth form or drop out	7
Some options will mean teacher redundancies	5
Sixth forms are role models, give our school an identity and provide a familiar supportive environment	5
Could host centre on our school site/ take additional pupils	5
Need to take a whole education view i.e. from nursery to post 16 and consider the new curriculum/ALN Bill	5
College could offer wider subject choice/opportunities	5
Pupils from disadvantaged areas will be further disadvantaged	4
Are all of these options viable and sustainable?	4
Will create a two-tier system of schools if some schools lose their sixth forms	3
Have worked hard to develop our sixth form/pupils into sixth form	3
Welsh language pupils have been involved in English medium decisions and collaboration but have been unable to have a say on their own provision	3
Discussion of new centres but what is being done to promote/invest in Welsh language provision	3
What support would you provide to schools if they merge, including financial?	2
Could multiple outcomes from the consultation happen?	2
New centres could draw pupils away from the school	2
Does the consultation data include post 16 learners at college and twilight data, or is it just schools?	2
How can Welsh education be raised to have parity with English medium?	2
Housing developments only refer to English medium schools but this will affect Welsh language provision numbers	1
Consultation does not include Welsh language primary schools and the impact on Llangynwydd/WESP	1

The most common comments were invest in sixth form/collaboration (14), followed by in options that require transport will this be provided free for pupils/teachers? (13) and then what effect will the local delivery plan have on projected numbers and will this be considered? (12).

11. Letters and emails

13 emails were received during the consultation. The details of the emails have been themed and are detailed in the table below, some emails contained multiple themes:

Theme	No.
Email with formal letter attached*	10
CCYD have already faced adversity as an amalgamated school	1
Most of the children in CCYD come from low income areas so they should be able to stay in a school in their local area	1
Figures in the consultation document do not reflect out five year plan	1
Students will not be able to afford to pay for travel	1
These proposals would create a two tier education system	1
CCYD have the capacity to increase – original plans show another wing	1
PAN data for Bryntirion is incorrect	1
Is the data for all other schools accurate within the consultation documents?	1
Dates for any decision and changes due to school uniform providers needing to be made aware.	1

*Letters have been included in Appendix 12.

110 letters and one report from a school governing body were received during the consultation. These have been attached in Appendix 12.

12. Communication regarding the consultation

Would you like to be emailed once the consultation report is available?

Yes	528	37%
No	907	63%

13. Conclusion

13.1 Summary

A sample of 1435 survey completions is robust and is subject to a maximum standard error of ± 2.574 at the 95% confidence level. Therefore, we can be 95% confident that responses are representative of those that would be given by the total adult population, to within $\pm 2.574\%$ of the percentages reported. This means that if the total adult population of Bridgend had taken part in the survey and a statistic of 50% was observed, we can be 95% confident that the actual figure lies between 47.426% and 52.574%.

13.2 Equality Impact Assessment

The Full Equality Impact Assessment will be completed to consider the impact of these proposals, and presented to Cabinet alongside the consultation report.

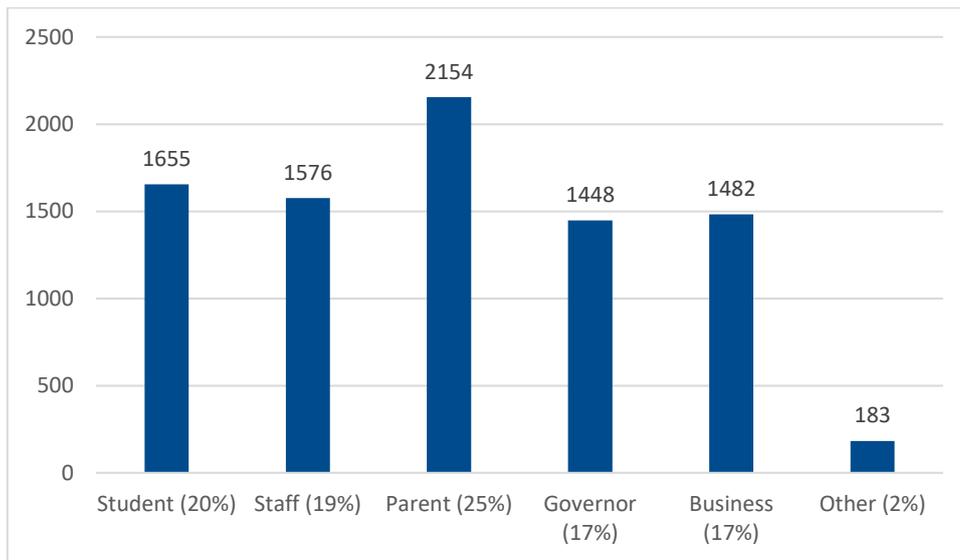
14. Appendix 1.

