



Inclusion

Additional Learning Needs (ALN)

A guide for children and young people

Introduction

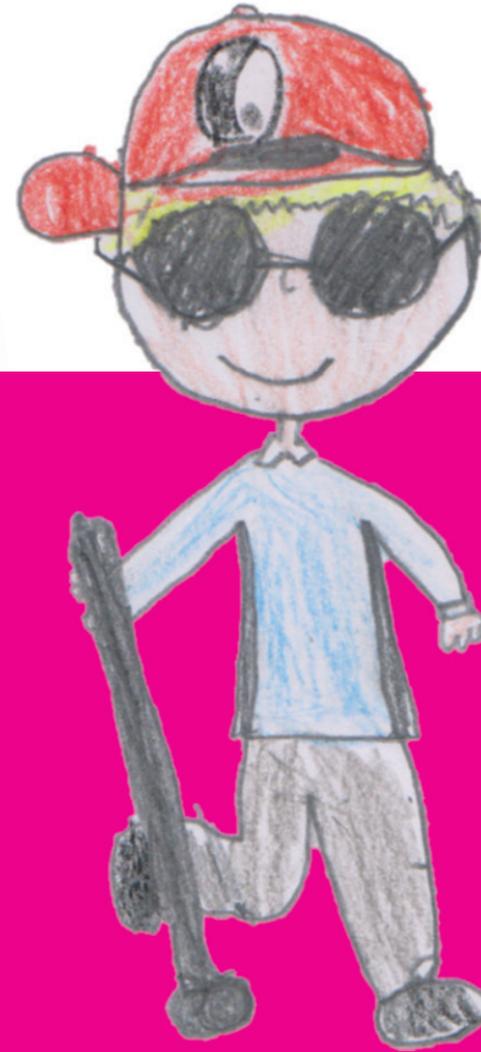
Things are changing!

Things are changing for children and young people who have Special Educational Needs.

We won't now hear Special Educational Needs, but will hear and use Additional Learning Needs (ALN).

It will take a while for all of the changes to happen. They started happening in September 2021 and will take 3 years.

Everybody wants us to do really well, and the new system will expect us to have great ideas for our future, and it will make sure that we are given the best support to help us to make our dreams come true.



We all need support with some things in school. Some of us need to use equipment like Numicon and word mats to help us. Some of us join other children in a small group to have some extra help with reading, writing or Maths.

Different schools help their children and young people in different ways.

Most of us do really well with this kind of help.

However, a small number of us, will have ALN, which means we will need Additional Learning Provision (ALP). ALP is on top of and different from what is there to support everyone.



So...

this means that...

Since September 2021, Additional Learning Needs has been used instead of Special Educational Needs, for those of us aged 0-25 who need ALP to help us to make progress. We may need this because we have difficulty learning or have a disability.

Of course, we all learn in different ways, and the kind of support we need often changes. We will take part in talks about our progress, and what kind of support we will have now and in the future.



If we feel that we may have ALN we should tell a trusted grown up at home or at school.

Our school will then start to think about whether or not we have ALN. This will take 35 days, unless our school needs some help from other people, like the health service or local authority. If they do then it can take another 12 weeks for them to decide.



Some things we may hear are...

Universal Provision

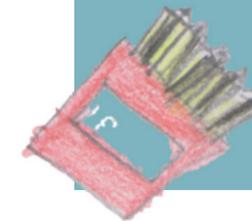
Universal Provision is the name of the support that we can all have in school, if we need it. This could be support in class, in a small group or just for us on our own.

Additional Learning Provision (ALP)

If we are having problems at school then we may need some extra/different support to help us to make progress. If we do, then this is called ALP. If we have ALP, this means that we have ALN and will need an Individual Development Plan.



Individual Development Plan (IDP)



An IDP replaces a Statement of Special Educational Needs and in some cases an Individual Education Plan (IEP). If we need one of these then everyone will help to write it, but they must remember that we are the most important person here.

