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ALN001:

Gail John

Question 1 - New terminology

- a) Do you agree that a new term, 'additional learning needs', (ALN) should focus on children and young people who need additional and/or different support with learning to allow them to benefit as fully as possible from the education or training available to them?

Agree	X	Disagree		Neither agree nor disagree	
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Supporting comments

The correct provision for children's needs is the important priority. Whether it's ALN or SEN is not really important, names for dis/abled change frequently, so new term not an issue.

- b) Do you agree that the new system should apply to children and young people from birth up to the age of 25? If so, what implications should we consider for the professionals involved in assessing and providing that support?

Agree	X	Disagree		Neither agree nor disagree	
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Supporting comments

Yes early intervention is essential to ensure closure of educational gaps & is also needed for best outcome of improved standards. A multi-disciplinary overlap of closer networking between social, medical and relational models is required to provide a better service for our children.

Question 2 - Individual development plans (IDP)

- a) Do you agree that all children and young people with ALN should be entitled to an IDP which sets out their agreed additional learning provision?

Agree	X	Disagree		Neither agree nor disagree	
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- b) Do you agree that IDPs should replace statutory assessment and statements of SEN, assessments for learners over 16 (under section 140 of the Learning and Skills Act 2000) and non-statutory plans including individual education plans under School Action and School Action Plus?

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Agree	X	Disagree		Neither agree nor disagree	
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Supporting comments

As long as children have access to best provision and barriers to learning are removed by all professionals involved with child. However, currently some LEAs stipulate that some provision can only be accessed through a statement eg. STF at KS3 (In Yr5 annual review before Christmas- Swansea LEA or there's no access to this provision)

- c) Do you agree that local authorities should be ultimately responsible for preparing an IDP for children and young people aged 0-25 with ALN and for ensuring that agreed provision set out in the IDP is delivered and reviewed?

Agree		Disagree	X	Neither agree nor disagree	
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Supporting comments

Currently in Wales, nearly a third of LEAs are in special measures, demonstrating that they are not equipped to manage and lead effective current learning provision.

The only way LEAs should have more responsibility for 0-25 is by them improving and up-dating their current skills and knowledge. It has been my unfortunate experience that there are already massive gaps between current policy and actual practice in some LEAs, which contribute to further damaging children (not helping them). Anti-discrimination needs to be promoted throughout all sectors as research shows that a quarter of dis/abled are victimised. (See essay)

Question 3 - A new code of practice

- a) Do you agree that a new code of practice on ALN should include mandatory requirements in accordance with which local authorities, schools, further education institutions, local health boards and the tribunal must act?

Agree	X	Disagree		Neither agree nor disagree	
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Supporting comments

Yes FE, HE and all relevant bodies need to be working together for the best interests of the child. However the voice of the child should be listened to first (see enclosed essay)

- b) Do you agree that the code of practice should set out guidance for any other bodies, such as third sector organisations or other providers of education and training?

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Agree	X	Disagree		Neither agree nor disagree	
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Question 4 - Securing provision

Do you agree that further education institutions should be included alongside schools, maintained nurseries and pupil referral units, as institutions that must use their 'best endeavours' to secure the additional learning provision called for in an IDP?

Agree	X	Disagree		Neither agree nor disagree	
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Supporting comments

Yes it is time for everyone in Wales to pull together, to up-date skills and participate with more evidence-based practice, overlapping resources and traditional professional disciplines.

Question 5 - Securing specialist provision for young people

Do you agree that local authorities should be responsible for securing specialist education provision for post-16 learners outside of the further education sector where the IDP indicates that this is necessary to meet a young person's ALN?

Agree		Disagree	X	Neither agree nor disagree	
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Supporting comments

Current Welsh LEAs are not in a strong position to provide effective services to ALN/SEN, as it has been my experience and the experience of others that some LEAs do not know current best practice as they do not consider voice of the child or children's needs first. The only way LEAs should be given responsibility is through being educated on best practice, policies, procedures, a stronger networking of multi-disciplines & importance of listening to child's voice.

Question 6 - Placement at independent schools

Do you agree that local authorities should be prohibited from placing a child or young person at an independent school which has not been registered to provide the type of additional learning provision identified in their IDP?