This section details the responses received to the standard online survey, including automated response data.

7.1 About you

7.1.1 Please tick the option that best described you as a respondent

There were 8498 responses to this question.



Respondents were able to choose multiple options to represent themselves. The most common respondents were parent (25%), followed by staff (11%) and then student (20%).

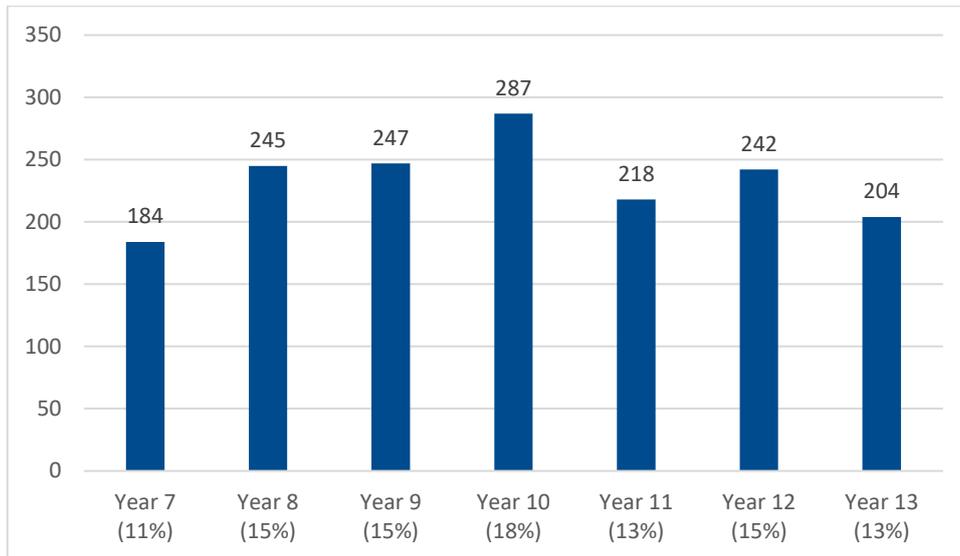
7.1.2 Please specify (if you chose other)

There were no additional comments from the automated response data

7.1.3 Year group

Respondents that said they were a student were then asked to select their year group.

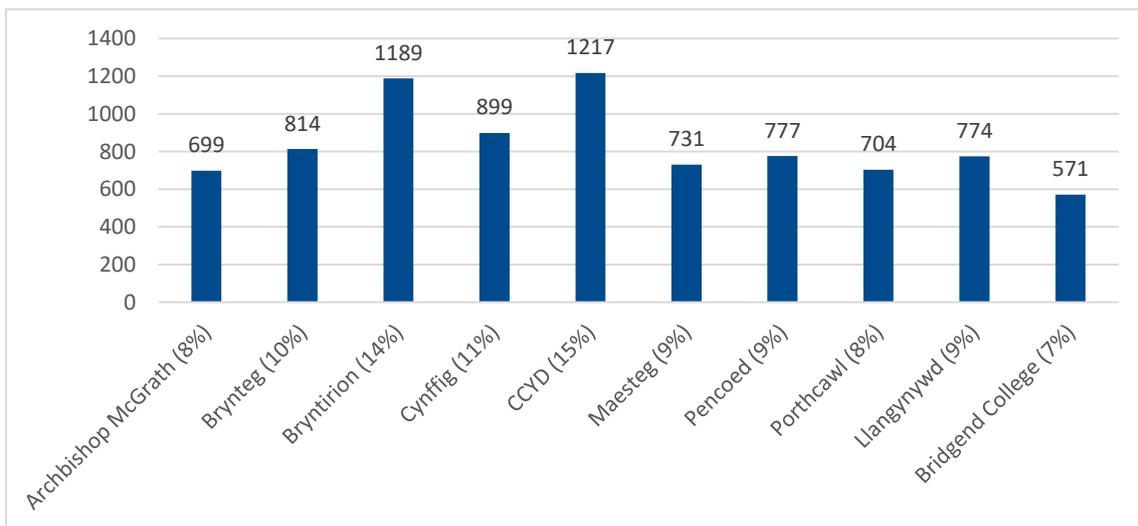
There were 1627 responses to this question.



18% of respondents stated that they were in year 10, followed by year 8, year 9 and year 12 equally (15%).

