

Review of Catholic Schools in Flintshire



Who we are

Flintshire County Council are responsible for all the schools in our area.

We are part of a team that work for the Council to support schools.



Why are we asking for your views again?

- We talked to people about these plans before, but we had to pause the process earlier this year.
- This was because there was a legal question raised that needed to be carefully checked.
- While this was being looked at, we ran out of time to follow the official rules for consultations.
- We now need to start the consultation again so that:
 - Everything follows the latest rules
 - Everyone has a fair chance to share their views
- We still think these plans could be a good way to improve schools, and we want to hear what you think before any decisions are made.



The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, or the UNCRC, is a list of rights that all children and young people in Wales and across the world have.

Article 12 makes sure you have a right to say what you think should happen and be listened to.

Find out more clicking on the images below



Our Aims

- To give all children the best chance to learn in excellent schools in our area.
- To have safe and strong school buildings.
- To make sure money for children and schools in our area is spent in a fair way.
- To give everyone the opportunity to have their voice heard and listened to, in decisions that affect them.



Catholic Schools

The Catholic Church run your school

Five Primary Schools

- St Anthony's Primary School in Saltney
- St David's Primary School in Mold
- St Mary's Primary School in Flint
- St Winefride's Primary School, Holywell
- Venerable Edward Morgan Primary School, Shotton

One Secondary School

- St Richard Gwyn High School, Flint



Changes

It is not always possible for every school to stay as they are and sometimes this means the Church and Council need to make some important changes.

Changes can help to give everyone the best chance to learn, in the best possible school.



What this means

We have looked at a lot of things that help schools give children the best education they can.

Things like:

- Is the building safe and a nice place to be?
- How easy the building makes it to learn in
- The number of children here
- How many children we think may come here in the future



What we found

- Some school buildings are in a poor condition
- Some rooms are too small or not the right shape so it can be harder to learn or play
- Running school buildings costs a lot of money
- Some schools have lots of space for more children



What we think

We want to build a new school.

A new school will:

- Be for primary and secondary children
- Be in great condition.
- Will have classrooms that are spacious and comfortable
- Use energy more wisely to protect our planet
- Save money on repairs and energy costs
- Give teachers more chances to learn too
- Help children move from primary school to secondary school



Where to build a new school

A new school for primary and secondary children needs a lot of space.

Land at St Anthony's, St David's, St Winefride's and Venerable Edward Morgan is not big enough.

St Mary's and St Richard are next to each other, with lots of land around them. They also have lots of pupils too.

That's why we think Flint is the best place.



The other schools involved

There are too many places available in relation to how many St Anthony's, St David's and Venerable Edward Morgan can teach.

The schools all have things wrong with the buildings and with the shape and size of some rooms.

St Winefride's has similar issues with the building and still has spaces available but less than the others in terms of how many it can teach.



What we also think

St Anthony's and St David's (site) should close.

Venerable Edward Morgan should stay as it is.
We think this because some pupils from St Anthony's could go here instead, helping lower the number of spare spaces.

St Winefride's should stay as it is.
Although the number of pupil spaces is high, they are ok compared to the other three schools.



Closing schools

Nobody likes to close a school.

- We understand that this can have a big impact on the pupils that go to a school we think should close.
- We understand that this can have a big impact on the people who work at a school we think should close.
- We also understand that this can have a big impact on the community and local area within which a school we think should close is located.



Affect on Pupils

Children who go to a school that closes:

- Will have to transfer to a new school.
- The distance some pupils may have to travel go to their new school will be more for some and less for others.
- The time it takes for pupils to get to their new school will be more for some and less for others.
- Have a new uniform.



Difficult but Right

Even though we know how difficult it can be for everyone, we still think this is the right thing to do.

We think it is right to close St Anthony's and St David's (site) because it means we will have:

- The right number of Catholic schools for Flintshire, and in the right places.
- Old buildings that cost a lot to run and maintain will not be needed.
- Better learning environment for pupils.



