



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

### A 0–25 age range

Local authorities will be responsible for learners with additional learning needs (ALN) from 0 to 25, ensuring they can access suitable education and/or training, including compulsory education and specialist post-16 education or training where necessary.

A new local authority Early Years Additional Learning Needs Lead Officer role will contribute to improving early identification and intervention in relation to ALN, and ensuring better planning for future provision.

### Welsh language

Local authorities will have a duty to take all reasonable steps to secure provision in Welsh where required and, when reviewing IDPs, to consider the sufficiency of Welsh language additional learning provision.

### A mandatory ALN Code

The ALN Code will impose mandatory requirements on local authorities in respect of:

- information and advice services
- independent advocacy services
- the preparation, content, form, review and revision of IDPs
- ceasing to maintain IDPs.

### 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 in relation to their ALN or their IDP.

Local authorities must provide access to independent advocacy services.

### Increased participation of children and young people

Local authorities must provide children, young people and others with information and advice about ALN and the new system, and ensure that it is accessible for all who need it.



### 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, and those over compulsory school age in school or further education.

Local authorities will normally only prepare and maintain an IDP in instances where the child or young person's needs are more severe or complex. Ordinarily IDPs will be the responsibility of the maintained school or further education institution.

### Avoiding disagreements and earlier disagreement resolution

Local authorities must make arrangements for avoiding and resolving disagreements.

If disagreements arise, local authorities' arrangements should ensure they are resolved at the earliest opportunity and at the most local level.

### Increased collaboration

Where a local authority requests help or information from another body in the exercise of any of their ALN functions, that body should comply with the request.