7.1.4 Which secondary school are you connected to?

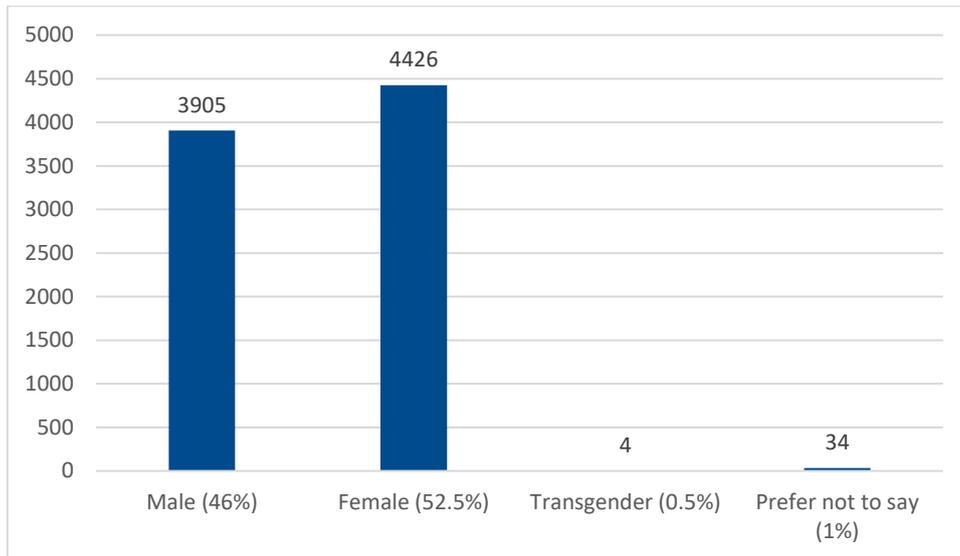
There were 8375 responses to this question



15% of respondents were connected to Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen followed by 14% connected to Bryntirion, this was followed by Brynteg (10%).

7.1.5 Gender

There were 8369 responses to this question



52.5 % of respondents stated that they were female and 46% stated male. 1% of respondents stated that they would prefer not to say and 0.5% stated they were transgender.

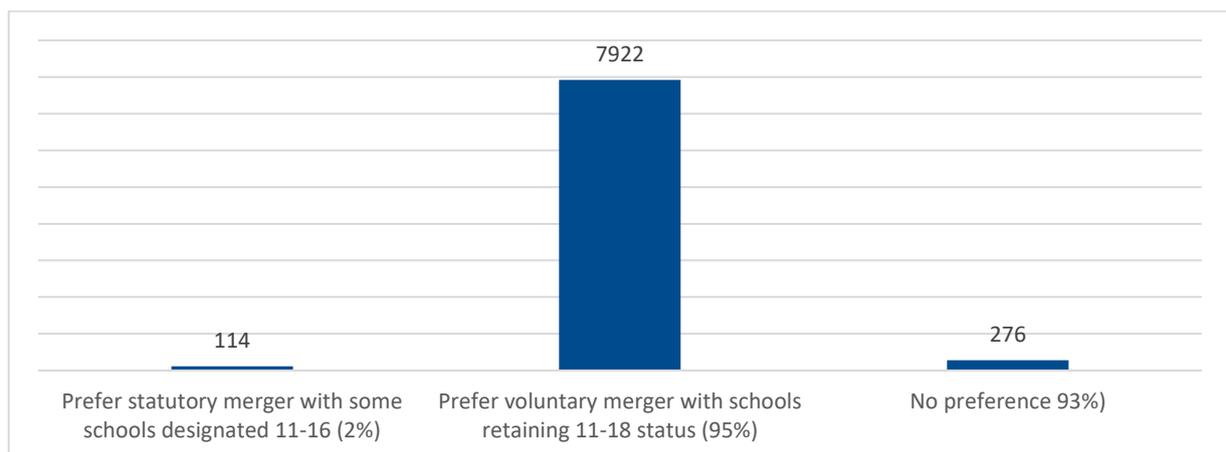
7.2 Survey questions

7.2.1 Sixth form mergers

Respondents were given information about the types of mergers under consideration, described as statutory and voluntary mergers.