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Agree		Disagree		Neither agree nor disagree	X
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Supporting comments

There needs to be steps put in place to ensure children get access to best provision, I am not entirely confident that LEAs are in a strong position to make this judgement themselves at present. A lot of training and work needs to be done in LEAs before they can be in a strong position to judge independent schools (as with nearly a third of Welsh LEAs in special measures themselves - currently we need to review provision through LEA schools let alone anywhere else)

Academy schools have been an effective tool for improving failing English LEAs - it might be an effective tool to ensure LEAs start to provide a better service for our children.

Question 7 - A multi-agency approach to planning and delivery

- a) Do you agree that local authorities, local health boards and further education institutions should be required to cooperate and share information in assessing, planning and delivering support to meet ALN?

Agree	X	Disagree		Neither agree nor disagree	
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Supporting comments

Yes. Multi-agencies (including child voice) need to work together for best for child & there needs to be an overlap between social, medical and relational models.

- b) As well as using the code of practice to provide guidance, are there any other ways in which you think multi-agency partnership working could be strengthened?

Supporting comments

Yes through conducting more multi-disciplinary user led research that encompass networking and breaking the barriers between the traditional disciplines to ensure best practice. (See enclosed essay)

Question 8 - Supporting looked after children

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Do you agree that IDPs should be able to replace or function as personal education plans for children and young people who are looked after by a local authority?

Agree	X	Disagree		Neither agree nor disagree	
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Supporting comments

Yes we need to cut down on multiplying paperwork - a one for all standard IDP would be more inclusive and work for all.

Question 9 - Resolving disputes at an early stage

- a) Do you agree that local authorities should be required to put in place disagreement resolution arrangements?

Agree	X	Disagree		Neither agree nor disagree	
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Supporting comments

Yes but unfortunately it has been my experience that Welsh LEA's tend to brush issues under the carpet rather than put needs to children first. There needs to be a complete breaking away from systems that are unfit for purpose and more training given to change mindsets, attitudes and ineffective practice.

- b) Do you agree that there should be a requirement to use the appropriate local complaints processes prior to appeal to tribunal?

Agree		Disagree	X	Neither agree nor disagree	
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Supporting comments

This will only give LEAs more opportunity to brush issues under the carpet instead of using issues as a way of improving their services and practice.

Question 10 - Extending the right of appeal

Do you agree with our proposals in relation to extending rights of appeal to tribunal (see proposals 19, 20 and 21)?

Agree	X	Disagree		Neither agree nor disagree	
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Supporting comments

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

If correct provision and effective practice was in place in the first place there would not be any need for parents or anyone else to complain.

Question 11

We have asked a number of specific questions. If you have any related issues which we have not specifically addressed, please use this space to report them.

Academy schools would be an effective way to improve current failing LEA services (These have been an effective tool in England). Welsh children deserve the best start in life and unfortunately a lot of training, research and change is necessary to change our current situation in Wales, as many children are being failed.(See my papers - Psychoanalysis of Oppression & What can the Welsh Education system learn from the Academies Act 2010?

Responses to consultations may be made public, on the internet or in a report. If you would prefer your response to remain anonymous, please tick here:

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ALN002: Lynda Rawlings

Dear Mr.Lewis,

I have read the about the changes you propose to make with regard to the above.I hold the Governor's role of SEN within our local primary school,and agree that changes do need to be met.I would welcome these changes and I am certain these interventions can only be beneficial to these children,and take them to a higher level.

Yours sincerely,

Lynda Rawlings(Mrs)

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

ALN003: **Rachel Milgate**
 Bridgend Home educators

I would like to comment on the legislative proposals for Additional Learning Needs as they relate to children who are educated at home.

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs propose IDPs for children who would previously have been on School Action or School Action Plus, which is going to impact on home education liaisons/officers. There is already quite a burden imposed on staff to understand and lead on home educated children with statements of SEN, but this is going to create quite a lot of extra work and I would think that ALN training would be hugely beneficial to staff working with home educated children. Such staff are not necessarily currently trained in ALN but may come into contact with a very broad range of needs, such a SENCO might in a school.

