

The Welsh Government (2018b) discuss the Additional Learning Needs Transformation Programme which has been streamlined to develop into a more unified system so that it will serve to support children and young people aged from 0 to 25 years old who have additional learning needs. The programme now endeavours to ensure that all learners' needs are met so that they may achieve their full potential. The new programme also stands in support of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and aims to place the opinions, wishes and most importantly, needs, of learners at the centre of decision-making. The publication also outlines the significance of effective early interventions and the emphasis on the ability to identify signs and symptoms of ALN so as to be able to put in place an effective strategy. However, schools are responsible for ensuring that appropriate training is provided to teachers and practitioners so that they may develop their understanding and knowledge of ALN in order to support the relevant children.

The Welsh Government (2018c) states that schools must do more to recognise if a child in their care has Additional Learning Needs. They must ensure that an Additional Learning Needs coordinator is assigned to replace previously known SEN coordinators. In order to support the child and their parents, schools should ensure that opportunities are given to discuss concerns, strategies, and action plans as early as possible. The school must; identify whether a child has Additional Learning Need, put into place an IDP and refer decisions to a local authority such as health services or social services if the support needed is beyond the school's remit or ability. Snap Cymru (2014) have identified the benefits that an IDP can offer for children with Additional Learning Needs. For children, or young people, within education between the ages of 0 and 25 who have been diagnosed with having an additional learning need or require additional learning assistance, they will have in place an IDP. The improved legislation will serve to better support learners who require a more holistic approach to their support, and will place them firmly at the centre of decision-making.

The Welsh Government (2018f) has stated that significant change is necessary so as to offer better support and protection of children who are in need of increased assistance due to any ALN. The law regarding the education for children with additional needs is over 30 years old. The Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act was officially modernised in 2015 and has seen regular updates, with the most recent update coming in 2018. The updated law instructs the requirement for children with additional learning needs to have an IDP developed for them, a document which will specify what needs must be supported to allow them to learn efficiently. The IDP will be created with the support of the school, the child, the child's parents, and a dedicated healthcare representative. The Additional Learning Needs Transformation Programme (2018) explains the effects that the new government enforcements will have on schools in order to support the children in their care who have ALN. Educators must work closely with healthcare professionals in addition to other organisations and agencies to place the child's best interests at the core of decision-making. Schools must also endeavour to ensure children are being fully supported and that their Additional Learning Need is of minimal detriment to their education. Change was needed in order to; provide appropriate guidance to schools to identify and support children's specific needs, identify needs early, support children's needs and rights, and also to ensure that children with additional learning needs are never excluded from any scholastic activity.