

EDUCATION & CHILDREN SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

6th JUNE 2019

Additional Learning Needs (ALN) Transformation Programme Update

To consider and comment on the following issues:

- To note the contents of the report and matters arising as a result of implementation of the ALN Transformation Programme across Carmarthenshire schools.

Reasons:

- To enable and support members of the Scrutiny Panel to undertake their key role in monitoring progress and supporting future priorities as a result of the issues raised.

To be referred to the Executive Board for decision: NO

Executive Board Member Portfolio Holder: Cllr. Glynog Davies

Directorate: Education & Children	Designations:	Tel Nos. / E-Mail Addresses:
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**EDUCATION & CHILDREN
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
6th JUNE 2019**

**Additional Learning Needs (ALN) Transformation
Programme Update**

The ALN Transformation Programme update aims to provide Scrutiny Panel members with an overview of content and developments within this crucial area of work across our schools and communities.

Background and context:

The Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Bill was unanimously passed by Welsh Government on 12 December 2017. The Act will be supported by regulations and a new ALN Code, both of which will be revised and then consulted on during the Autumn 2018. They will then be laid before Welsh Government and published. It is anticipated that both will be in place by the end of 2019 following Assembly scrutiny.

Kirsty Williams, Cabinet Secretary for Education stated ...

'The Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Bill is at the heart of our programme to transform the education and support for children and young people with additional learning needs in Wales. To make sure stakeholders are fully involved in developing and delivering our reforms, we have consulted widely about how we should implement the new additional learning needs system.' (December 2017)

Three overarching aims of the Bill:

- **A unified legislative framework** to support all children of compulsory school age or below with ALN, and young people with ALN in school or further education (FE) (rather than two separate systems of SEN up to age 16 and Learning Skills Plans for post-16/19, both of which are currently covered by separate legislation);
- **An integrated, collaborative** process of assessment, planning and monitoring which facilitates **early, timely and effective** interventions (including duties on health boards and local authorities to collaborate with each other through a statutory Individual Development Plan for each learner with ALN);
- **A fair and transparent system** for providing information and advice, and for resolving concerns and appeals (including requiring local authorities to make arrangements for avoiding and resolving disagreements, revising a system found by previous reviews to be 'complex, bewildering and adversarial')

ALN Transformation Timeline:

Additional learning needs (ALN) timeline



#additionallearningneeds

#ALNWales

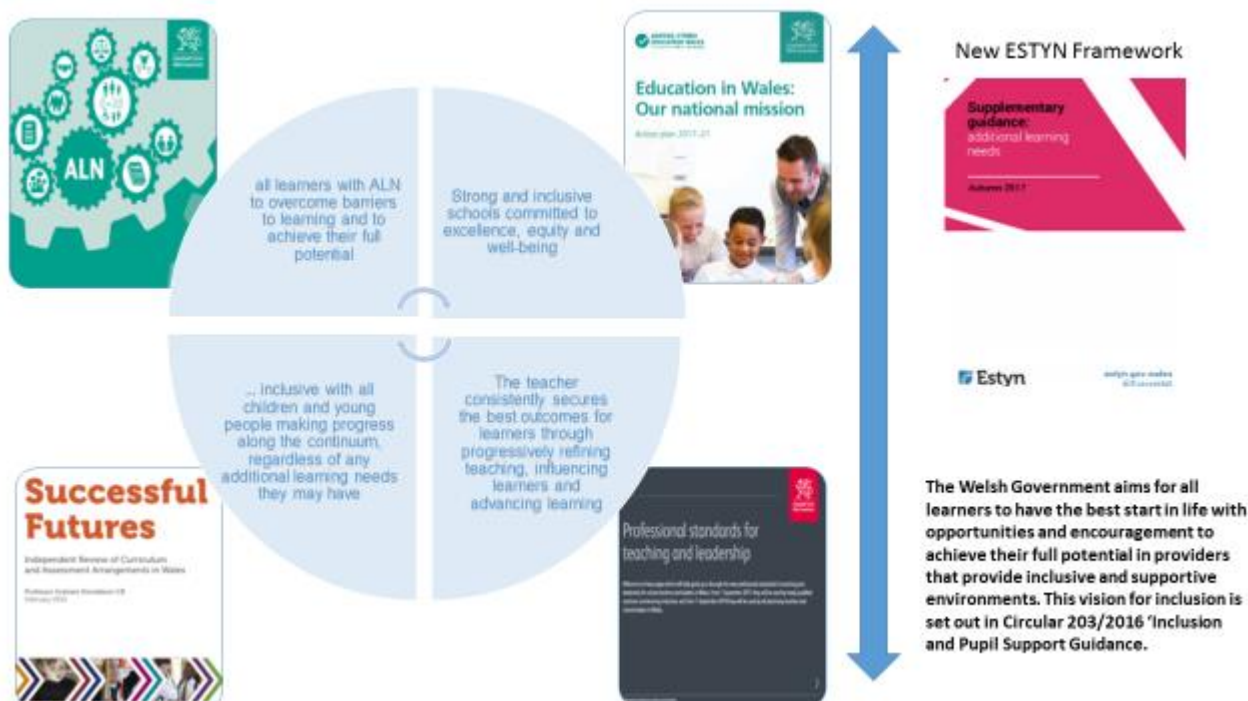
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gov.wales/ALN

