

21st Century Schools Summary Document 2021

PROVISION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH
ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS (ALN):
COMPLEX LEARNING NEEDS AND AUTISM SPECTRUM
CONDITION PROVISION FOR LEARNERS AGED 3 - 19

CONSULTATION PERIOD: 14 DECEMBER 2021 – 1 FEBRUARY 2022



This document can be made available in Braille.
A full version of the consultation document is available at:
www.cardiff.gov.uk/ALNschoollproposals

Information can also be made available in other community languages if needed.
Please contact us on **029 2087 2720** to arrange this.



Background

Cardiff's 2030 vision for education and learning in Cardiff sets a goal of A Learning Entitlement, in which all children and young people are able to:

- access appropriate routes into education and learning opportunities
- thrive and fulfil their potential
- realise their individual dreams and ambitions

This booklet contains summarised information about proposals to improve access to education in line with the above principles of inclusion.

This is your chance to ask questions and make comments. We want to know your views because this helps us to make sure any proposal that goes forward really works for children, young people and the community local to the schools involved.

What are we proposing to do?

We are proposing to:

- increase the designated number of Ty Gwyn Special School from 198 to 240 places from September 2022
- increase the designated number of Meadowbank Special School from 40 to 98 places from September 2022
- increase the designated number of The Hollies Special School from 90 to 119 places from September 2022
- further increase the designated number of The Hollies Special School from 119 to 150 places from September 2023
- increase the designated place number of the Specialist Resource Base at Llanishen Fach Primary School for children with complex learning needs from 20 to 30 places from September 2023
- increase the designated number at Marlborough Primary School Specialist Resource Base for children with severe and complex learning needs from 20 to 30 places from September 2022
- increase the designated number at the Pentreban Primary School Specialist Resource Base for children with autism from 20 to 24 places from September 2022
- increase the designated number at Springwood Primary School Specialist Resource Base for children with autism from 20 to 28 places from September 2022

Where can I find more information?

- Full details can be found in the Consultation Document on the Council website at www.cardiff.gov.uk/ALNSchoolproposals
- If you are unable to access the document on-line, printed copies of this consultation document will be available by post on request. You may request a copy by telephoning **02920 872720**.
- We have organised an online meeting and drop-in sessions that you can attend if you would like us to explain the suggested changes to you. You can also ask us questions. If you would like to attend an online meeting, please contact us by e-mailing schoolresponses@cardiff.gov.uk and tell us which meeting you would like to attend. We will then provide a link and instructions for attending the meeting.

The dates of the public consultation meeting and drop-in sessions are set out below:

Table 1: Consultation Meeting Dates

| Nature of consultation | Date/Time | Venue |
|------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| Online Public meeting | Wednesday 19 January 2022 5:30pm | Online via Microsoft Teams |
| Drop-in sessions | On request by emailing schoolresponses@cardiff.gov.uk | Online via Microsoft Teams |

Separate meetings have been arranged for staff and governors.

The views of children and young people are key to the way education is delivered. We will consult with pupils in each school and include their feedback in the final consultation report.

How can I give my views?

- You can attend the public meeting or a drop-in session
- You can provide your views at www.cardiff.gov.uk/ALNSchoolproposals
- You can fill in the response form on pages 11-14 of this booklet.

The closing date for responses to this consultation is 1 February 2022.

Why are we proposing these changes?

School places - All councils in Wales must provide enough school places for pupils of all ages. School places must meet the needs of all pupils and must be suitable for any additional learning needs.

Why are more places needed?

Sufficiency in the Special Sector

Most learners with Additional Learning Needs (ALN) attend a local mainstream school and have extra support there. Learners who have more severe or complex needs attend a special school or Specialist Resource Base. The number of pupils who need a place in a special school or specialist resource base has continued to grow.

A Specialist Resource Base enables learners with learning difficulties to succeed in a mainstream school environment. This can include pupils with Complex Learning Needs and/ or with Autism Spectrum Condition.

Pupils in a Specialist Resource Base are taught in a small class by specialist staff and benefit from a specialist curriculum. They also benefit from the full range of education opportunities available to all pupils at the school.

Pupils with more complex or severe needs may be taught in a special school.

At the end of March 2021, there were 2,265 children in Cardiff with a statement of Special Education Needs. As the population grows, so will the number of children and young people with significant and complex Additional Learning Needs.