Please indicate if you have a preference or not for either type of sixth form merger

There were 8312 responses to this question

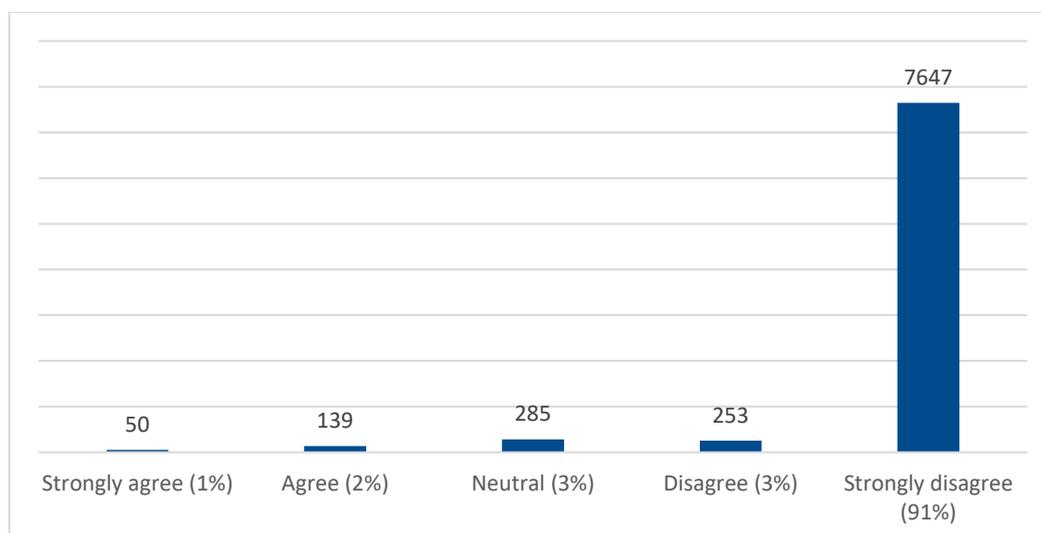


95% of respondents preferred voluntary merger with both schools training 11-18 status, 9% of respondents stated that they had no preference and 2% of respondents preferred a statutory merger with some schools being designated 11-16.

7.2.2 Option one – a mix of school sixth forms with some mergers to create new local authority maintained sixth form centre(s)

7.2.2.1 Outcome A – Brynteg School becomes a sixth form centre and hosts sixth form students from Bryntirion comprehensive

There were 8374 responses to this question.



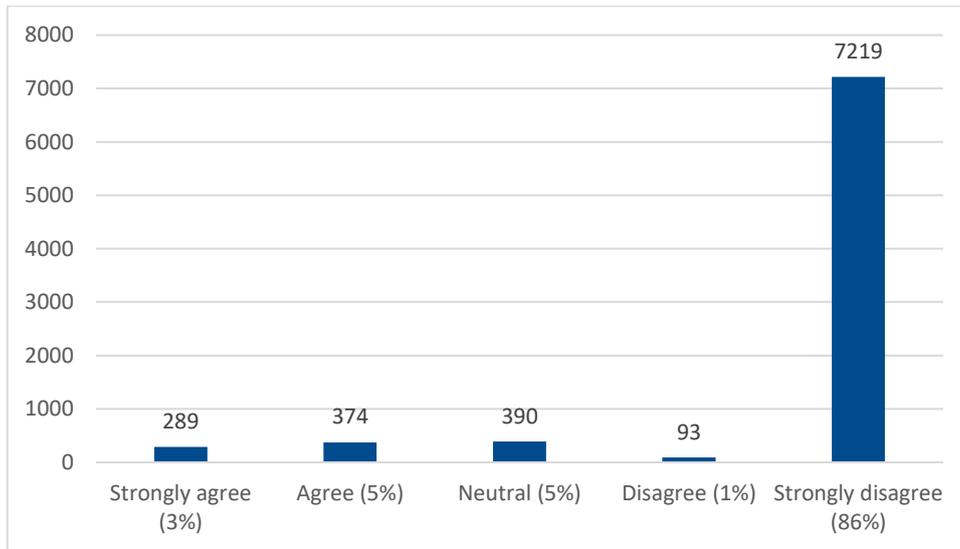
91% of respondents strongly disagreed with the proposal for Brynteg School to become a sixth form centre and host sixth form students from Bryntirion comprehensive, a further 3% disagreed. 3% of respondents gave a neutral responses and 3% either strongly agreed or agreed with this proposal.

Respondents were asked to add any further comments on this outcome.

There were no additional comments made on the automated response data.

