



# Diwygio deddfwriaeth ar gyfer ADY/AAA ALN/SEN Reform



# The Special Education Needs System is Changing



- **The Welsh Government is changing the way that children and young people with special educational needs (SEN) will be supported. The new system defines SEN as Additional Learning Needs (ALN). The law is changing for several reasons, but the main one is to make the process simpler and more transparent for all involved.**
- **The new law for supporting children and young people with ALN will bring about several main changes including:**
- **bringing together all current systems into a new, single system for ALN;**
- **being learner-centred;**
- **providing learners with the same rights and entitlements whatever their age or setting;**
- **improving transition between settings;**
- **providing Welsh language provision where needed; and**
- **being a fair and transparent system for all.**



# How will this benefit children/Young people/Parents and carers



- **These changes mean that children and parent(s)/ carer(s) and young people will:**
- **access the support they need earlier;**
- **be more involved in making decisions about the support they need;**
- **be able to find information more easily; and**
- **be supported if they disagree with decisions.**
- **Children and young people who have additional learning needs may get this support for longer. The new system does not give all young people with ALN an automatic right to continuous education up until the age of 25, but some young people may be able to get this support until the age of 25 if they have a reasonable need for education and/ or training.**



# The facts.....

- There will be a single legislative system relating to the support given to children and young people aged 0 to 25 years who have additional learning needs (ALN) and are receiving education and/or training.
- If a child or young person needs ALP in Welsh, this must be documented in the IDP and 'all reasonable steps' must be taken to secure the provision in Welsh.
- The ALN Code will ensure the new ALN system has a set of clear, legally enforceable parameters within which local authorities and governing bodies that are responsible for supporting children and young people with ALN must act. How will the Act affect children, young people and parents/ carers? Clear and consistent right.
- All children, their parents/carers and young people up to the age of 25 will have the right to appeal to the Education Tribunal against decisions made by a local authority or further education institute (FEI) in relation to their ALN or their IDP. Children and young people must be provided with access to independent advocacy services.
- Individual development plans (IDPs) will replace the existing variety of statutory and non-statutory plans for learners of compulsory school age and below, as well as for those learners over compulsory school age in school or further education. This will ensure consistency and continuity, and that provision and rights are protected regardless of the severity or complexity of needs.
- Children, their parents/carers and young people will be supported to understand and participate in the decisions which are taken that affect them, provided with appropriate reassurance, and offered opportunities to raise concerns and have their questions answered.
- If a child, their parents/carers or a young person is not happy with decisions that have been made about their ALN or IDP by a school, they may request that a local authority reviews or reconsiders it.
- Where necessary, IDPs will include additional learning provision (ALP) agreed by health services, social services and other services, as well as education. IDPs will contain an action plan that is clear about which agency is responsible for delivering the individual elements.



# How will it happen and when?



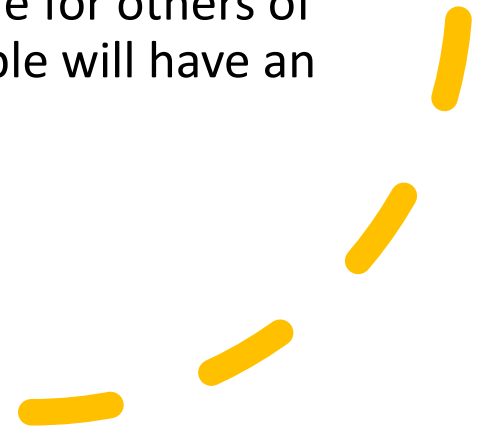
- There will be a phased approach to these changes over 3 years
- This means there will be two systems operating from Sept 2021-2024, the new ALN system and the current SEN system. *(Children and young people who currently have special educational provision through a Statement of SEN and those who are in any form of post-16 education, will not be included in the first year of the phased approach. Guidance for parents and carers about the approach for these children and young people will be provided as soon as it is available. More detail on how the system will work for supporting young people in post 16 education will also be provided).*
- For three years each local authority, Early Years setting (EY), school and Further Education (FE) setting (e.g. Post 16 College) will work hard with children and their families, young people and other professionals to ensure



# What happens now and what will change?



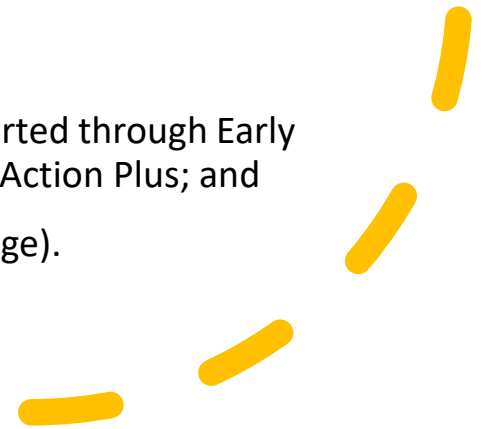
- **Children and young people with SEN or learning difficulties/disabilities might have:**
  - an individual education plan (IEP);
  - a statement; or
  - a learning and skills plan
- Many of these children and young people will continue to have their needs met through high quality and routine classroom practice. There will be a few children and young people who have a learning difficulty or disability that calls for additional learning provision (ALP). This is provision that is additional to or different from that made generally available for others of the same age. These children and young people will have an individual development plan (IDP).
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# What is an Individual Educational plan /IDP