In 2020/21

- a total of 1,116 places in specialist resource bases or special schools were funded by Cardiff Council
- 48 temporary places for learners were available at Wellbeing Class and Speech and Language Classes
- 90 places were available in the Pupil Referral Unit (PRU)

Whilst there are a number of existing specialist settings across Cardiff, there are not enough places available. The number of children who would benefit from a specialist place is projected to increase over coming years.

Demand for places – primary age

In 2021/22 there are a total of 413 specialist places for pupils of primary school age with Complex Learning Needs and Autism Spectrum Condition funded by Cardiff Council. These were in maintained schools in Cardiff and in other establishments commissioned by the Council.

Approved proposals to expand Riverbank Special School and the Specialist Resource Base at Ysgol Gymraeg Pwll Coch will increase the capacity in Cardiff to 465 specialist places by 2025/26.

Allowing for some surplus to support flexibility, sufficient capacity would be to provide 561 places in 2021/22, and 602 places by 2025/26.

In summary, there is an estimated shortfall of 148 places for learners of primary school age in 2021/22, reducing to 137 by 2025/26.

Demand for places – secondary age

In 2021/22 there are a total of 461 specialist places for pupils of secondary school age with Complex Learning Needs and Autism Spectrum Condition funded by Cardiff Council. These were in maintained schools in Cardiff and in other establishments commissioned by the Council.

The Welsh Government has approved a proposal to expand Woodlands High School, which would increase the capacity in Cardiff to 561 specialist places by 2025/26.

Allowing for some surplus to support flexibility, sufficient capacity would be to provide 638 places in 2021/22, and 692 places by 2025/26.

In summary, there is an estimated shortfall of 177 places for learners aged 11-18 in 2021/22, reducing to 131 by 2025/26.

Condition and Suitability of School Buildings

All school properties in Cardiff have been assessed for the condition of their buildings. All have been rated from A to D, with schools rated D in the poorest condition. This process helps us to prioritise which schools need improvements to their buildings and which need investment.

Details on the ratings for each school can be found in the consultation document at:

www.cardiff.gov.uk/ALNSchoolproposals

Geographical distribution of specialist provision

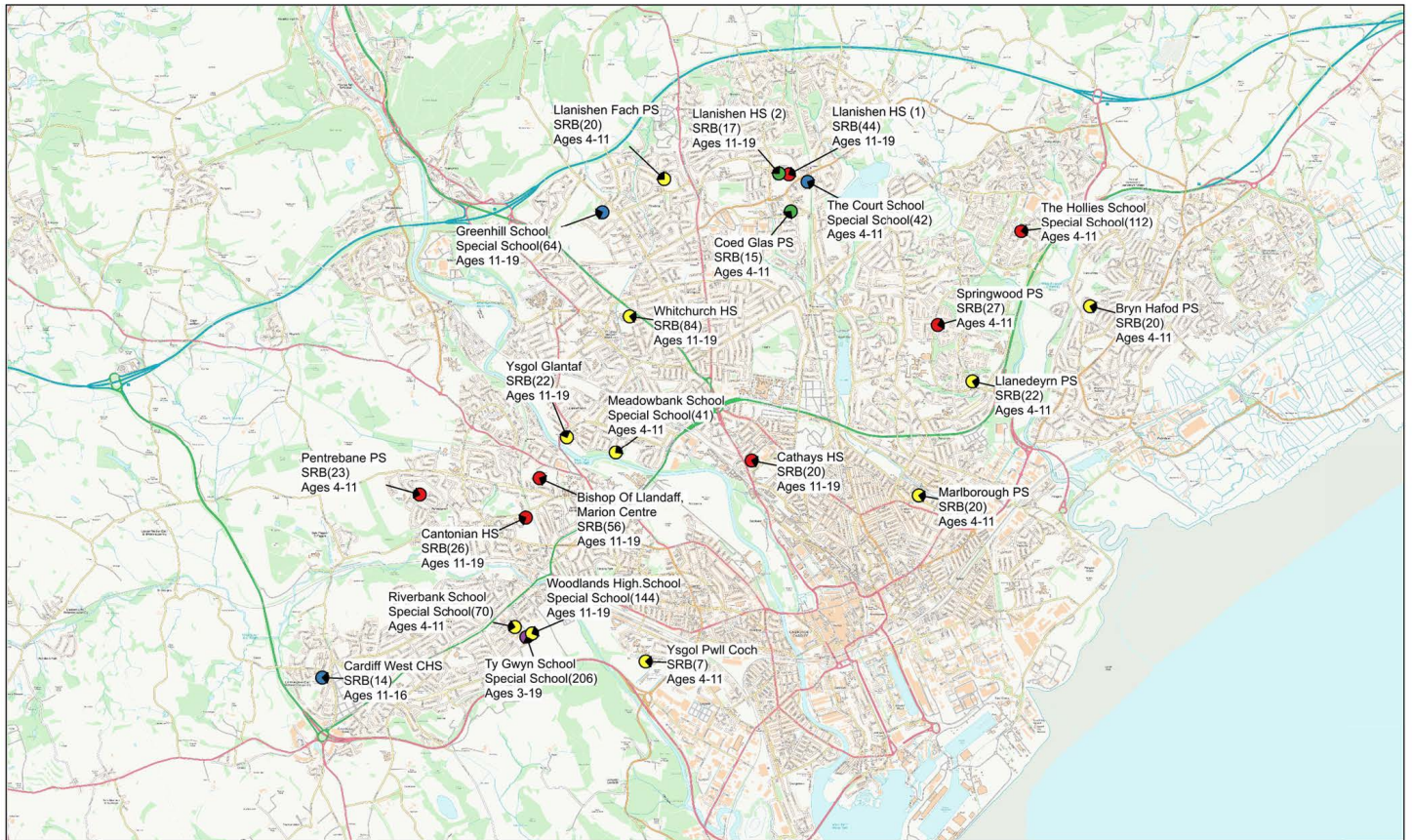
The location of special schools, specialist resource bases and Wellbeing Classes is not well distributed across the city.

