



ALN Policy
2023-2024

ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS

At Awel y Môr Primary school, we operate an inclusive policy with regard to Additional Learning Needs (ALN) provision where all pupils are given equal access to every aspect of school life.

This document has been produced to help with the decision-making processes for our school, parents and most importantly our pupils in relation to children and young people with Additional Learning Needs (ALN) under the new Statutory Framework for Wales (The Additional Learning Needs Code for Wales 2021). It has also been produced to help outline what all professionals, parents/carers and, most importantly, our pupils can expect from each other. Guidance from the ALN Code and NPT's Principles and Expectations have informed this document. For further information, please refer to the hyperlinks at the end of this document.

Awel y Mor Primary school continues to use the SEN policy for those on the SEN system.

Roles and Responsibilities for ALN

Awel y Môr Primary school, has designated one teacher who has responsibility for co-ordinating provision for learners of ALN. They are known as the Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator, or ALNCo. The ALNCo will ensure the needs of all learners with ALN are identified and met within Awel y Môr Primary school,.

Our ALNCO within the school is:

- Mrs Lisa Whiteman

There is also a team of Teaching Assistants (TA's) who are involved in providing a range of interventions for pupils. These interventions are tailored to meet the specific needs of pupils, which will usually include literacy and numeracy interventions, as well as a range of other interventions to address other needs e.g. Precision Teaching.

Additional Learning Needs Reform in Wales

Additional Learning Needs as we know it is changing. The Additional Learning Needs Code for Wales came into effect as of September 2021. We are continuing to adapt in line with these changes in a number of ways. We recognise the importance of parents as stakeholders in their children's education and we believe that children should be at the heart of all we do, voicing their opinion whenever possible.

Individual Development Plans (IDP'S)

Previously a child would have had an IEP outlining targets and support or interventions. However, this will now be changing and identified children will be supported through an Individual Development Plan (IDP).

What is an IDP?

The Individual Development Plan (IDP) is a single plan that is put in place after determining that a pupil has ALN. The IDP includes a description of the child/young person's ALN, and the Additional Learning Provision (ALP) put in place in order to meet those needs must be noted.

Decision making and the IDP process.

Following the Local Authority's Principles and Expectations document, we would follow the decision making process and follow the 2-step approach in the ALN Code to determine if a child has ALN.

6.0 Definition of ALN - a 2 step approach

To establish whether a child has ALN, the following tests must be applied.

Test 1 - Does the child or young person have a learning difficulty or disability?

A child or young person of compulsory school age or above has a learning difficulty or disability if he or she—

(a) has a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age,

or

(b) has a disability for the purposes of the Equality Act 2010 which prevents or hinders him or her from making use of facilities for education or training of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream maintained schools or mainstream institutions in the further education sector.

If the answer to either (or both) question is 'yes', it is necessary to proceed to apply the second test. If the answer is 'no' to both questions, the child or young person does not have ALN.

Test 2 - Does the learning difficulty or disability call for Additional Learning Provision (ALP)?

The second test is whether the child or young person's learning difficulty or disability calls for Additional Learning Provision (ALP). ALP can take many forms; it might include any support that takes place inside or outside the classroom, where it is additional to, or different from, that made generally for others of the same age. ALP might also be delivered in settings outside of the school or in some circumstances and/or by external professionals.

If an ALN has been identified a Person Centred Review will be carried out to ensure that learners and their families are placed at the centre of planning, reviewing and making decisions about what matters in their lives, and the Additional Learning provision (ALP), they require in order to achieve their aspirations

Usually, everyone who works with the child will be invited to attend, e.g. parents, child/young person, ALNCo, Educational Psychologist, Health, Teaching Assistant, Class Teacher, Head of Year, i.e. any professional who is contributing to the child/young person's support.

What will happen at the meeting?

At the Person Centred Review, a facilitator will guide everyone through the process in order to contribute information and agree on person centred outcomes and actions.

You will be asked to discuss...

- What you appreciate about your child
- Your aspirations for your child
- What matters to your child
- What matters for your child
- The best way to support your child
- What works and what does not work from your point of view
- Any questions you may have

At the end of the review

By the end of the Review, the facilitator will ensure that everyone has agreed on Person Centred outcomes, and on actions that need to be achieved. The aim of the Action Plan is to ensure that everyone can see what needs to be done to support your child/young person to learn and fulfil their dreams.

The Individual Development Plan will say...

- What support your child needs to learn and develop.
- Who is responsible for ensuring that he/she receives the support they needs.
- Where they will receive this support.
- How we will know if the support has helped your child in the way it was intended.

What's next?

Following the review, the Plan is shared with all partners. This will be a live electronic document that will be reviewed regularly as required and every 12 months at least. Access to the electronic document will be granted to everyone involved with the child.

ALN Explained

The four main areas of need associated with additional learning needs (ALN) are:

- **Communication and Interaction** e.g. Speech Sound Disorder
- **Cognition and Learning** e.g. Dyslexia
- **Social, emotional and mental health** e.g. ASD
- **Sensory and /or physical needs** e.g. Hypermobility

Pupils are identified as having ALN if they have a learning difficulty that requires additional learning provision (ALP) which is 'additional to' and 'different from' that which is provided across the school. Information is collected through a number of different communication routes, including transition between classes, teacher feedback to the ALNCO, parental concerns and regular assessments to track progress in literacy and numeracy skills. Once identified as having a barrier to learning which impacts upon the progress they make, pupils will be closely monitored using a graduated response of provision suited to their individual need. A one page profile will be created and reviewed regularly. These documents are designed with the pupil at the centre and are carried out using a person centred approach. Parents are also involved in the creation and reviewing of these documents, which will be shared with parents during parents evenings / arranged meetings.

Awel y Môr Primary school, has a team of trained Teaching Assistants (TAs) who are involved in providing a range of interventions which focus on a number of different areas of need. Pupils who have a statement of special educational need may also, if written into their statement, receive support from TAs.

Inclusive Learning Provision (which is available to all pupils)

Speech Link

Language Link

Spirals

Daily reading

Precision Teaching

Differentiated work

Additional phonics

Smart Moves

Teoderescu

Wellbeing

ELSA

Nurture

School Based Counsellor Language Link

Forest Schools

Additional Learning Provision (ALP) (targeted intervention)

Sustained and targeted intervention using ILP.

PECs

Working with external agencies

Wellbeing team including Cynydd workers

Speech and language

O.T.

Physiotherapy

N.D. team

ASD Advisory team

Specific Literacy Difficulty team

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At Awel y Mor Primary school,, we will keep our ILP and ALP under review on a regular basis.

Useful Links

ALN Code NPT Local Authority Principles and Expectations Document (see attached).

Signed on behalf of the governing body:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Crowley'.

Cllr Matthew Crowley

Chair of Governors

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Greasley'.

Sam Greasley

Head Teacher

8.11.23

To be reviewed:

Autumn 2024