W3300

ALN Transformation - an integral part of our provision:

We are currently working within an exciting and evolving climate of curriculum provision and learning opportunities for all children and young people across Wales. The ALN Transformation agenda has an integral part to play within this development, sitting firmly at the root of excellent teaching and learning practice. The key links to current strategic documentation are demonstrated as follows:



Regional working in support of Transformation:

As part of the wider ALN Transformation Programme the Welsh Government initiated a two year, pre-legislative grant to support collaborative projects across each of the four

consortia. The key purpose is to develop innovative practice in readiness for the roll-out of legislative changes. Carmarthenshire officers have contributed greatly and benefited from engagement with this model.

The Carmarthenshire perspective:

We are proud of our progress and collaborative approach to enhancing ALN provision across our schools. We have a solid foundation of skills and experience which supports the Transformation agenda well. We have focused successfully on:

1. Person Centred Planning:

- Conferences for **Senior Managers, Headteachers, ALNCOs**
- Termly input through ALNCo* Forum (*Additional Learning Needs Coordinator)
- EP Coaching Model followed by Inclusion Department support **directly to schools**
- Champions and Coaches Training: Six 'Champions' and forty 'Coaches'

2. One Page Profiles (1PPs):

- Significant support **over the past 6 years** has been given to schools to develop '1PPs' through training and the ALNCo Forum
- All schools should already be undertaking '1PP' with individuals/clusters of children as a minimum **and should have plans in place for embedding practice across the whole school**
- 1PPs sit under the context of personalised learning as set out by Donaldson, Foundation Phase agenda and revised Estyn Framework
- ALNCOs have received extensive training through the ALNCo Forum
- IDPs will contain the child's 1PPs

3. Individual Development Plans (IDPs):

- Well developed within Carmarthenshire through its initial piloting within the Glan y Môr Family of Schools
- Standard format will be issued by WG possibly based on the Gwynedd Model (the Carmarthenshire model is aligned to this)
- A significant number of children already have IDPs within Carmarthenshire
- Build into the statutory process
- All schools have received training and support (schools can access resources/ practical support through Learning Wales Website / Helen Sanderson Website / plus ongoing support available from the department)
- ALNCOs are now on a journey to refine their practices and supporting teaching staff to develop across the school

4. Developing the role of the ALNCo:

The new Bill sets out clear expectations for the role of the ALNCo. The role will be mandatory for every school set at a senior leadership position. In partnership with schools, the Local Authority has been supporting and enhancing the role of the ALNCo through

packages of training and opportunities to share, resources and provision mapping tools.

- ALNCoS offered significant training on: PCPs, 1PPs, IDPs, Provision Mapping
- PCP Coaching model
- Support and training from their EP (Educational Psychologist)

5. Additional Learning Provision – ‘Provision Mapping Tool’:

An electronic ‘provision mapping tool’ has been devised by our Team to enable the ALNCo to set up a recording system (identifies provision within the school, tracks’ pupils’ progress, measures effectiveness at each stage of intervention).

- Carmarthenshire is leading within ERW on the development of this work
- Tried and tested successfully within a small cluster of schools
- All schools are already expected to map provision for all areas of ALN at universal, targeted and specific levels of need

6. Working with Families to create a less-adversarial system:

- The development of high quality help and advice which is easily accessible to families is a key element of our service. We feel this has been further strengthened by the new Bill.
- Carmarthenshire offers families readily available/ face-to-face support from our two Family Liaison Officers. They are assigned to the Primary and Secondary sector. Their role is to provide advice and support regarding SEN processes and range of services available. They act as an advocate for parents and the voice of the child.
- Our Family Liaison Officers attend third sector organisation events, facilitate network groups and workshops for families across the Carmarthenshire area.

A useful link:

Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 – Act Summary:

<https://seneddresearch.blog/2018/03/13/new-publication-additional-learning-needs-and-education-tribunal-wales-act-2018-act-summary/>

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report.

Signed: **Andi Morgan** Head of Education Services

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below:

Signed: **Andi Morgan** Head of Education Services

1. Local Member(s) – N/A
2. Community / Town Council – N/A
3. Relevant Partners – N/A
4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations – N/A

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:
THERE ARE NONE

Title of Document	File Ref No. / Locations that the papers are available for public inspection