



ALN @ Marshfield



Introduction



The Welsh Government are transforming the system for supporting children and young people with additional learning needs (ALN) in Wales.

This presentation will explain why the reform is taking place and how it will impact on our school and your children.

The Welsh Government have introduced a new Act that became law on 24th January 2018.

The additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal
(Wales) Act
(ALNET Act)

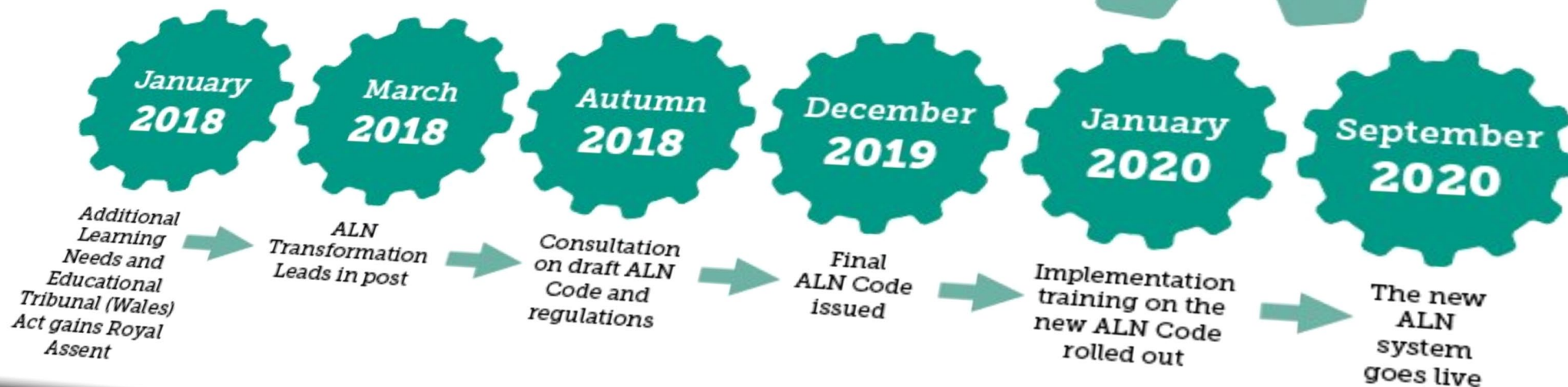


Our Vision



- We are striving to deliver a fully inclusive education system for the learners of Wales. A system where needs are identified early, addressed quickly and all learners supported to reach their potential.
- We want planning to be flexible and responsive, for our professionals to be skilled and confident in identifying needs and deploying strategies to help learners overcome their barriers to learning.
- We believe that the learner should be at the centre of everything we do and that they and their parents and carers are equal partners in their learning.(Person Centred Approach)

Additional learning needs (ALN) timeline



Why has it changed?



Reasons for the change

- The previous Special Educational Needs (SEN) system is no longer fit for purpose.
- Makes parents feel that they have to fight for the support that their child needs.
- Is not sufficiently child centred.
- Is inefficient.
- Is a barrier to early intervention.
- To ensure a bilingual system is available.



A 0–25 age range

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.

Welsh language

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.

A mandatory ALN Code

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.

Clear and consistent rights of appeal

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.

A unified plan

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.