There also remains some confusion as to whether home education liaisons/officers are responsible for maintaining and reviewing statements of SEN in all authorities, with some LAs devolving that responsibility to other departments, eg educational psychologists. (The role of home education liaison/officer does not currently sit within the same department in every local authority either, which further raises the possibility that home educated children may slip through the net and their needs go unmet.) The proposals emphasise partnership working with health etc (a good idea) but I can foresee some confusion arising if home educated children are passed between departments within educational services. It would make sense to allocate a designated individual in each local authority to lead on IDPs where a child is educated at home.

The issue also arises that some specialist ALN provision such as dyslexia support or even educational psychology services are not automatically available to home educated children in all authorities, which will not be in keeping with the spirit of collaborative working. I am a firm believer in equitable provision of services to all children, regardless of their place of education and I am sure WAG would agree with this sentiment. As LAs are being strongly encouraged to implement person centred planning in advance of new legislation, in keeping with the ethos of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act, I would like to encourage WAG to look at ways in which home educated children will be able to access services where those doors are currently closed to them.

I chair a home education group in Bridgend which has a very high proportion of children and young people with autism in membership, and would urge WAG to look closely at the needs of these children when planning changes to legislation.

Further, this issue has also arisen in England, and I copy the following for your consideration:

Government spokesperson, House of Lords 7 Jan 2014 : Column 1449: "In the current system, set out in the Education Act 1996, when a statement is maintained for a child or young person the local authority is under a duty to secure the special educational provision specified in it. **The local authority is relieved of its duty to arrange the special educational provision in the statement, including securing a place in a school or college named in a statement of SEN, if the parents or the young person have made suitable alternative arrangements for special educational provision to be made, for example, in an independent school or college or at home.**"

"The Bill introduced to Parliament in February 2013 retained this provision, but when government amendments were introduced in Committee in the other place to place a duty on health bodies to arrange the healthcare provision specified in an education, health and care plan, Clause 42 was amended so that, under Clause 42(5), local authorities' and health bodies' duties to secure and arrange specified provision would not apply "to the extent that the child's parent or the young person has made suitable alternative arrangements" "

"We made this change with the intention of ensuring that, in cases where a parent or young person had made suitable alternative arrangements only for education provision, the duty on responsible health commissioners to arrange required health provision would remain in place. On reflection, that wording is problematic and could have unintended consequences, since it could be interpreted to mean that when a parent or young person makes alternative arrangements for only some of the provision the local authority or health body is only relieved from its duty to make that provision and must secure and arrange the remainder. This would not be sensible or fair."

"Amendment 38A would address this issue and ensure that local authorities have a clear duty to secure the special educational provision in a child or young person's education, health and care plan; it would enable parents or young people to make alternative arrangements; it would require local authorities to satisfy themselves that those arrangements are suitable; and **it would enable local authorities to assist parents in making their own arrangements suitable, if they consider it appropriate, without imposing any duty on them to do so.** It has not

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

been sufficiently clear that local authorities can assist parents in this way until now and I am pleased that this amendment gives me the opportunity to clarify the position."

"Where parents or a young person make alternative arrangements, the local authority must satisfy itself that those arrangements are suitable before it is relieved of its duty to secure the provision. It can only conclude that arrangements are suitable if there is a realistic possibility of them being funded for a reasonable period of time. If it is satisfied, the authority need not name its nominated school or college in the plan and may specify only the type of provision. This is to avoid the school having to keep a place free that the parents have no intention of taking up. If the local authority is not satisfied that the parent or young person's alternative arrangements are suitable, it could either name another appropriate school or college in the EHC plan or assist parents in making their arrangements suitable, including, if they consider it appropriate, through a financial contribution, though it will be under no obligation to meet the costs of those arrangements."

"Where parents make suitable alternative arrangements for educational provision, the health commissioning body is still responsible for arranging the healthcare specified in the child or young person's EHC plan. If parents make alternative arrangements for healthcare provision, then the health commissioning body would need to satisfy itself that those arrangements were suitable. If the arrangements were not suitable, they would arrange the provision specified in the plan or, if they felt it appropriate, assist the parents in making their own arrangements suitable. We will, of course, clarify this position in the SEN code of practice."

