

From: LCC - Government Business / Busnes y Llywodraeth

Sent: 08 July 2026 15:50

To: @gov.wales

Cc: LCC - Government Business / Busnes y Llywodraeth **Subject:** ACTION: Hot Topics briefing for FMQs - rollover: College Closures (Ruthin) - due 1pm Thursday 9 July

1. College Closures

Lines to take

- My first concern is for the learners, families and staff affected by the closure of Ruthin. [REDACTED] I would expect [REDACTED] colleges to communicate clearly, promptly and sensitively with their communities, ensuring that learners' welfare and continuity of education remain central as the position develops.
- Any potential disruption to a child or young person's education can be deeply unsettling, and it is vital that learners' welfare, continuity of learning and, where relevant, safeguarding needs remain at the centre of all decisions.
- While the Welsh Government regulate all registered independent schools, how they govern and manage themselves is a matter for the proprietor. We will continue to monitor the position closely and will expect the proprietor to take all necessary steps to meet its legal and regulatory responsibilities.
 1. In relation to media reporting that Galaxy Global Education Limited could face an investigation, it is important to be clear that any such reference is understood in the context of insolvency and administration processes, rather than Welsh Government regulatory action. If an administrator were appointed, established protocols would include consideration of directors' conduct and whether any further review or investigation was warranted. Where evidence of misconduct is identified and enforcement action is in the public interest, the Insolvency Service would take appropriate action.
 2. Should any future planning application come forward for redevelopment of the site then it would be made to the local planning authority and be considered in line with national and local policy. It would not be appropriate for Welsh Ministers to comment on specific sites or proposals in case it should prejudice any future decision were an application to come before Welsh Ministers for determination in the future.
- Where learners have been placed at colleges by local authorities, we would expect those authorities to work closely with families and the college to ensure contingency planning is in place. Any families impacted by closures can get in touch with their local authority to discuss options for continuing their children's education.
- It is particularly important that the needs of vulnerable learners, including those with additional learning needs or care and support needs, are fully considered in any planning around the College's future.

Background

S4C reported on 8 July 2026 that Ruthin School, founded in 1284 and more than 700 years old, closed at the end of term on 3 July. The report stated that pupils and parents were surprised by the closure after its owner, Galaxy Global Education Limited, said it had been unable to identify a financially viable future for the school. The report also noted comments made in Westminster that the company could face an investigation, alongside claims made by [REDACTED] MP that the company was buying schools to secure land. Galaxy Global Education Limited denied that claim, said it had invested significantly to keep the school operating, and stated that it was working with [REDACTED] to support pupils' continued education from September. The reference to any potential investigation should be treated as relating to the Insolvency Service and administration processes, rather than Welsh Government regulatory action.