7.2.2.2 Outcome B – Porthcawl Comprehensive keeps its sixth form

There were 8365 responses to this question



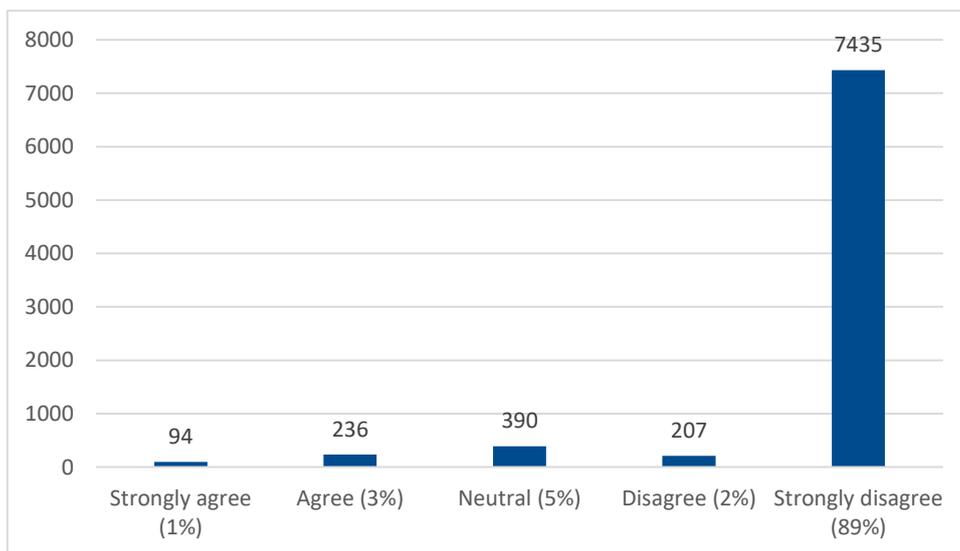
86% of respondents strongly disagreed that Porthcawl should retain its sixth form, a further 1% disagreed. 5% gave a neutral response. 5% of respondents agreed with this proposal and a further 3% strongly agreed.

Respondents were asked to add any further comments on this outcome.

There were no additional comments made on the automated response data.

7.2.2.3 Outcome C – Cynffig Comprehensive closes or merges its sixth form with Porthcawl Comprehensive

There were 8362 responses to this question



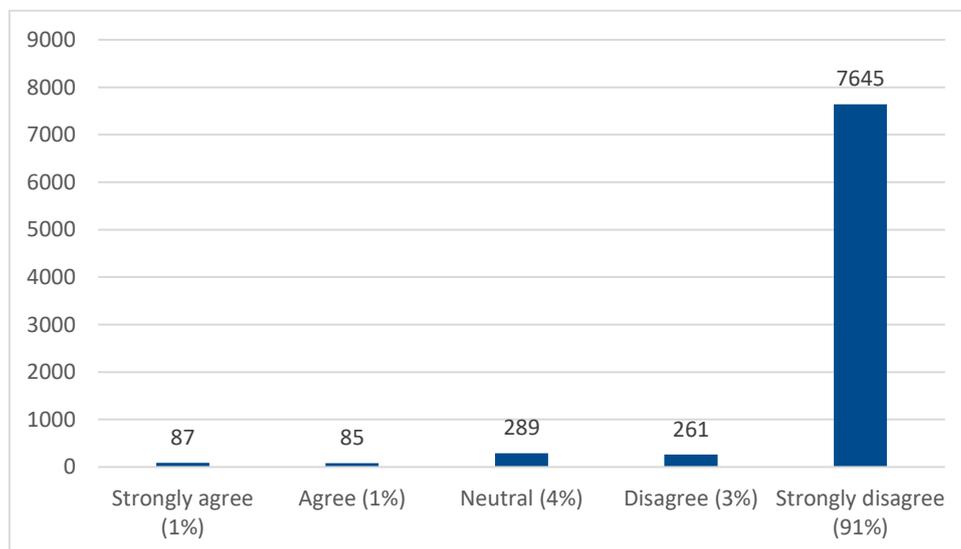
89% of respondents strongly disagreed with this proposal and a further 2% disagreed with the proposal. 5% provided a neutral response. 3% of respondents agreed, and 1% strongly agreed with the proposal for Cynffig comprehensive to close or merge its sixth form with Porthcawl comprehensive.

Respondents were asked to add any further comments on this outcome.

There were no additional comments made on the automated response data.