Clearly WAG are proposing a different way forward, but the principle applies that home educated children should be considered in the drafting of new proposals, so that they are not disadvantaged.

**ALN004: Dr Gareth Price
Retired Teacher**

Question 1 – New terminology

- a) Do you agree that a new term, 'additional learning needs', (ALN) should focus on children and young people who need additional and/or different support with learning to allow them to benefit as fully as possible from the education or training available to them?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

As I noted in my response to the October 2012 consultation exercise, whilst ALN may be an improvement on SEN, a classification such as 'exceptional learning needs' or better still 'exceptional needs' would reflect better the fact that certain children and young people have needs that are not only 'additional to' but 'different from' those of the majority of other children and young people of their age. Similarly, I am disappointed that the Welsh Government is retracting from its proposal in October 2012 to use the term 'additional needs'. Retaining the term 'additional needs' would have been a very progressive springboard towards developing a support system for children and young people which was common for all the exceptional needs of children and young people whether their causation relates to learning, health or social well-being – or often a combination of all three. I believe an ideal opportunity is being missed to link in a far more integrated manner than proposed the range of education, health and social services to be made available for these vulnerable children and young people.

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

As I noted in October 2012, legislative reform should be developed in 'parallel' across all areas of need and service provision rather than separately according to the different departmental responsibilities within the Welsh Government. There should be a common 'Individual Development Plan' developed for all children and young people whether their exceptional needs are related to health, social well-being, learning – or various combinations of each. This would encourage far more co-ordinated working by professionals across all the different agencies involved.

It is often argued that 'confidentiality' restraints inhibit the sharing of information – but ways can be found of overcoming such issues when the intended outcome is greater collaboration in maximising the quality of services for such children and young people. This would be more in line with a 'child/person-centred' approach'.

(Will this mean that you will be changing the title of your branch?)

- b) Do you agree that the new system should apply to children and young people from birth up to the age of 25? If so, what implications should we consider for the professionals involved in assessing and providing that support?

Agree	X <input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

There is a very important need for greater consistency across all the phases encompassed within the 0-25 age range. However, several parents/carers who were consulted in the past when I was involved in such discussions asked the question: 'Why stop at 25?'. If, as I proposed in answer to Question 1(a), an IDP covered all exceptional needs – why shouldn't an IDP continue beyond 25 for young people as they enter adulthood if they continue to have needs which require continuing special provision. This may well encompass such areas as employment, recreation, independent living, etc.

The IDP should also covering young people with exceptional needs who enter HE or other avenues where they continue to require exceptional support.

Question 2 – Individual development plans (IDP)

- a) Do you agree that all children and young people with ALN should be entitled to an IDP which sets out their agreed additional learning provision?

Agree	X <input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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- b) Do you agree that IDPs should replace statutory assessment and statements of SEN, assessments for learners over 16 (under section 140 of the Learning and Skills Act 2000) and non-statutory plans including individual education plans under School Action and School Action Plus?

Agree	X <input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Supporting comments

In support of my earlier comments – a common IDP should have the capacity to set out all the exceptional/additional needs of children and young people across their full spectrum of needs and similarly the exceptional/additional provision required from service providers to meet those needs.

The implementation of the short-term ongoing provision should be guided by an 'Individual Action Plan (IAP)' – not an 'Individual Education Plan (IEP)'.

- c) Do you agree that local authorities should be ultimately responsible for preparing an IDP for children and young people aged 0–25 with ALN and for ensuring that agreed provision set out in the IDP is delivered and reviewed?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

If you continue with your current proposals – surely the governing bodies and the senior management of schools have the responsibility for preparing IDPs to cover 'school action' provision. Similarly with early years provision providers and Post 16/18 providers at this level of provision.

If a more co-ordinated IDP was developed (as I proposed earlier) the responsibility overall would be via Local Partnerships.