A map showing location of existing specialist provision can be seen at page 6.

The lack of specialist resource bases in some localities can disadvantage learners living in those areas. Some families are unfamiliar with the areas where provision is located. Parents or carers may lack the means to travel easily to those areas.

A better distribution of specialist resource bases across the city would improve access for pupils. It would reduce travel times for many pupils, as well as increasing the number of places available.

Cardiff Special School and Specialist Resources Bases 2021



Special schools & SRBs: Type & Capacity

| | |
|--|------|
| ● Autism | (7) |
| ● Behavioural, Emotional & Social Needs | (3) |
| ● Hearing Impairment | (2) |
| ● Profound & Multiple Learning Disabilities, Medical Needs, Autism | (1) |
| ● Severe Learning Disabilities, Medical Needs, Speech and Language, Autism | (10) |

This copy is produced specifically to supply County Council information. NO further copies may be made. Mwy o copi hysedd gwybodaeth yn bennodol gyffwrdd gyda'r Gyhoeddwr y Cynnyr Sir. Ni ellir gwrneud copïau pellach. © Crown copyright and database rights 2017. Ordnance Survey 100023376. © Haulfenni y Gorn a hyseddau corfforaidd 2017. Arwydd Ordnans 100023376.

Proposal to increase the number of places at Ty Gwyn Special School for pupils with complex learning needs or autism

Ty Gwyn is a special school located at Vincent Road in Caerau. The school admits pupils from across the authority. The school has been federated with Riverbank Special School and Woodlands High School, as the Western Learning Campus Federation, since January 2018.

The school is designated to provide 198 places for learners aged 3-19 with complex learning disabilities or autism.

To meet the increasing demand for places it is proposed to:

- increase the designated number of Ty Gwyn Special School from 198 to 240 places from September 2022.

It is proposed that the school would expand by adapting the former Trelai Youth Centre to provide additional accommodation and facilities.

Proposal to increase the number of places at Meadowbank Special School for pupils with complex learning needs

Meadowbank is a special school located in Llandaff North. The school admits pupils from across the authority.

The school is designated for up to 40 places for pupils aged 4 -11 with speech and language and communication needs and complex learning needs.

To meet the increasing demand for places it is proposed to:

- increase the designated place number of Meadowbank Special School from 40 to 98 from September 2022.

It is proposed that works would be undertaken to provide new accommodation and facilities and adaptation of the existing accommodation, to facilitate the growth of the school.

