

**EDUCATION, YOUNG PEOPLE & THE WELSH LANGUAGE
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
5 MAY 2023**

ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS UPDATE

Purpose:

At the request of the Scrutiny Committee the report provides information pertaining to the progress made in regard to the implementation of the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act and the areas of best practice with pupils with Additional Learning Needs.

The Scrutiny Committee is asked to:-

Review and assess the information contained in Report and provide any recommendations, comments, or advice to the Cabinet Member and / or Director prior to the report's consideration by Cabinet.

Reason(s)

To provide information pertaining to the progress in regard to the implementation of the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act and areas of best practice for pupils with Additional Learning Needs.

Cabinet Member Portfolio Holder:- Cllr. Glynog Davies, Cabinet Member for Education and Welsh Language

Directorate: Education and Children's Services

Name of Head of Service:
Aneirin Thomas

Report Author:
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Designations:

Head of Strategy and Learner Support

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS UPDATE

SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report provides an evaluation on-

- the progress of transition from Statements of Educational Needs to Additional Learning Needs
- an update on how additional educational needs are categorised and
- feedback on the level of success, to include overview of the areas working well and those that need addressing and statistics (how many are in classrooms and how many are needing unit support).

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED ?

YES

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: Aneirin Thomas

Head of Education and Inclusion

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

We are required to implement the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act which is the new statutory framework for supporting children and young people with Additional Learning Needs (ALN). This replaces existing legislation surrounding Special Educational Needs (SEN) and the assessment of children and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities (LDD) in Post-16 education and training. The Act also continues the existence of the Special Educational Needs Tribunal for Wales, which provides for children, their parents and young people to appeal against decisions made by the Local Authority in relation to their or their child's ALN but renames it the Education Tribunal for Wales.

Finance

As noted in the report, developing suitable provision to meet the needs of learners is placing additional pressure on both Local Authority and school budgets. We are committed to ensuring inclusion and continue to invest in local provision. The local authority and schools have had to set up additional resource bases and employ additional staff to meet the needs of learners. Demand has risen post-Covid however the service is doing all it can to manage demand and ensure suitable provision is in place.

Risk Management Issues

There are risks associated in failing to meet the needs of learners and learners/parents/carers have recourse to the Education Tribunal for Wales to address their concerns. We continue to develop local provision and supporting in meeting the diverse needs of our learners.

Staffing Implications

There is a comprehensive training programme to ensure that our staff are well equipped to support learners with a range of ALN and ensuring our commitment to inclusion and meeting the needs of our learners, whenever possible, in Carmarthenshire.

**CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER(S)
AWARE/CONSULTED- YES**

**Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information
List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:**

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act	Online	Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act GOV.WALES