Question 3 – A new code of practice

- a) Do you agree that a new code of practice on ALN should include mandatory requirements in accordance with which local authorities, schools, further education institutions, local health boards and the tribunal must act?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

All statutory agencies must have prime and ultimate responsibility for delivering the provision they are responsible for. There should also be statutory responsibilities placed on other organisations, whether private or in the third sector, to deliver the services for which they have been commissioned using public funding.

A new code of practice should cover all this.

- b) Do you agree that the code of practice should set out guidance for any other bodies, such as third sector organisations or other providers of education and training?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Question 4 – Securing provision

Do you agree that further education institutions should be included alongside schools, maintained nurseries and pupil referral units, as institutions that must use their 'best endeavours' to secure the additional learning provision called for in an IDP?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

In addition this should include HE institutions and other service providers receiving public funds to provide such services.

Question 5 – Securing specialist provision for young people

Do you agree that local authorities should be responsible for securing specialist education provision for post-16 learners outside of the further education sector where the IDP indicates that this is necessary to meet a young person's ALN?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

As noted earlier, Local Partnerships should have this responsibility.

Question 6 – Placement at independent schools

Do you agree that local authorities should be prohibited from placing a child or young person at an independent school which has not been registered to provide the type of additional learning provision identified in their IDP?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

A very sensible move.

Question 7 – A multi-agency approach to planning and delivery

- a) Do you agree that local authorities, local health boards and further education institutions should be required to cooperate and share information in assessing, planning and delivering support to meet ALN?

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Agree	X <input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Similarly with a more common IDP across all appropriate agencies – a protocol is needed regarding information sharing and storage. This should be common across Wales and supported by the use of appropriate information technology.

- b) As well as using the code of practice to provide guidance, are there any other ways in which you think multi-agency partnership working could be strengthened?

Supporting comments

I believe my early comments address this question.

Question 8 – Supporting looked after children

Do you agree that IDPs should be able to replace or function as personal education plans for children and young people who are looked after by a local authority?

Agree	X <input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

A common IDP across all areas of needs would encompass the full range of needs of children and young people looked after by a local authority.

Question 9 – Resolving disputes at an early stage

- a) Do you agree that local authorities should be required to put in place disagreement resolution arrangements?

Agree	X <input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

This requirement should apply to all statutory agencies, including the health authorities. It should also be common and integrated across all the different authorities if children, young people and their parents/carers are to understand the issues involved.

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

- b) Do you agree that there should be a requirement to use the appropriate local complaints processes prior to appeal to tribunal?

Agree	X <input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Again this should be common across all agencies with a common tribunal system.

Question 10 – Extending the right of appeal

Do you agree with our proposals in relation to extending rights of appeal to tribunal (see proposals 19, 20 and 21)?

Agree	X <input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

In addition, these should apply to health, social well-being as well as learning.

Question 11

We have asked a number of specific questions. If you have any related issues which we have not specifically addressed, please use this space to report them.

As noted above – I have put forward suggestions for a more comprehensive and integrated system than is currently intended. I have concerns that if the current proposals are implemented as they stand – the Welsh Government will have missed an excellent opportunity to be far more progressive in how it provides services for vulnerable children, young people and their families in a more co-ordinated manner across all areas of need.

Responses to consultations may be made public, on the internet or in a report. If you would prefer your response to remain anonymous, please tick here:

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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

ALN005: Anonymous

Question 1 – New terminology

- c) Do you agree that a new term, 'additional learning needs', (ALN) should focus on children and young people who need additional and/or different support with learning to allow them to benefit as fully as possible from the education or training available to them?

Agree	X	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

- d) Do you agree that the new system should apply to children and young people from birth up to the age of 25? If so, what implications should we consider for the professionals involved in assessing and providing that support?