Proposal to increase the number of places at The Hollies Special School for pupils with autism

The Hollies is a special school located at Bryn Heulog in Pentwyn. The school admits pupils from across the authority.

The school is designated to provide 90 places for learners aged 4-11 with autism.

To meet the increasing demand for places it is proposed to:

- increase the designated number of The Hollies Special School from 90 to 119 from September 2022
- further increase the designated number of The Hollies Special School from 119 to 150 from September 2023

It is proposed that the school buildings would be extended to provide additional classrooms, in addition to works that are currently underway to improve current facilities and to establish additional classrooms in the existing accommodation.

Proposal to increase the number of places at Llanishen Fach Primary School Specialist Resource Base (SRB) for pupils with complex learning needs

Llanishen Fach Primary School is an English-medium community primary school for pupils aged 3 – 11. The school is located at Heol Uchaf, Rhiwbina.

The school hosts a 20 place Specialist Resource Base for children with complex learning needs.

To meet the increasing demand for places it is proposed to:

- increase the designated place number of the Specialist Resource Base at Llanishen Fach Primary School for children with complex learning needs from 20 to 30 places from September 2023

It is proposed that works would be undertaken to provide new accommodation and facilities, to facilitate the growth of the resource base.

Proposal to increase the number of places at Marlborough Primary School Specialist Resource Base (SRB) for pupils with severe and complex learning needs

Marlborough Primary School is an English-medium community primary school for pupils aged 3-11. The school is located at Blenheim Road, Penylan.

The school hosts a Specialist Resource Base, for pupils with severe and complex learning needs.

To meet the increasing demand for places it is proposed to:

- increase the designated number at Marlborough Primary School Specialist Resource Base for children with severe and complex learning needs from 20 to 30 from September 2022

Works have been undertaken to adapt existing accommodation within the school to increase the capacity of the resource base and to provide a sensory room.

Proposal to increase the number of places at Pentreban Primary School Specialist Resource Base (SRB) for pupils with autism

Pentreban Primary School is an English-medium community primary school for pupils aged 3-11. The school is located at Beechley Drive, Pentreban.

The school hosts a primary specialist resource base for children with autism.

To meet the increasing demand for places it is proposed to:

- increase the designated number at the Pentreban Primary School Specialist Resource Base for children with autism from 20 to 24 spaces from September 2022

It is proposed that works would be undertaken to improve and extend facilities and accommodation.

Proposal to increase the number of places at Springwood Primary School Specialist Resource Base (SRB) for pupils with autism

Springwood Primary School is an English-medium community primary school for pupils aged 3-11. The school is located at Circle Way, Llanedeyrn.

The school hosts a specialist resource base for children with autism.

To meet the increasing demand for places it is proposed to:

- increase the designated number at Springwood Primary School Specialist Resource Base for children with autism from 20 to 28 from September 2022

Works have been undertaken to improve and adapt existing accommodation within the school.

Transport matters

The Council applies the two-mile statutory qualifying walking distance criteria for primary age pupils to qualify for free home to school transport to special schools and specialist resource bases. At secondary school age, this distance is three miles. Some learners who live within these distances may be provided with free transport due to their individual learning needs and social issues.

The proposals are expected to increase the demand for Learner Transport at a number of schools. Suitable improved and / or expanded facilities for drop-off and pick-up may be required within the sites to accommodate the appropriate numbers of vehicles.

The Council's current Corporate Plan includes a commitment to every school in Cardiff developing an Active Travel Plan.

Further information in respect of transport matters can be found in the consultation document at www.cardiff.gov.uk/ALNSchoolproposals

Quality and Standards

Every school in Wales is inspected by Estyn.

Estyn ensures that schools are providing a good quality of education to their pupils and that all children, are supported to learn by excellent teaching and learning staff.

Schools are also placed in one of the four colour-coded support categories (green, yellow, amber and red) as part of the Welsh Government's National School Categorisation System. Amber and Red schools are those that require the most support.

Details of standards at each school, as set out their most recent Estyn report are outlined in the table below.