7.2.2.4 Outcome D - Cynffig Comprehensive hosts sixth form centre and hosts sixth form students from Pencoed Comprehensive and Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen

There were 8367 responses to this question



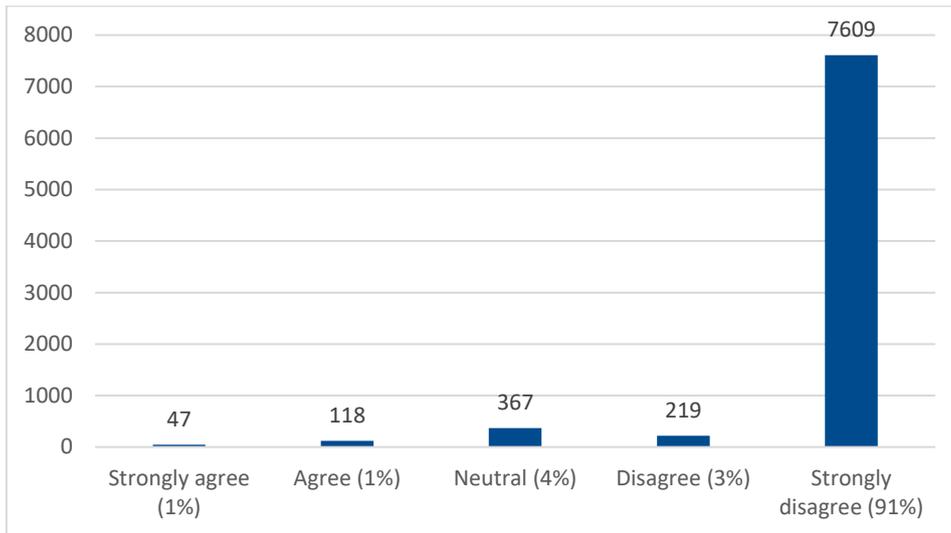
91% of respondents strongly disagreed with the proposal that Cynffig could host a sixth form centre, attended by pupils from Pencoed and CCYD. A further 3% disagreed with the proposal. 4% provided a neutral response. 1% of respondents agreed with this proposal and 1% strongly agreed with the proposal.

Respondents were asked to add any further comments on this outcome.

There were no additional comments made on the automated response data.

7.2.2.5 Outcome E – Maesteg School hosts a sixth form centre and hosts sixth form students from Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen

There were 8360 responses to this question



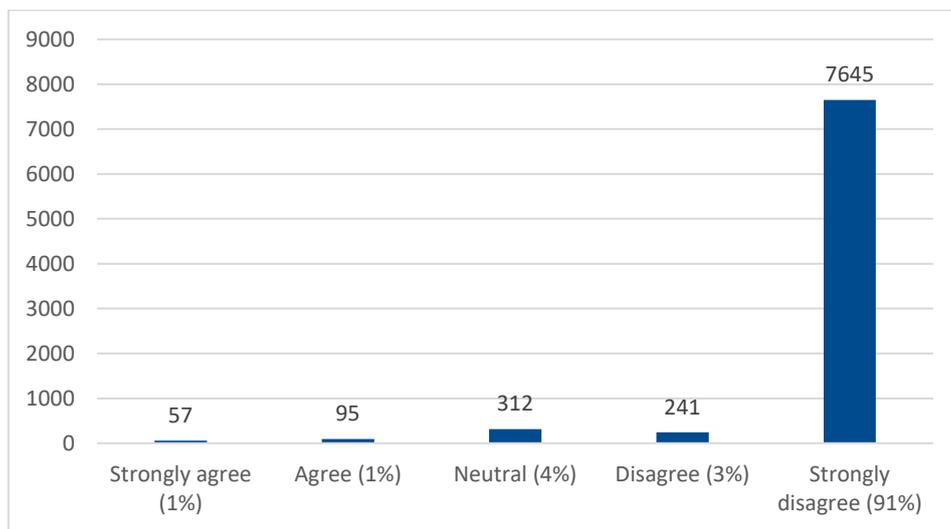
91% of respondents strongly disagreed with the proposal that Maesteg School could host a sixth form centre, attended by pupils from CCYD. A further 3% disagreed with the proposal. 26% provided a neutral response. 1% of respondents agreed with this proposal and a further 1% strongly agreed with the proposal.

Respondents were asked to add any further comments on this outcome.

There were no additional comments made on the automated response data.

7.2.2.6 Outcome F – Maesteg School and Pencoed Comprehensive both become sixth form centres and host sixth form students from Cynffig Comprehensive and Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen.

There were 8350 responses to this question



91% of respondents strongly disagreed with the proposal that Maesteg School and Pencoed Comprehensive both become sixth form centres and host pupils from CCYD and Cynffig. A further 3% disagreed with the proposal. 4% provided a neutral response. 1% of respondents agreed with this proposal and 1% strongly agreed with the proposal.

Respondents were asked to add any further comments on this outcome.

