

Cabinet Minister for Education and the Welsh Language
Welsh Government
5th Floor
Tŷ Hywel
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1SN

3 July 2026

Dear Cabinet Minister,

Urgent support following the closure of Ruthin School

We write as Reform UK Members of the Senedd representing communities affected by the sudden closure of Ruthin School following the appointment of administrators.

We recognise that Ruthin School is an independent school and that some of the financial, ownership and insolvency issues involved may sit outside the direct control of the Welsh Government. However, the consequences of this closure will be felt directly in Wales, by pupils, parents, teaching and support staff, neighbouring schools and the wider community in Denbighshire and North Wales.

Our immediate concern is practical, not partisan. Children and young people must not be left in uncertainty about their education. Parents need clear guidance. Staff facing redundancy need proper support. Local maintained schools, independent schools and colleges may now face sudden additional pressure, including in relation to admissions, transport, pastoral support, examination-year pupils, additional learning needs and safeguarding.

We therefore ask that the Welsh Government urgently:

1. convenes an emergency meeting with Denbighshire County Council, the school's administrators, Estyn where appropriate, neighbouring schools and relevant education bodies;
2. establishes a clear single point of contact for affected families and staff, so that people are not left trying to navigate this situation alone;

3. works with Denbighshire County Council to assess available school places locally and regionally, including the position for pupils entering key examination years;
4. ensures that any pupils with additional learning needs, safeguarding concerns, boarding arrangements or particular pastoral needs are identified and supported during the transition;
5. considers what practical support can be offered to teaching and support staff facing redundancy, including redeployment opportunities, employment advice and links with schools experiencing recruitment pressures;
6. assesses the likely knock-on impact on transport, admissions, class sizes, subject availability and local school capacity from September; and
7. provides an urgent statement to the Senedd setting out what action has been taken and what further support will be available.

Ruthin School is not merely a private institution. It is a long-standing part of the educational and civic life of the Vale of Clwyd. Its sudden closure will cause distress and disruption well beyond the school gates.

We ask you to treat this as an urgent education and community resilience issue. Whatever the causes of the closure, the immediate priority must be to protect pupils, support staff and help local schools manage the consequences in an orderly and compassionate way.

We would be grateful for an urgent response and would welcome the opportunity to discuss this matter with you and officials at the earliest opportunity.

Yours sincerely,

Adrian Gwyn Mason MS
Louise Emery MS
Tom Montgomery MS
Reform UK Members of the Senedd