The Proposal

What we think should happen is:

- Close St Anthony's
- Join St David's, St Mary's and St Richard Gwyn together, to form a new school
- Build a new school in Flint
- All pupils transfer to the new school when it opens



What needs to happen

- We must ask lots of people what they think.
- We must take everyone's answers and put them all together.
- The Council's Cabinet, who make important decisions, will decide if it is right to continue.
- If so, we ask people if they object (think it is a bad idea) to the proposal.
- The Council's Cabinet will decide if it is right to continue.
- If so, then we will make it happen.



When this could happen

- 29 July 2026 - Everyone's views must be received
- September / October 2026 - Cabinet consider everyone's views
- October / November 2026 - People who think it is a bad idea can tell us.
- January / February 2027– Cabinet makes final decision.



When schools could close and open

- 31 August 2027 – St Anthony’s closes
- 31 August 2027 – St David’s, St Mary’s and St Richard Gwyn will stop being 3 different schools
- 01 September 2027 - St David’s, St Mary’s and St Richard Gwyn will join together under one new name but still be open on their current sites
- 31 August 2030 - the three sites of the new school are closed down
- 01 September 2030 – all pupils of the new school move to the new school buildings in Flint.



More Information

If you want to find out more, there is information in a much bigger document on the internet. Log on to:

www.flintshire.gov.uk/schoolmodernisation



Your views matter

Now that we've told you our idea, told you how you can find out more information and answered any of your questions, it is very important that you tell us what you think.

Your views matter.

In this booklet you can write down anything you want to tell us and any ideas you may have.



Your School & Age

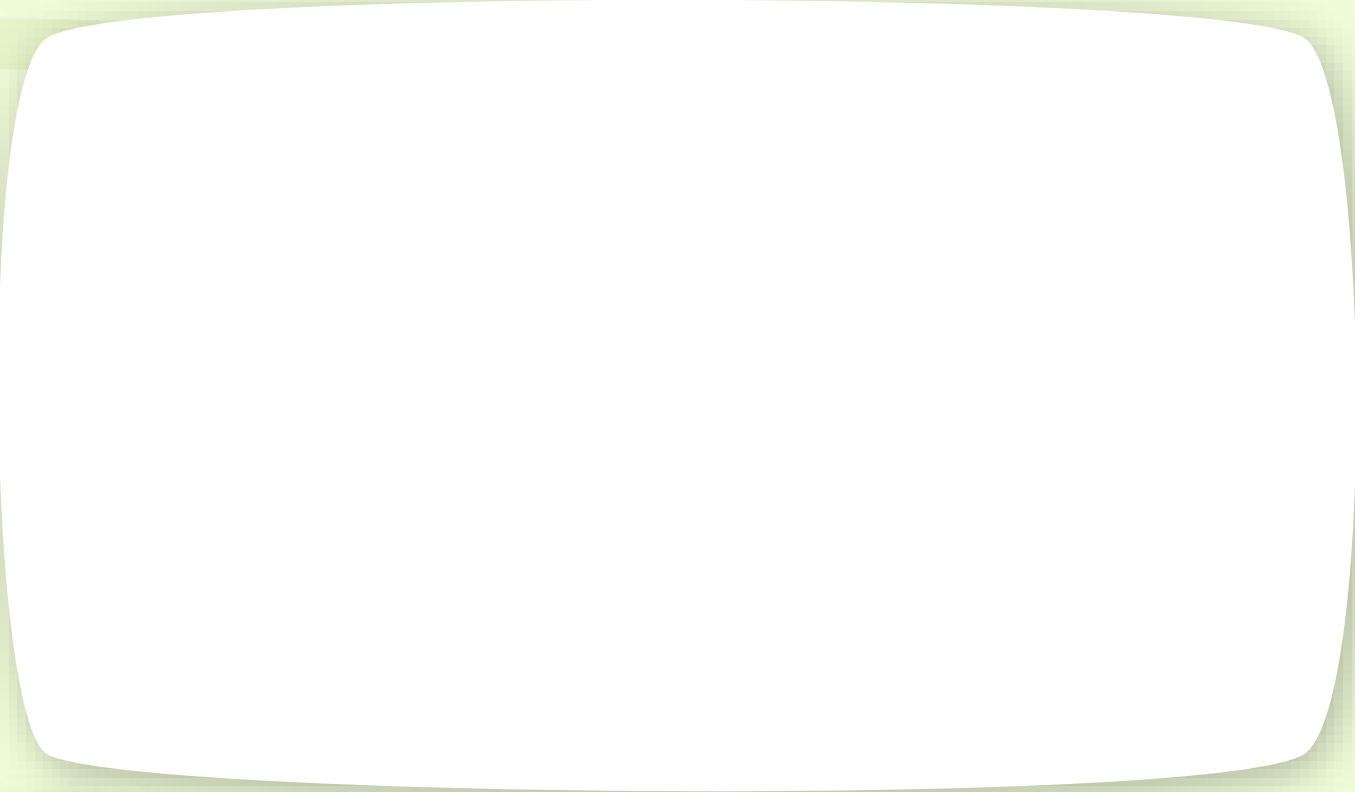
A large, empty white rounded rectangle intended for writing answers.