Increased participation of children and young people

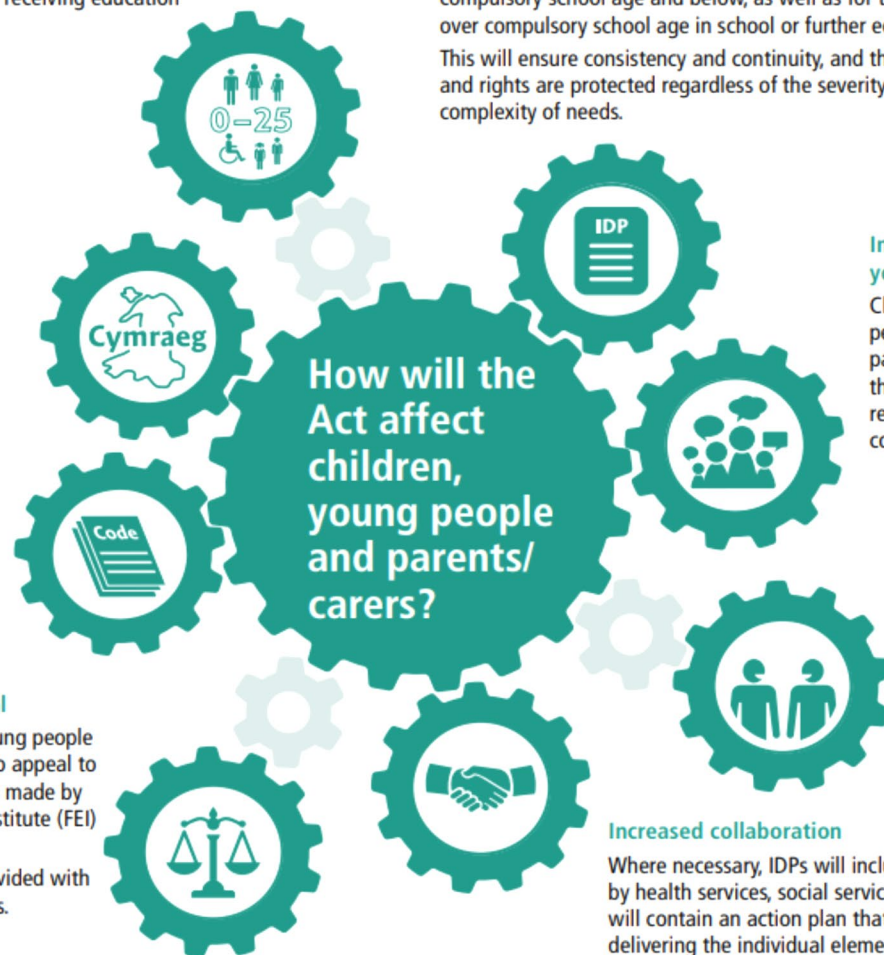
Children, their parents/carers and young people will be supported to understand and participate in the decisions which are taken that affect them, provided with appropriate reassurance, and offered opportunities to raise concerns and have their questions answered.

Avoiding disagreements and earlier disagreement resolution

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.

Increased collaboration

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.





Key features of the new ALN reform

Introduces the term additional learning needs (ALN)

Applies to a 0 to 25 age range

Provides a unified plan

Increases the participation of children and young people

Encourages high aspirations and improved outcomes

Simplifies the process

Increases collaboration

Reduces disagreements and attempts early resolution

Introduces a new ALN code

Clear and consistent rights of appeal





1. The introduction of the term additional learning needs (ALN)

This replaces the terms 'Special Educational Needs' (SEN)

2. Extending the age group 0-25

This will improve the transition between early years, schools and post 16 education.

3. A Unified Plan



A single individual development plan (IDP) will replace existing statements of special educational provision (SEN)



4. Increased participation of children And young people.

The Act requires that children and young peoples views should always be considered as part of the planning process along with those of parents/carers.



5. High aspirations and improved outcomes.

Due to the person centred approach IDPS will be meaningful and fit for purpose.



6. A simpler system

The process of producing and revising an IDP will be simpler than is currently the case with Statements of SEN.





7. Increased Collaboration



The new system will encourage improved collaboration and information sharing between health, social services and other services as well as education.

8. Avoiding disagreements and earlier disagreement resolution.



Schools should ensure children and their parents are offered opportunities to raise concerns about the content of an IDP at an early stage to prevent disagreements arising.



9 Clear and consistent rights of appeal

When disagreements about an IDP cannot be resolved at school level, parents and young people have the right to appeal to the Educational Tribunal.



