



## WHAT IS CHANGING?

Welsh Government are changing the way that children and young people will be supported by replacing the special educational needs (SEN) system with the additional learning needs (ALN) system.

Children and young people with SEN will move from the SEN system to the ALN system between January 2022 and August 2024.

Children and young people who have ALN, as defined by the ALN ET Act, will have a new plan called an individual development plan (an IDP).

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ALN IMPLEMENTATION PLEASE CONTACT YOUR SCHOOL OR LOCAL AUTHORITY

YOUR SCHOOL AND LA WILL ALSO HAVE INFORMATION LEAFLETS AND A WEBSITE WITH INFORMATION ON THE NEW ALN SYSTEM AND HOW IT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED

Welsh Government –  
[www.gov.wales/ALN](http://www.gov.wales/ALN)



ALN IMPLEMENTATION

## MOVING TO THE NEW ALN SYSTEM

AGUIDE  
FOR PARENTS  
AND FAMILIES

# HOW WILL MY CHILD MOVE TO THE ALN SYSTEM?

Children will move from the SEN system to the ALN system in groups, when their school, PRU gives them an IDP notice.

Local authorities (LAs) will give IDP notices to children who have complex needs, children who are looked after and children who are registered at more than one education place (such as a PRU and a school).

An IDP notice means a school, PRU or local authority have decided your child has ALN and an IDP to support his/her learning is needed.

Your child, who may have had SEN previously, may be given a no IDP notice.

The no IDP notice means the school, PRU or local authority have decided that your child does not have ALN and an IDP is not required

Children may be given a no IDP notice because their needs have changed.

## WHEN WILL MY CHILD MOVE TO THE ALN SYSTEM?

This timetable must be followed when moving the first group of children from the SEN system to the ALN system

Spring and summer terms, 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 (2022 to 2023 mandated years)
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 (2023 to 2024 mandated years)

## HOW YOU CAN ASK FOR A MOVE TO THE ALN SYSTEM

Children and their parents can ask to move to the ALN system at any time after 1 January 2022.

Children and their parents can do this by asking the school, PRU or local authority to issue an IDP notice. This can be done in writing – such as in an email or message – or verbally – such as in person or a phone call.

## WHAT IF I DON'T AGREE WITH A DECISION?

Discuss any issues with your school and ALNCO as soon as possible

If you are still not happy you may contact your Local Authority. Local Authorities can help resolve disputes in a number of ways

LAs will make advice and guidance available to you and your child, including independent advice. LAs will make independent advice available to a young person through advocacy services

All children, their parents or young people can ask the local authority to look again at an IDP made by a school. The local authority will have 7 weeks to do this.

If you are still not satisfied with any decision made you can follow the LA complaint's process. You can also appeal to the Education Tribunal. Contact your LA for more information.

**SNAP Cymru -**  
[www.snapcymru.org/help-for-families](http://www.snapcymru.org/help-for-families)

**NYAS -** [www.nyas.net](http://www.nyas.net)