Additional Learning Needs (ALN) Reform Time Frame



When will the changes take place?

Children and young people with Special Educational Needs (SEN) will all move from the SEN system to the Additional Learning Needs (ALN) system between January 2022 and August 2025. From January 1st 2022, Individual Development Plans (IDPs) will begin to replace plans that currently support children with SEN.

The Welsh Government has set out the arrangements for the first year of implementing the ALN changes in new guidance:

A technical guide to implementing the Act during the first year of implementation (2021 to 2022)

A practitioner guide to the implementation of the Act during 2021 to 2022

These documents set out the arrangements for the first year of implementing the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 (the ALN Act), including a timetable for specific groups of children to move to the new ALN system.

Children and Young People Moving to the New System

From September 1st 2021.

From September 'new children' with ALN will move to the new system.

From January the 1st 2022

Children who attend a maintained school (including a PRU) and who have already identified SEN, will begin to move to the new system. Not all year groups will transfer to the new system at the same time.

Children and young people will be moved to the new system gradually following this timetable:

Spring and Summer Terms, School Year 2021 to 2022

- Nursery Years 1 or 2, Year 1
- Year 3 ,Year 5, Year 7 and Year 10

School Year 2022 to 2023

- Any children who were in Nursery, Year 1, Year 3, Year 5, Year 7 and Year 10 in 2021/22 who were not moved to the ALN system during 2021/22)
- Children with provision via statements:
- Nursery, Reception, Year 6, Year 10 and Year 11.

School Year 2023 to 2024

- Nursery, year 2, Year 4, Year 6, Year 8 and Year 10
- Children with provision via statements:
- Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5, Year 6, Year 8, Year 9

School Year 2024 – 2025

• Year 10