10. ALN Code

The ALN code will impose mandatory requirement on the governing body of a school in respect of decisions about ALN; preparation, content, form, review and revision of IDPs and ceasing IDPs.



When will children move to the new system?

Moving children from the SEN system to the ALN system will take place over 3 school years to make sure there is enough time for nurseries, schools, PRUs and local authorities to discuss the support needed and to prepare plans.

Children will move from the SEN system to the ALN system in groups. The first group moving from the SEN system to the ALN system are children who:

- go to a local authority nursery, local authority school or PRU and have SEN with support through early years action, early years action plus, school action or school action plus
- do not have a SEN statement and are not involved in an SEN statement process (such as waiting for a decision about an SEN assessment or waiting for a decision about an SEN statement)

The table below shows when children in the first group must be moved to the ALN system based on their school year group.

Spring and summer terms of the school year 2021 to 2022	Nursery Years: 1 or 2, Year 1, Year 3, Year 5, Year 7 or Year 10
School year 2022 to 2023	Nursery Years: 1 and 2, Year 1, Year 5, Year 9 and Year 10
School year 2023 to 2024	Year 4 and Year 8 and any other pupils with SEN on 1 January 2022 who did not move to the ALN system during the first and second years of implementation

Local authority nurseries, local authority schools, PRUs and local authorities must move these children from the SEN system to the ALN system between January 2022 and August 2024.

If your child is in one of the year groups moving to the new ALN system over the spring and summer terms 2022, your local authority nursery, local authority school, pupil referral unit (PRU) or local authority will get in touch with you and provide you with information on when and how this will happen.

Other groups of children, such as those with statements of SEN, will move from the SEN system to the ALN system between September 2022 and August 2024. The Welsh Government will issue guidance about this later.

If a local authority nursery, local authority school, PRU or local authority does not move a child by 30 August in the year they are supposed to move them, the child will automatically move to the ALN system on 31 August. They will move the child by giving either an IDP notice or a no IDP notice.

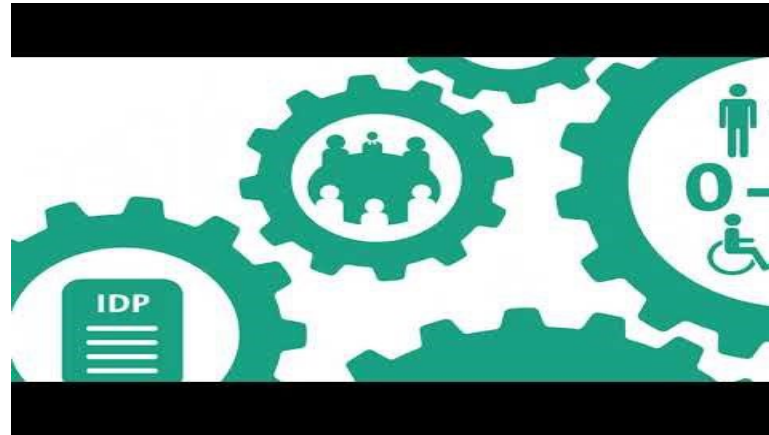
This means that if a child is, for example, due to move to the ALN system during the spring and summer terms of the school year 2021 to 2022 and they have not had an IDP notice or a no IDP notice by 30 August they will move to the ALN system on 31 August 2022.

The local authority nursery, local authority school or the PRU must then make a decision about if the child has ALN and, if required, prepare an IDP within 35 school days from 31 August 2022. A local authority has 12 weeks from 31 August 2022 to make a decision and, if required, prepare an IDP.



In Summary.....

- ALN not SEN
- IDPs not Statements/ IEPs
- Child centred (Person Centred Planning)
- Multi-agency approach



Online Links

www.gov.uk/ALN

www.assembly.wales

www.ALN@marshfieldprimary.co.uk



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YN
FAWR

