

Ceredigion ALN Transformation Newsletter for Parents

Summer 2019



Parent Partnership Service

Ceredigion provides a service for parents and carers to seek advice and information for children and young people with Special Educational/Additional Learning Needs. It is a free and confidential service which provides impartial information, advice and support to parents and carers of children with Special Educational/Additional Learning Needs. The SEN/ALN Pupil and Family Support Co-ordinator, Delor Harvey is available to discuss matters over the telephone or meet with parents/carers. A Parent Drop in session is also held once a month, where parents/carers of pupils with additional learning needs can call in at Canolfan Rheidol, Aberystwyth for information.

Contact Delor Harvey: by telephone 01545 570881 or email pps@ceredigion.gov.uk

For concerns within your child's school we would in the first instance encourage parents to contact the Special educational/Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo/ALNCo) within their child's school in order to discuss any concerns. If you feel that you still have concerns and queries after talking to the school SENCo/ALNCo, please contact the SEN/ALN Pupil and Family Support Co-ordinator using the above contact details.

We are also committed to supporting families through SNAP Cymru – an all Wales children's charity who work with families on issues regarding Special Educational/Additional Learning Needs (SEN/ALN) and disabilities. SNAP offer impartial, accurate information, advice and support.

Contact SNAP by telephone on: 0808 801 0608 or email enquiries@snapcymru.org

Draft ALN code Consultation

The Draft ALN code was released back in December, and was out for consultation until the end of March. During this time many consultation events took place throughout Ceredigion by the ALN transformation team which was very much appreciated. All responses were collated and sent back on behalf of Ceredigion to the Welsh Government. The responses have been collated and a summary is available to view at:

<https://gov.wales/draft-additional-learning-needs-code>

We are expecting the final draft code to be released in December 2019.

Person Centred Practice Training (PCP)

Person Centred Practice, which puts the child/young person at the centre of all discussions and decisions regarding identifying and meeting their needs will form a central part of Welsh Government's ALN reforms. In January many SENCo's (**Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators**) as well as the ALN (**Additional Learning Needs**) Transformation team completed the Helen Sanderson Associates Person Centred Practice 'Train the Trainer Programme'. Since February many PCP two day training programmes have taken place throughout the county and will continue until the end of July. By then end of the summer term there will be 15 accredited trainers in total who will provide PCP training in Ceredigion education settings. The focus of the training is to raise the quality of person centred reviews, and how to develop quality one-page profiles.

Learning with Autism

Learning with Autism is a programme created ASD info. Wales and funded by Welsh Government. It's aim is to further develop Autism awareness in educational settings. Several Ceredigion primary and secondary schools as well as one early years setting have already achieved the Learning with Autism Accreditation. For more information and support for parents please visit:

<https://www.asdinfo.wales.co.uk/home/>

Early Years

Many Early years settings have attended Person Centred Practice training and as a result have begun to develop One-page profiles for children with Additional Learning Needs. These profiles with, parental consent, will be used to help share important information about how best to support their child in their current setting and during transition to school.

Pre-entry Post 16 - Specialist Educational Provision

The New ALN Code requires Local Authorities to ensure provision for pupils and young people from 0 –25 years. (Currently 3-19)

From September 2021 LA will become responsible for securing new specialist placements for post-16 provision (funding will be transferred to LA from WG from April 2021).

Currently pupils with severe and complex needs are educated out of county as there has been no suitable local provision to support their needs. However, these placements may not continue to be funded if assessment indicates that their needs can be met by local provision.

This is an excellent and exciting opportunity for Ceredigion to be able to develop and provide provision for young people with ALN post-19, within the Local Authority. Focus will be on maintaining the provision locally, enabling our young people to develop and mature within their community.

The Additional Learning Needs department within School Services are developing in partnership with Coleg Ceredigion and Ceredigion day centre suitable pre-entry post-16 provision for pupils with severe and complex needs. The aim being that from September 2020 local educational provision will be available for young people at Coleg Ceredigion and within local day centres.

Supported accommodation/ respite provision for young people will also be developed, to ensure a residential package, supporting the holistic needs of young people with ALN who require specialist Post-16 provision and their families. This provision will be available for two/three years depending on the needs of the young people enabling them to develop skills within their local community.

What's coming next? - Implementing the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018

The Minister for Education has published the summary of response report which presents the Welsh Government's analysis of feedback from the consultation. The Welsh government consultation – summary of response report is available via:

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultations/2019-06/summary-of-responses-draft-additional-learning-needs-code.pdf>.

The Welsh Government is now considering what changes may need to be made to the Code, proposed related regulations and proposed revisions to the Part 6 Code that have been suggested by respondents. Once approved, any changes and the reasons for them will be explained in the memoranda that will accompany the final ALN Code and regulations which the Government intends to lay for Assembly approval before the end of 2019.

Following the publication of the revised ALN Code in December 2019, a three year implementation period will start in September 2020 with a mandatory phased approach to the new system. Learners with existing Statements will transfer to the new system within two years, and all other learners with non-statutory plans within three years.

The old system will be entirely phased out by Summer 2023.