

Date • Dyddiad 22 June 2026
Your ref • Eich cyfeirnod MC/CD
My ref • Fy nghyfeirnod
Telephone • Ffôn 01437 764551.
Email • E-bost michael.cavangh@pembrokeshire.gov.uk
www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk / www.sir-benfro.gov.uk



Pembrokeshire County Council Cyngor Sir Penfro

WILL BRAMBLE CBE.
Chief Executive / Prif Weithredwr

STEVEN RICHARDS-DOWNES
Director of Education
Cyfarwyddwr Addysg

Pembrokeshire County Council,
County Hall, HAVERFORDWEST,
Pembrokeshire, SA61 1TP

Cyngor Sir Penfro,
Neuadd y Sir, HWLFFORDD,
Sir Benfro, SA61 1TP

Telephone / Ffôn 01437 764551

Please ask for
Os gwelwch yn dda gofynnwch am

Michael Cavanagh

Dear Sir / Madam

Notification of Council Decision – Proposal to Discontinue Manorbier VC School

I write to inform you that at its meeting on Monday 15th June 2026, Pembrokeshire County Council considered and approved the following published proposal:

- i. To authorise the Director of Education to publish a Decision Letter confirming the discontinuation of Manorbier VC School

The proposal will come into effect on 31st August 2026 with pupils transferring to St Florence VC School (the new catchment school for the Manorbier VC School area) from 1st September 2026.

Prior to reaching its decision, the Council took account of the comments received as part of statutory consultation and the 62 objections that were received following the publication of the Statutory Notice. Furthermore, the Council were satisfied that the proposal will address the key issues identified in the case for change.

The Objection Report for the above proposal is available to view on Pembrokeshire County Councils website by following the link below

[Proposal for discontinuation of Manorbier Church in Wales Voluntary Controlled school - Pembrokeshire County Council](#)

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

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

In determining the proposal, the Council took into account the following factors as outlined in the School Organisation Code (2018):

Quality and Standards of Education

The Council believes that the proposal would ensure that the standards and progress of pupils would continue to be maintained in the area and therefore the Council is satisfied that the implementation of this proposal would not have a negative impact on standards and progress overall.

Need for places and the impact on the accessibility of schools

The Council notes significant surplus capacity and declining pupil numbers, alongside established patterns of parental preference for alternative schools. Suitable provision is available within reasonable travelling distance, and eligible pupils will receive free transport. The Council therefore considers that access to education will remain appropriate and reasonable.

Resourcing of Education

The Council has concluded that the school operates at a comparatively high cost per pupil and that continuing provision with low pupil numbers represents an inefficient use of resources. Notwithstanding increased transport costs, the proposal enables more effective deployment of resources and supports the long-term financial sustainability of education provision across the authority.

Specific factors in the consideration of school closures

Whilst implementation of the decision will lead to the closure of Manorbier VC School, the Council has considered the specific factors relevant to school closures, including community impact, availability of alternative provision and transport. These were all documented as part of the consultation process. While acknowledging identified impacts, particularly in relation to community and travel, the Council concludes that these do not outweigh the educational and strategic benefits of the proposal.

Yours faithfully



Steven Richards-Downes
Director of Education