

At its inaugural meeting on 16 July the WHAG has stated that its aim will be to campaign to preserve the school at its current size, so that as many parents as possible will continue to have the freedom to choose Whitchurch High as their first choice school.

“Preserving freedom of choice is fundamental” said Gareth Matthewson”.
“If this proposal is implemented it will mean that up to 90 pupils every year will be refused admission into the school. This will cause huge disappointment for many children and their parents as they will be forced to look for another school”.

“The Council is trying to reduce the number of surplus school places in the City but as there are no surplus places at Whitchurch High School this proposal makes no sense at all. Whitchurch High is a popular, oversubscribed school, which has just received an excellent inspection report. It should be left alone so that it can continue to properly serve its wider catchment area”.

Heather Guy is concerned that this proposal will cause severe disruption for the school, and will reduce the range of courses that it will be able to offer in future, especially in the Sixth Form. She stated “the school currently has a large and vibrant Sixth Form of over 460 students. They can choose from a range of 45 academic and vocational courses including the Welsh Baccalaureate and the International Baccalaureate. Many of these highly valued courses will be under threat if the school is forced to reduce in size, and that can only damage the overall quality of education provided by the school”.

On 9 September Gareth Matthewson chaired a meeting for parents from Whitchurch High School, Eglwys Wen and Eglwys Newydd schools. The meeting, which was well attended, was addressed by the Chairs of Governors of the three schools. It was clear from the views of the parents who attended that the Council’s proposals will be firmly rejected by parents of Whitchurch youngsters.

It is essential that all parents make their views known to the Council.

Please see the section “How I can Help”

Details of the Council’s proposals for the Whitchurch area can be found on the school website www.whitchurchhs.com .

Parents and friends of the school who would like to get involved in the campaign should contact:

Whitchurch.high.action.group@googlemail.com