Which school do you go to now and how old are you?

Please write your answers in the box.



Your Opinion

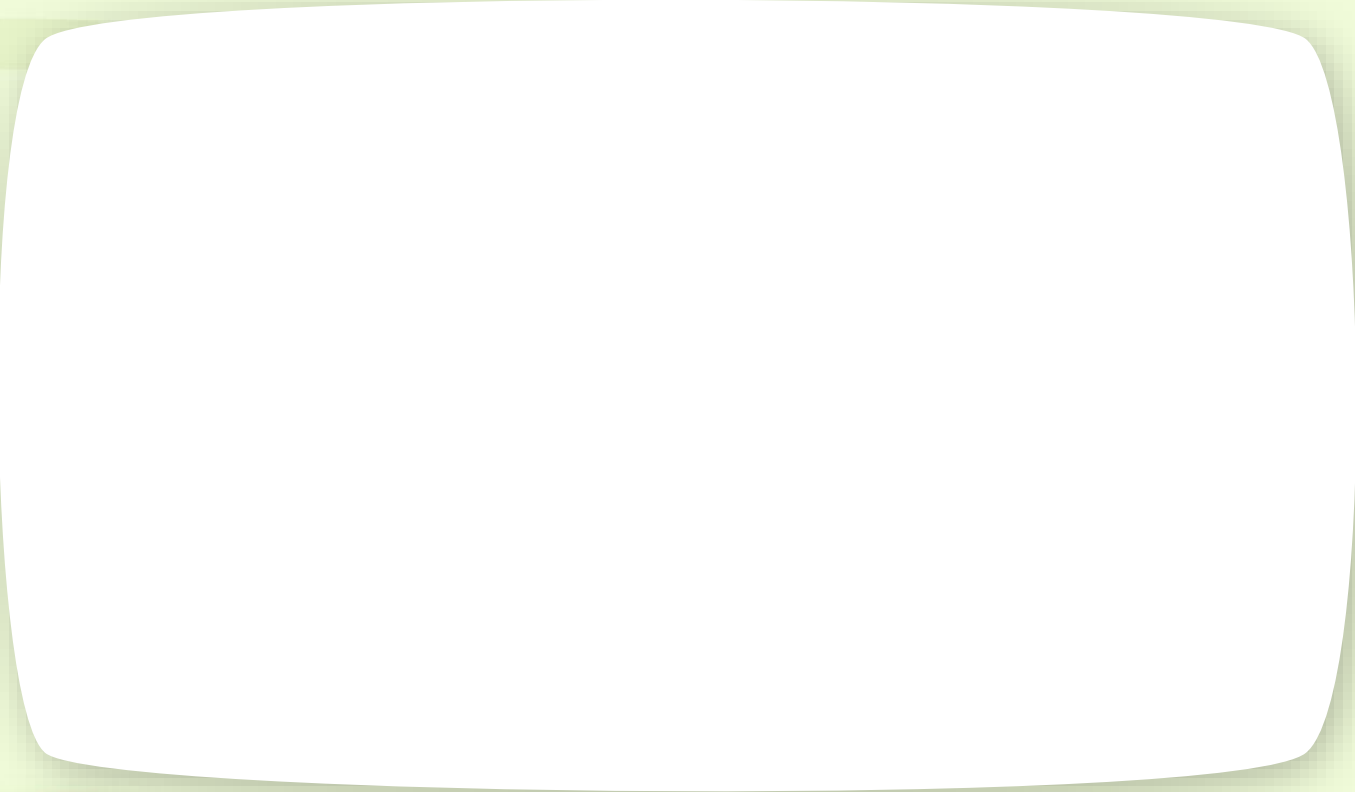


**Do you think our
idea is good, bad
or you're not sure?**

Please write your
answers in the box.