Agree	X	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Question 2 – Individual development plans (IDP)

- d) Do you agree that all children and young people with ALN should be entitled to an IDP which sets out their agreed additional learning provision?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	X	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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- e) Do you agree that IDPs should replace statutory assessment and statements of SEN, assessments for learners over 16 (under section 140 of the Learning and Skills Act 2000) and non-statutory plans including individual education plans under School Action and School Action Plus?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	X
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Supporting comments

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

The man-power required to set up and review IDPs for all children would be impossible to manage. In a small school we have 27 children on our 'additional needs' register. It is hard to keep up with writing and reviewing IEPs and IBPs – We have trialled IDPs in our school and they were great but only did 5 children. The administration of inviting people to meetings, changing arrangements when someone pulled out and then distributing relevant paperwork before and after the meeting was very time consuming, especially for me as the part-time SENCo

- f) Do you agree that local authorities should be ultimately responsible for preparing an IDP for children and young people aged 0–25 with ALN and for ensuring that agreed provision set out in the IDP is delivered and reviewed?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

There needs to be much better communication and joint working between health, social services and education to ensure the best outcomes for children and their families. In an area where a many parents do not have the necessary skills to write letters, make phone calls and generally make a fuss, someone reliable and well trained, with the best intentions needs to help parents get the most from the services available.

Question 3 – A new code of practice

- c) Do you agree that a new code of practice on ALN should include mandatory requirements in accordance with which local authorities, schools, further education institutions, local health boards and the tribunal must act?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

- d) Do you agree that the code of practice should set out guidance for any other bodies, such as third sector organisations or other providers of education and training?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Question 4 – Securing provision

Do you agree that further education institutions should be included alongside schools, maintained nurseries and pupil referral units, as institutions that must use their 'best endeavours' to secure the additional learning provision called for in an IDP?

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

This will require a SENCo type person in these institutions. In my personal experience, the bigger the organisation the less personal involvement the SENCo has with children who have an IEP – e.g. primary school SENCOs are much more likely to know the children in their school and act in their best interests, compared to SENCOs in high schools. In an FE college the SENCo would be still further removed from the learners.

Question 5 – Securing specialist provision for young people

Do you agree that local authorities should be responsible for securing specialist education provision for post-16 learners outside of the further education sector where the IDP indicates that this is necessary to meet a young person's ALN?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Question 6 – Placement at independent schools

Do you agree that local authorities should be prohibited from placing a child or young person at an independent school which has not been registered to provide the type of additional learning provision identified in their IDP?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Question 7 – A multi-agency approach to planning and delivery

- c) Do you agree that local authorities, local health boards and further education institutions should be required to cooperate and share information in assessing, planning and delivering support to meet ALN?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

We have had some very successful multi-agency meetings, but these often depend on the co-operation and attitude of the individuals who attend the meetings. Changes in staffing can lead to a break down in the communication which can have adverse effects on outcomes for children.

- d) As well as using the code of practice to provide guidance, are there any other ways in which you think multi-agency partnership working could be strengthened?

Supporting comments

Question 8 – Supporting looked after children

Do you agree that IDPs should be able to replace or function as personal education plans for children and young people who are looked after by a local authority?

Agree	X <input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

In my experience PEPs are not read or acted upon. They often don't seem to get to the right person at the right time. They need replacing.

Question 9 – Resolving disputes at an early stage

- c) Do you agree that local authorities should be required to put in place disagreement resolution arrangements?

Agree	X	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

- d) Do you agree that there should be a requirement to use the appropriate local complaints processes prior to appeal to tribunal?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	X
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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Supporting comments

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Question 10 – Extending the right of appeal

Do you agree with our proposals in relation to extending rights of appeal to tribunal (see proposals 19, 20 and 21)?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	X
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Supporting comments

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Question 11

We have asked a number of specific questions. If you have any related issues which we have not specifically addressed, please use this space to report them.

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Responses to consultations may be made public, on the internet or in a report. If you would prefer your response to remain anonymous, please tick here: ✓

ALN006: Anonymous

Question 1 – New terminology

- a) Do you agree that a new term, 'additional learning needs', (ALN) should focus on children and young people who need additional and/or different support with learning to allow them to benefit as fully as possible from the education or training available to them?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

- b) Do you agree that the new system should apply to children and young people from birth up to the age of 25? If so, what implications should we consider for the professionals involved in assessing and providing that support?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Many young people continue their education to further and higher education and often only require support when they reach the ceiling of their coping strategies and will require support when they encounter difficulties post 16.