There were no additional comments made on the automated response data.

7.2.2.7 Overall consideration of the options

Respondents were asked to rank in order of preference the options outlined in outcomes A-F.

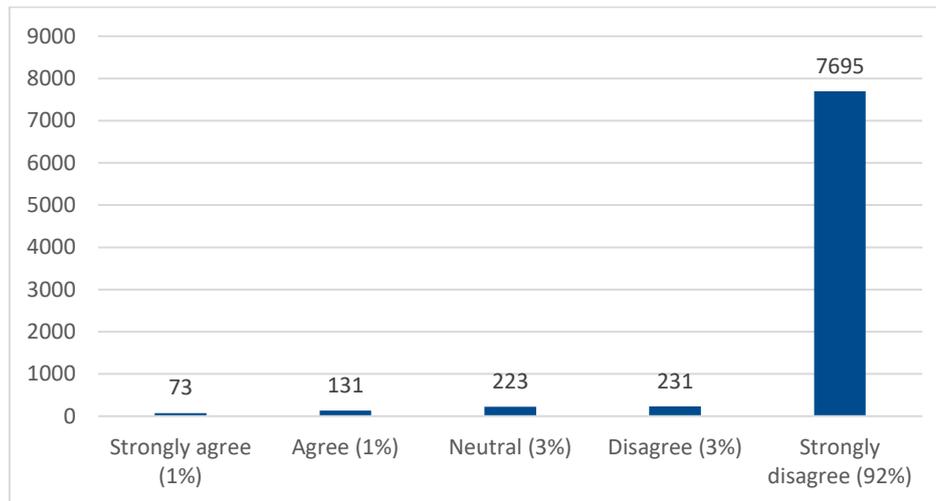
Overall the options were ranked as follows:

Rank	Outcome	Number of respondents who ranked each concept in position	% of groups who ranked each concept in position
1	Outcome A1 Brynteg School becomes a sixth form centre and hosts sixth form students from Bryntirion Comprehensive Outcome A2 Brynteg school and Bryntirion Comprehensive develop a joint sixth form provision;	7109	92%
2	Outcome B Porthcawl Comprehensive keeps its sixth form	5208	65%
3	Outcome C Cynffig Comprehensive closes or merges its sixth form with Porthcawl Comprehensive	5193	67%
4	Outcome F Maesteg School and Pen-coed Comprehensive both become sixth form centres and host sixth form students from Cynffig Comprehensive and Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen.	5114	67%
5	Outcome A2 Brynteg school and Bryntirion Comprehensive develop a joint sixth form provision;	5064	66%
6	Outcome E Maesteg School hosts a sixth form centre and hosts sixth form students from Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen	5209	67%
7	Outcome D – Cynffig Comprehensive hosts sixth-form centre and host sixth-form students from Pen-coed Comprehensive and Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen	5152	66%

7.2.3 Option two – a mix of school sixth forms with some mergers to create a new FE college governed sixth form centre(s)

7.2.3.1 Outcome A – a sixth form centre is developed in Bridgend Town centre and run by Bridgend College, drawing sixth form students from Cynffig Comprehensive school, Coleg Cymunedon y Dderwen, Pencoed Comprehensive school and Bryntirion Comprehensive school (if the merger with Brynteg school listed in Option 1/Outcome A did not take place).

There were 8353 responses to this question



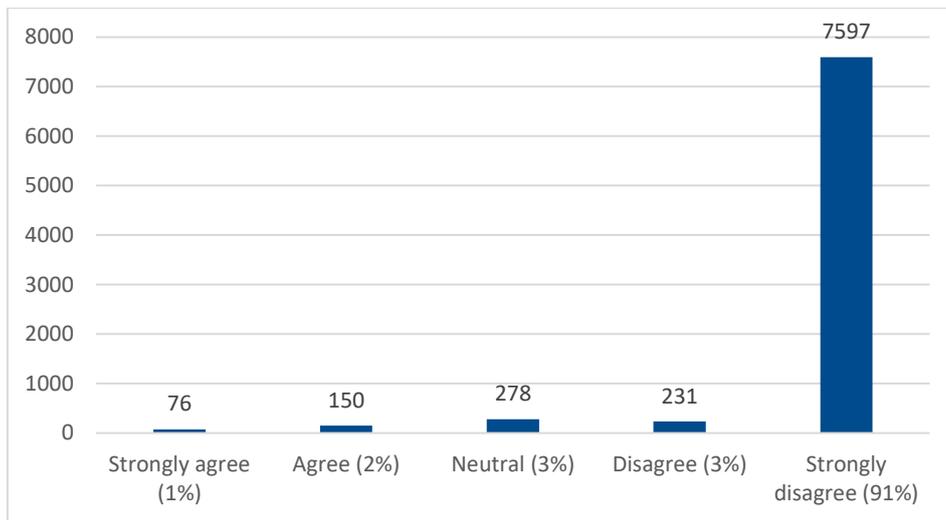
92% of respondents strongly disagreed with this proposal and a further 3% disagreed with the proposal. 3% provided a neutral response. 1% of respondents agreed with this proposal and a further 1% strongly agreed with the proposal.