Your Reasons

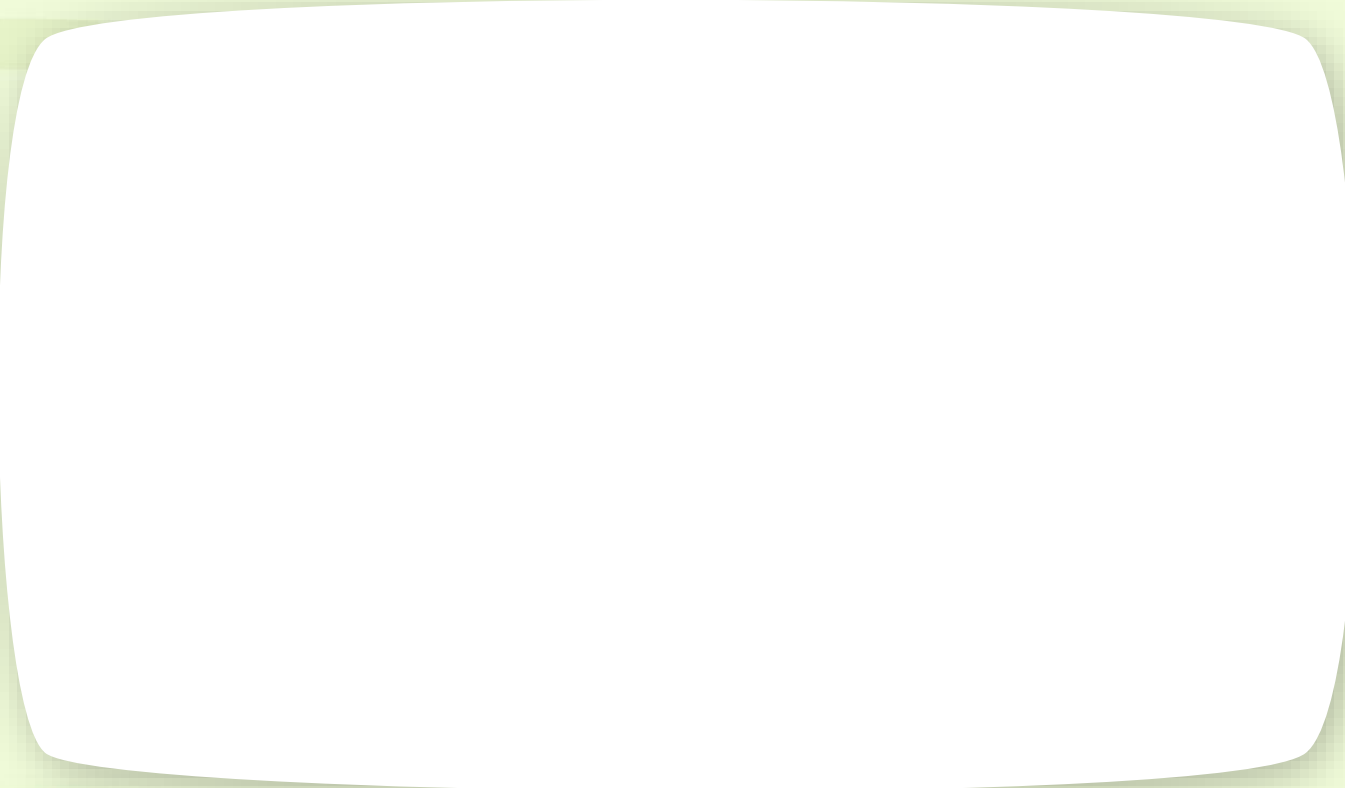


Why do you think the proposal is good, bad or that you are unsure?