The colours used show the most recent categorisation using the Welsh Government's Categorisation in January 2020.

| School | Inspection Date | Standards | Progress |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|----------|
| Ty Gwyn Special School | May 2012 | Excellent | N/a |
| Meadowbank Special School | November 2019 | Adequate | N/a |
| The Hollies Special School | October 2019 | Good | N/a |
| Llanishen Fach Primary School | April 2014 | Good | N/a |
| Marlborough Primary School | November 2018 | Good | N/a |
| Pentrebane Primary School | March 2015 | Good | N/a |
| Springwood Primary School | March 2018 | Good | N/a |

Further details on quality and standards can be found in the consultation document on the Council website at www.cardiff.gov.uk/ALNSchoolproposals

What are the benefits of the proposed changes?

- Each of the proposals would increase the number of specialist places for primary aged learners with Complex Learning Needs and/ or Autism Spectrum Condition and would contribute towards meeting projected demand.
- The proposed expansion of Ty Gwyn Special School would also increase the number of specialist places for learners aged 3-19 with the most complex / severe Complex Learning Needs and/ or Autism Spectrum Condition.
- The opportunity to employ specialist staff and to work more closely with specialist services in Cardiff would enhance inclusive teaching in schools. This would benefit all pupils in each school.
- The proposed expansion of places would allow pupils to travel shorter distances to access local specialist provision.

Potential disadvantages of the proposed changes

- Some pupils with Additional Learning Needs can find change difficult. They may find moving to a new building on a new site unsettling. We know they will need carefully planned support to adapt to the new setting. However, there would be sufficient time to plan and support such a transition.
- There is potential for increased traffic congestion around the school sites at the start and end of the day. The Council would work with the Governing Body of each school to develop a Travel Plan to minimise any potential disruption.

How would staff be affected?

The Council will work with the Governing Bodies of each school to address the HR implications arising from the proposed changes. There may be a need for additional staffing.

Where the Governing Body has adopted the Council's School Redeployment and Redundancy Policy, any new vacancies arising as a consequence of the proposed changes will provide opportunities for school-based staff on the school redeployment register.

What happens next?

The Council will collect and summarise the feedback from this consultation. Council officers will then report this to the Council's Cabinet. This will help the elected members understand stakeholders' views and will give them information to help make their decision.

If the Cabinet decides to continue with the proposals, it must publish a document called a 'statutory notice'. The statutory notice sets out the details of the proposals and asks anyone who wants to object to do so. Objections must be written. They must be sent to the Council within the dates given on the notice.

The Cabinet may decide to approve or reject the proposal, or they may approve the proposal with some changes (modifications). The Cabinet would take any objections received in the Objection Period into account when making their decision.

Once a decision is made, we will let everyone affected by the proposal know. The decision will also be published on the Council's website.

Have Your Say!

You can complete this response form online at www.cardiff.gov.uk/ALNSchoolproposals

We are proposing to:

- increase the designated number of Ty Gwyn Special School from 198 to 240 places from September 2022
- increase the designated number of Meadowbank Special School from 40 to 98 places from September 2022
- increase the designated number of The Hollies Special School from 90 to 119 places from September 2022
- further increase the designated number of The Hollies Special School from 119 to 150 places from September 2023
- increase the designated number of the Specialist Resource Base at Llanishen Fach Primary School for children with complex learning needs from 20 to 30 places from September 2023
- increase the designated number at Marlborough Primary School Specialist Resource Base for children with severe and complex learning needs from 20 to 30 places from September 2022
- increase the designated number at the Pentreban Primary School Specialist Resource Base for children with autism from 20 to 24 places from September 2022
- increase the designated number at Springwood Primary School Specialist Resource Base for children with autism from 20 to 28 places from September 2022

Your views matter, please tell us what you think about the proposal by:

- Completing and returning the accompanying questionnaire to the address given at the bottom of the form.
- Completing the online response form at www.cardiff.gov.uk/ALNSchoolproposals
- Or if you prefer you can e-mail your views to: schoolresponses@cardiff.gov.uk

The closing date for responses to this consultation is Tuesday 1 February 2022.

1. Which of the following are you responding as?

- Parent or Guardian*
- Teacher – please specify your school _____
- School governor – please specify your school _____
- Other – please specify _____

2. Do you have a child/children enrolled at the following schools? (tick all that apply)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ty Gwyn Special School | <input type="checkbox"/> Pentreban Primary School |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meadowbank Special School | <input type="checkbox"/> Springwood Primary School |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Hollies Special School | <input type="checkbox"/> Other please specify _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Llanishen Fach Primary School | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marlborough Primary School | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |

3. Do you support the plans put forward to improve the provision for Children and Young People with additional learning needs?