Respondents were asked to add any further comments on this outcome.

There were no additional comments made on the automated response data.

7.2.3.2 Outcome B - Sixth form centre at Bridgend College's Pencoed Campus run by the college and hosting sixth-form students from Pencoed Comprehensive, Cynffig Comprehensive and Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen.

There were 8332 responses to this question



91% of respondents strongly disagreed with this proposal and a further 3% disagreed with the proposal. 3% provided a neutral response. 2% of respondents agreed with this proposal and a further 1% strongly agreed with the proposal.

Respondents were asked to add any further comments on this outcome.

There were no additional comments made on the automated response data.

7.2.3.3 Overall consideration of the options

Respondents were asked to rank their preferred choice for Outcome A and B by numbering the options one and two.

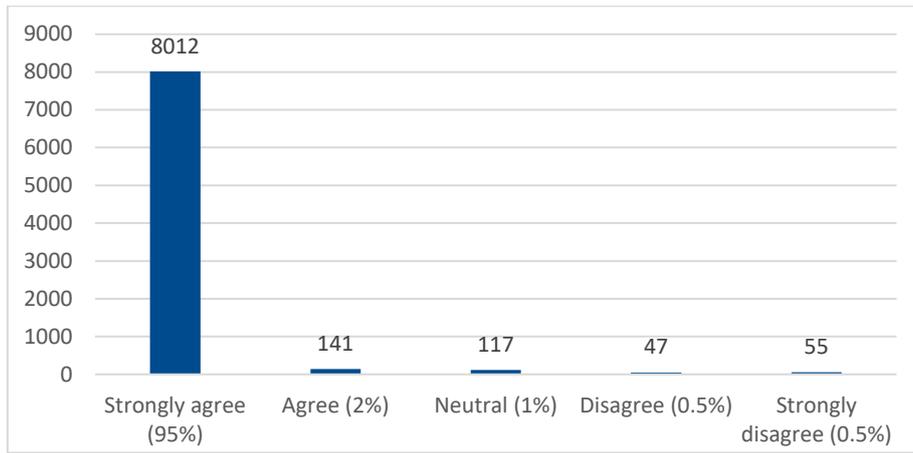
Respondents ranked outcomes A and B as:

- Outcome A Bridgend town centre sixth form centre run by the college (51%)
- Outcome B Sixth Form centre at Bridgend College's Pencoed campus run by the college (49%)

7.2.4 Option three Keeping sixth forms in all schools

7.2.4.1 The retention of sixth forms in all schools – the current position (ie a distributed tertiary model based on collaboration, but with further development in order to improve the delivery of this option)

There were 8372 responses to this question



95% of respondents strongly agreed with the proposal to keep sixth forms in all schools and a further 2% of respondents agreed with this proposal. 1% provided a neutral response. 0.5% of respondents strongly disagreed with this proposal and a further 0.5% disagreed with the proposal to keep sixth forms in all schools.

Respondents were asked to add any further comments on this outcome.

There were no additional comments made on the automated response data.

7.2.5 Overall consideration of the options

Respondents were asked having reviewed all the options and outcomes to rank their preferred choice for Options 1,2 and 3.

Overall respondents ranked the outcomes in first position as follows:

- Option 3 retention of sixth forms in all schools – the current position (ie a distributed tertiary model based on collaboration, but with further development in order to improve the delivery of this option) (97%);
- Option 1 a mix of school sixth forms with some mergers to create new local authority maintained sixth-form centre(s) (2%);
- Option 2 a mix of school sixth form with some mergers to create new FE College governed sixth-form centre(s) (1%).

7.2.6 Do you have any other comments you would like to make about the proposals?

Respondents were asked if they had any further comments that they would like to make about the proposals.

There were no additional comments made on the automated response data.

7.2.7 Bridgend College students

There was one question aimed specifically at Bridgend College students, which asked if you are a student at Bridgend College, please give us your reasons for going to college.

No additional responses were received within the automated response data