- An individual development plan is created through collaboration with the child and parent/ carer or young person in partnership with wider agencies that may be involved such as health and social care professionals.
- The individual development plan will say what the child or young person needs to be able to learn, setting out:
  - what's important to and for them;
  - a description of their learning needs; and
  - what will be done so they are properly supported in school or college and the additional learning provision (ALP) required to meet their additional learning needs.
- This plan will be reviewed every twelve months or sooner if necessary.
- An IDP can be created and overseen (maintained) by schools, colleges or the Local Authority, but regardless of who maintains the IDP, it is still a legal document so the provision written into it must be carried out by law. Over the next three years, individual development plans (IDPs) will replace all the plans we have now including:
  - Statements of Special Educational Needs (SEN);
  - individual education plans (IEPs) for learners currently supported through Early Years Action/School Action or Early Years Action Plus/School Action Plus; and
  - Learning and Skills Plans (for learners over 16 attending college).



# What is a person centred meeting?

*Pwy sydd yma?*  
Who's here?

*Beth rydyn ni'n  
hoffi ac edmygu  
am*  
What we like and  
admire about  
PLENTYN/CHILD?

*Beth sy'n gweithio'n  
dda?*  
What's working  
well?

*Beth gallai  
gweithio'n well?*  
What could be  
working better?

*Beth sy'n bwysig i*  
What's important  
to  
PLENTYN/CHILD?

*Beth sy'n  
bwysig ar gyfer*  
What's  
important for  
PLENTYN/CHILD  
?



# What is a one page profile?

- A one-page profile is a simple summary of what is important to a child or young person and how they want to be supported. It can help them get more person-centred support to achieve their goals.
- All pupils at Ysgol Mynydd Bychan who receive Catch up interventions will have a One Page Profil

# The new 'Decision Making Duty' on the school



When a school is made aware that a child or young person at the school may have ALN, **it must decide whether that child or young person does have additional learning needs unless:**

- an IDP is already in place;
- a decision has already been made that the child or young person  
• does have ALN and their needs have not changed; or
- in the case of a young person, they do not consent to the decision being made.



# Talk to the school



- Always speak to the school's Additional Learning Needs Coordinator (ALNCo) as soon as you have worries or concerns. Share all the information you have about your child with the school and other professionals involved. They will:
- listen and take your problem seriously;
- involve you and your child and consider your views;
- explore all the issues and concerns; and
- gather information and plan a way forward with you.



# What if there is disagreement?



- Children and parent(s)/ carer(s) or young people will be involved in writing their IDP. Working in this way will provide opportunities to discuss concerns and enable issues to be addressed and settled at an early stage.
- From time to time, disagreements can arise. The new ALN system and IDP process and the duty on schools and local authorities to consider the views, wishes and feelings of the child, parents or young person is intended to help overcome many disagreements. It is essential that problems are dealt with as quickly as possible and for children, parent(s)/carer(s), and young people to have access to impartial information advice and support.
- Where a concern regarding health or social care provision is raised, a child, their parent(s)/ carer(s) or young person will be able to discuss this with the health or social care professional. Where it would be beneficial for the local health board to be involved in avoiding and resolving disagreements within education, the local authority will contact the Designated Clinical Lead Officer (DECLO) for advice.
- For children and parent(s)/ carer(s) or young person, there are a number of ways that can help prevent problems or misunderstandings arising as follows:



# Disagreement Resolution / Mediation



- If you disagree with a school or local authority decision on anything relating to your child's ALN provision or placement you should contact a named officer at the local authority Inclusion Service. They can help you unpick problems, gather further information, provide advice and support and reconsider school decisions. All local authorities have named officers who will provide advice and support and can help by providing some of the following:
- You can also contact **SNAP Cymru** who provide impartial information, advice and support to help you:



# Contact details



- School ALNCO
- [Wendywylie@ysgolmynyddbychan.cardiff.sch.uk](mailto:Wendywylie@ysgolmynyddbychan.cardiff.sch.uk)
- 02920613417
- Snap Cymru 0808 801 0608.
- Special Educational Needs Tribunal for Wales -  
Telephone: **0300 025 9800** E-mail: [Tribunal.Enquiries@gov.wales](mailto:Tribunal.Enquiries@gov.wales)
- If you are unhappy with anything, you should make your views known as soon as possible for matters to be addressed and resolved promptly and prevent problems from escalating.