Question 2 – Individual development plans (IDP)

- a) Do you agree that all children and young people with ALN should be entitled to an IDP which sets out their agreed additional learning provision?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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- b) Do you agree that IDPs should replace statutory assessment and statements of SEN, assessments for learners over 16 (under section 140 of the Learning and Skills Act 2000) and non-statutory plans including individual education plans under School Action and School Action Plus?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

I agree that IDP should replace statements but also believe that IEPs should not be replaced with one IDP. IEP's should remain as a separate working documents that provides more specific strategies and targets that work towards improving, and builds on, the individuals' specific skills

- c) Do you agree that local authorities should be ultimately responsible for preparing an IDP for children and young people aged 0–25 with ALN and for ensuring that agreed provision set out in the IDP is delivered and reviewed?

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Schools/Nurseries / colleges etc don't all have the necessary knowledge and experience of different difficulties. It would need to be the responsibility of the LEA unless there is a universal and concerted effort to raise the skills sets of schools to enable them to have the skills to prepare an IDP that fully meets the needs of the child.

Question 3 – A new code of practice

- a) Do you agree that a new code of practice on ALN should include mandatory requirements in accordance with which local authorities, schools, further education institutions, local health boards and the tribunal must act?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

If it is not mandatory establishments will consider it optional and standards may not necessarily be maintained or improved.

- b) Do you agree that the code of practice should set out guidance for any other bodies, such as third sector organisations or other providers of education and training?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Question 4 – Securing provision

Do you agree that further education institutions should be included alongside schools, maintained nurseries and pupil referral units, as institutions that must use their 'best endeavours' to secure the additional learning provision called for in an IDP?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

This would secure continuity of care which doesn't happen at present.

Question 5 – Securing specialist provision for young people

Do you agree that local authorities should be responsible for securing specialist education provision for post-16 learners outside of the further education sector where the IDP indicates that this is necessary to meet a young person's ALN?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Given that the school leaving age is due to change from 16 to 18 in the future it would make sense that IDPs should meet the needs of the individual post 16. Some individuals will need IDP for the duration of the coverage of the legislation ie 0-25

Question 6 – Placement at independent schools

Do you agree that local authorities should be prohibited from placing a child or young person at an independent school which has not been registered to provide the type of additional learning provision identified in their IDP?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

You have to question whether an unregistered independent school would be guaranteed to offer the appropriate provision as laid out in the IDP.

Question 7 – A multi-agency approach to planning and delivery

- a) Do you agree that local authorities, local health boards and further education institutions should be required to cooperate and share information in assessing, planning and delivering support to meet ALN?

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

I strongly agree with this point. All too often information isn't shared between agencies that would be beneficial in the planning and delivering of provision.

- b) As well as using the code of practice to provide guidance, are there any other ways in which you think multi-agency partnership working could be strengthened?

Supporting comments

It would be beneficial if all of the multi agencies involved with specific children's IDPs attended reviews of to evaluate and discuss progress and whether their specific support and provision is appropriate for that individual. To frequent Health agencies e.g Speech and language fail to attend so their input is not given.

Question 8 – Supporting looked after children

Do you agree that IDPs should be able to replace or function as personal education plans for children and young people who are looked after by a local authority?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Question 9 – Resolving disputes at an early stage

- a) Do you agree that local authorities should be required to put in place disagreement resolution arrangements?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Supporting comments

Yes , it should be a staged process where complaints can be addressed and if not resolved progressed to tribunal

b) Do you agree that there should be a requirement to use the appropriate local complaints processes prior to appeal to tribunal?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

as above

Question 10 – Extending the right of appeal

Do you agree with our proposals in relation to extending rights of appeal to tribunal (see proposals 19, 20 and 21)?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Question 11

We have asked a number of specific questions. If you have any related issues which we have not specifically addressed, please use this space to report them.

If the legislation covers 0-25 then all processes should also include that range. Failure to do so could be considered discriminatory.

Responses to consultations may be made public, on the internet or in a report. If you would prefer your response to remain anonymous, ☒

ALN007: **Anonymous**

Question 1 – New terminology

- a) Do you agree that a new term, 'additional learning needs', (ALN) should focus on children and young people who need additional and/or different support with learning to allow them to benefit as fully as possible from the education or training available to them?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

ALN is a better more inclusive term, it can relate to anyone regardless of ability, clarity will be needed for ALNCO's on who would fall into this category, and specific guidance on the nature of the IDP they need.