Please write your answers in the box.



Your Ideas

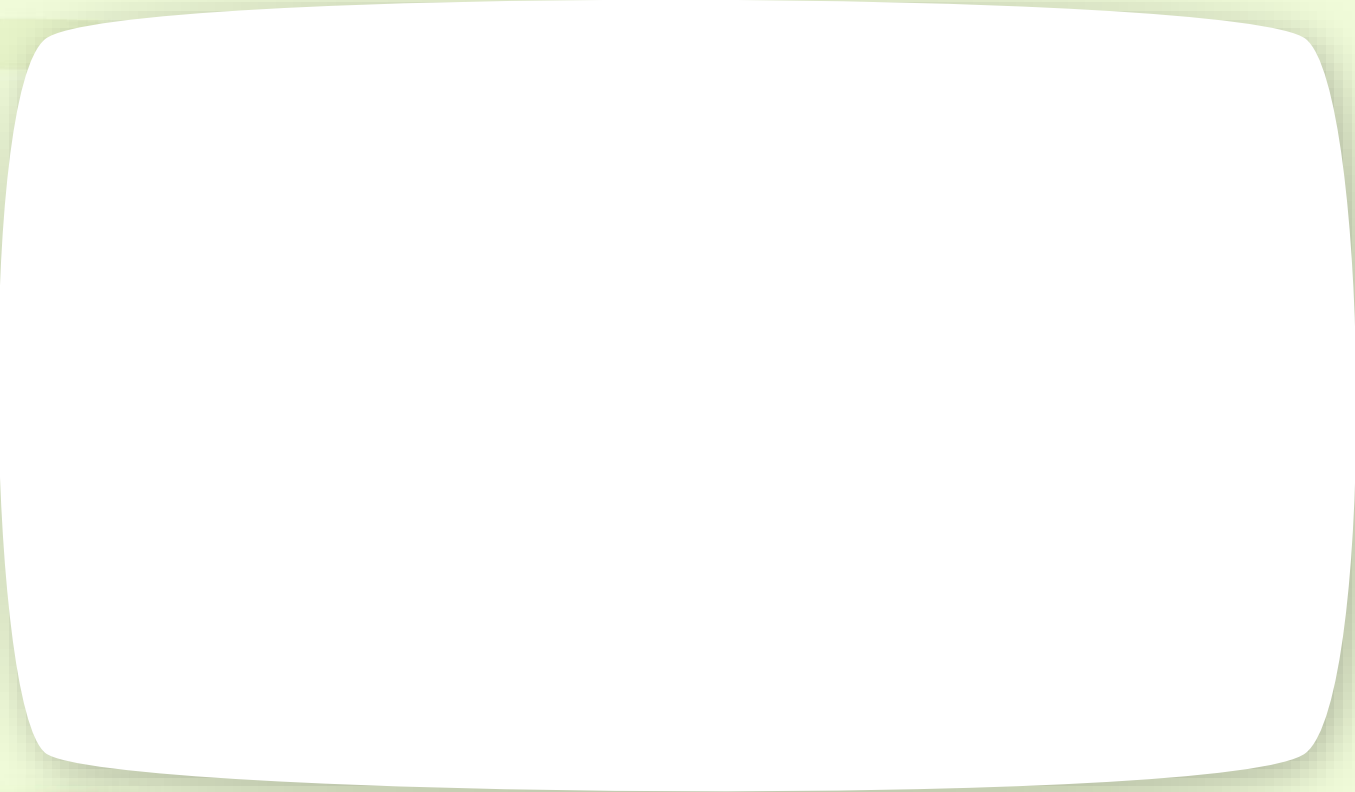


**Is there anything else
you would like to see
happen instead?**

**Please write your
answers in the box.**



Your voice



**Would you like to
say anything
else?**

Please write your
answers in the box.



What Happens Next?

Please post your completed booklet to us by **29 July 2026**. Unfortunately, we won't be able to accept anything you send us after this date.

Address: School Modernisation Team, Ty Dewi Sant, St David's Park, Ewloe, Flintshire, CH5 3FF

Or you can Email your comments to:
CatholicEducationConsultation@flintshire.gov.uk



Thank you!