At least once a year everyone will get together, including us and our parents or carers, to look at the IDP and make any changes. If anyone feels that we need to get together before that, then we can.

It is important that our IDP says what our Additional Learning Needs are, what we want to achieve and has targets to help us to do this.

Most of the time our IDP will be written by our school, but sometimes the local authority will need to write it.

Some things we may hear are...

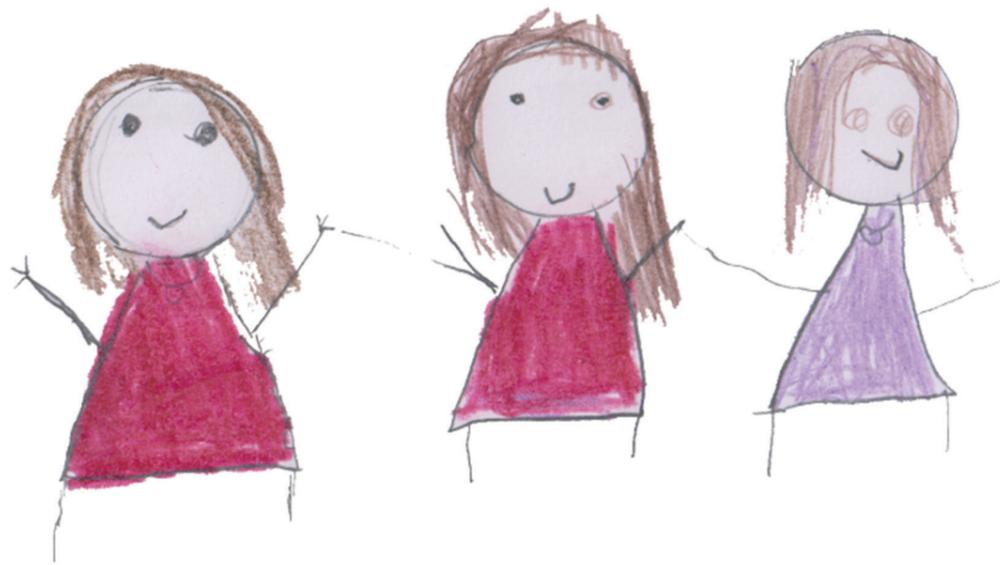
Person-Centred Practice

This is so important and ALNET and the ALN Code for Wales makes this very clear.

This is all about remembering that we are the most important person, when other people are thinking about what we need, and planning what to do to help us.

We must be involved in saying what is important to and for us, and in planning our support.

We will share our hopes and dreams and these have to be thought about.



When everyone gets together to review our IDP this should also be done in a person-centred way to help us achieve our goals, with targets to help us do this.

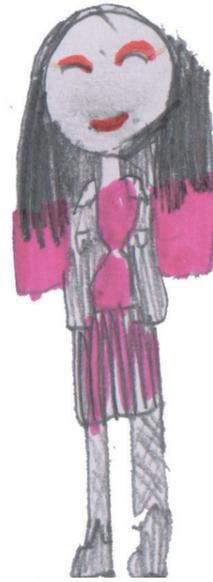


What if we are not happy?



If we are not happy with what our school has decided, we should ask to talk about it with them. If we are still not happy then we or our parents/carers can ask the local authority to think about it for us. We can send an email to: ALN@flintshire.gov.uk.

It can take up to seven weeks for the local authority to do this. They will think about all the information the school has given them, and decide whether or not they agree.



If the local authority disagrees, they can tell our school to write and take care of an IDP for us, or change the one that they have already written.

If we are not happy with what the local authority decides we can appeal to the Educational Tribunal (Wales).

We can find out more from this website:

[www.https://educationtribunal.gov.wales](https://educationtribunal.gov.wales)

If we need help we can contact

SNAP Cymru:

Online Contact:

<https://www.snapcymru.org/contact>

Telephone: 0808 801 0608

Mobile: 0345 120 373



**Leaflet completed by
Ysgol Bryn Coch
School Council members in
consultation with their peers**