



# Parent Partnership Service



## The Additional Learning Needs (ALN)

### Transformation Process

The way children who receive additional support for their learning in Wales is changing. New legislation including the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (ALNET) Act 2018, and the ALN Code and supporting Regulations will be implemented from September 2021.

The impact of Covid has resulted in Welsh Government making some changes for implementing the new system, based on what is reasonably deliverable in the current circumstances.

#### Who will these changes be affecting?

In February 2021, Welsh Government announced that from 1 September 2021, the ALN system will commence ONLY for children of compulsory school age and below who:

- attend maintained schools in Nursery Years 1 and 2 and Year 1, Year 3, Year 5, Year 7 and Year 10) who have special educational provision via school action or school action plus;
- are detained; and
- do not have special educational needs on or before that date, regardless of their year group or setting - including those that may attend an EOTAS setting, an independent school or who are electively home educated.

#### What about children with a Statement?

This means that children who currently have special educational provision via a Statement of SEN, and those who are in any form of post-16 education, will **not be** included in the first year of implementation.

#### What does 'emerging needs' mean?

Children who are 'newly' raised as possibly having Additional Learning Needs, can be described as having 'emerging needs.' Parents as well as professionals can raise



concerns about a child having ALN. Any children for whom ALN concerns are raised from September 2021 will be assessed and supported by the 'new' ALN system.

### **What about the SEN Code of Practice?**

Over the ALN Transformation period, learners who are NOT included in the groups above AND who are already identified as having ALN, will **continue** to be supported by the existing legislation as set out in the Education Act and the SEN Code of Practice. This means that over the 3 year transformation period, the 2 sets of legislation will run 'side by side'. Therefore, learners who have existing Statements, and who are not in the year groups identified above, and others, will continue to have their provision protected and supported by the SEN Code and the existing legislation.

### **Statutory Roles**

The ALNET Act calls for 3 key statutory roles within the new legislation including: the Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator (ALNCo), the Designated Education Clinical Lead Officer (DECLO) and the Early Years Additional Learning Needs Lead Officer (EY ALN LO).

There is more information about these roles in further Parent Partnership leaflets, available by contacting:

pps@pembrokeshire.gov.uk

01437 776354

Further information is available on the Welsh Government website  
<https://gov.wales/additional-learning-needs-special-educational-needs>

## **Pembrokeshire Parent Partnership**

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