YES NO DON'T KNOW

4. Do you support the proposal for each of the school sites?

| School and proposal in brief | Yes | No | Don't know |
|---|-----|----|------------|
| <p>Ty Gwyn Special School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> increase the designated number of Ty Gwyn Special School from 198 to 240 from September 2022 | | | |
| <p>Meadowbank Special School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> increase the designated number of Meadowbank Special School from 40 to 98 from September 2022 | | | |
| <p>The Hollies Special School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> increase the designated number of The Hollies Special School from 90 to 119 from September 2022 further increase the designated number of The Hollies Special School from 119 to 150 from September 2023 | | | |
| <p>Llanishen Fach Primary School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> increase the designated number of the Specialist Resource Base at Llanishen Fach Primary School for children with complex learning needs from 20 to 30 places from September 2023 | | | |
| <p>Marlborough Primary School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> increase the designated number at Marlborough Primary School Specialist Resource Base for children with severe and complex learning needs from 20 to 30 places from September 2022 | | | |
| <p>Pentrebane Primary School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> increase the designated number at the Pentrebane Primary School Specialist Resource Base for children with autism from 20 to 24 places from September 2022 | | | |
| <p>Springwood Primary School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> increase the designated number at Springwood Primary School Specialist Resource Base for children with autism from 20 to 28 places from September 2022 | | | |

5. If you do or not support the proposed changes than please explain why

Empty response box for question 5.

6. Would you like to suggest any changes or alternatives?

Empty response box for question 6.

7. Additional comments

Name _____

Address _____

Post Code _____

The closing date for responses to this consultation is 1 February 2022.

The Council is not able to consider any consultation responses received after this date.

Consultation responses will **not** be counted as objections to the proposal.

Objections can only be registered following publication of a statutory notice.

If you wish to be notified of publication of the Consultation report please provide an email address. If you do not provide an email address we cannot keep you up to date.

Thank you for your comments.

Please return this form to the School Organisation Planning Team, Room 401, County Hall, CF10 4UW or by email to schoolresponses@cardiff.gov.uk by no later than 1 February 2022.

ABOUT YOU

Please provide your postcode below to allow us to more accurately pinpoint respondents' views and needs by area:-

What was your age on your last birthday?

- Under 16 25-34 45-54 65-74 Prefer not to say
 16-24 35-44 55-64 75+

Are you...?

- Female Male Other Prefer not to say

Do you identify as a disabled person?

- Yes No Prefer not to say

Please tick any of the following that apply to you:

- Deaf/ Deafened/ Hard of hearing Visual impairment Long-standing illness or health condition (e.g. cancer, diabetes, or asthma)
 Mental health difficulties Wheelchair user Prefer not to say
 Learning impairment / difficulties Mobility impairment Other

Please specify _____

What is your ethnic group?

Where the term 'British' is used, this refers to any of the four home nations of Wales, England, Northern Ireland and Scotland, or any combination of these.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> White - Welsh/English/Scottish/Northern Irish/British | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Asian Welsh/British - Bangladeshi |
| <input type="checkbox"/> White - Irish | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Asian Welsh/British - Indian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> White - Gypsy or Irish Traveller | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Asian Welsh/British - Any other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> White - Any other white background | <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African/Caribbean/Black Welsh/British - African |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups - White & Asian | <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African/Caribbean/Black Welsh/British - Caribbean |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups - White and Black Caribbean | <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African/Caribbean/Black Welsh/British - Any other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups - White and Black African | <input type="checkbox"/> Arab |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups - Any other | <input type="checkbox"/> Any other ethnic group (please specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Asian Welsh/British - Chinese | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Asian Welsh/British - Pakistani | Prefer not to say |

The information you have provided above will be processed by Cardiff Council in line with the Data Protection Act 2018 and General Data Protection Regulation. The information provided to us in relation to this consultation will be treated as confidential but it may be used by the Council or disclosed to others when required by law. The purpose of processing the personal data is required to perform a specific task in the public interest. Any responses received can be requested under the Freedom of Information Act and may have to be made public, however any information that would identify an individual such as name and address would be removed. For further information on how Cardiff Council manages personal information, see our full Privacy Policy on the Council's website

https://www.cardiff.gov.uk/ENG/Home/New_Disclaimer/Pages/default.aspx