My concern in reading the White Paper is currently I have three 'groups' (SA, SA+ and Statmented) of children all supported at a different level, I am concerned that the introduction of a generic IDP will create a regimented

format that will have a massive impact on workload bearing in mind the time constraints of the role and the fact that many practitioners hold other responsibilities.

I think integral to the success of these changes is a note to Head teachers stipulating that their ALNCO holds whole school responsibilities which warrant a place on the leadership team and the additional time to properly manage the role.

- b) Do you agree that the new system should apply to children and young people from birth up to the age of 25? If so, what implications should we consider for the professionals involved in assessing and providing that support?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

For pupils that leave school at 16 we have very little contact with them once they enter the workplace or college. I think a process that follows them and guarantees support if necessary is a very good idea.

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Question 2 – Individual development plans (IDP)

- a) Do you agree that all children and young people with ALN should be entitled to an IDP which sets out their agreed additional learning provision?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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- b) Do you agree that IDPs should replace statutory assessment and statements of SEN, assessments for learners over 16 (under section 140 of the Learning and Skills Act 2000) and non-statutory plans including individual education plans under School Action and School Action Plus?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

However I would like the new Code of Practice to outline a generic format that all LEI's adhere too. Presently each county has its own format on PEP's and

each school their own version of IEP's - there needs consistency and clarity.

Also I am concerned that now each child will have a statutory IDP and each will need an Annual review. I currently have 189 on my ALN register but only do Annual Reviews for the Statemented pupils (31 pupils)

To have to do an Annual review on every pupil is not achievable, however for those who an IDP replaces a Statement with high complex needs I still believe they must be reviewed.

- c) Do you agree that local authorities should be ultimately responsible for preparing an IDP for children and young people aged 0–25 with ALN and for ensuring that agreed provision set out in the IDP is delivered and reviewed?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

I agree the LEI must lead on this issue.

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Question 3 – A new code of practice

- a) Do you agree that a new code of practice on ALN should include mandatory requirements in accordance with which local authorities, schools, further education institutions, local health boards and the tribunal must act?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Yes we need more clarity and consistency

- b) Do you agree that the code of practice should set out guidance for any other bodies, such as third sector organisations or other providers of education and training?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Question 4 – Securing provision

Do you agree that further education institutions should be included alongside schools, maintained nurseries and pupil referral units, as institutions that must use their 'best endeavours' to secure the additional learning provision called for in an IDP?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

This will offer consistency for pupils and families and a recognised familiar format - especially if they have moved educational setting and everything is unfamiliar and new.

Question 5 – Securing specialist provision for young people

Do you agree that local authorities should be responsible for securing specialist education provision for post-16 learners outside of the further education sector where the IDP indicates that this is necessary to meet a young person's ALN?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Supporting comments

A pupils need does not end when they leave school, the support needs to follow them.

Question 6 – Placement at independent schools

Do you agree that local authorities should be prohibited from placing a child or young person at an independent school which has not been registered to provide the type of additional learning provision identified in their IDP?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Pupils must be placed in an environment in which they can develop.

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Question 7 – A multi-agency approach to planning and delivery

- a) Do you agree that local authorities, local health boards and further education institutions should be required to cooperate and share information in assessing, planning and delivering support to meet ALN?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

The current MIRAF sharing format run by Gwent POLice is an excellent example of how we need a centralised system which all agencies have access too. All parties should be on the same systems and be able to access each others information to ensure a consistent coherent approach.

- b) As well as using the code of practice to provide guidance, are there any other ways in which you think multi-agency partnership working could be strengthened?

Supporting comments

see above

Question 8 – Supporting looked after children

Do you agree that IDPs should be able to replace or function as personal education plans for children and young people who are looked after by a local authority?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

It would simplify the process. The PEPs are outdated and the children do not like doing them, they are also very childish in their terminology and the older children resent them.

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Question 7 – A multi-agency approach to planning and delivery

- a) Do you agree that local authorities, local health boards and further education institutions should be required to cooperate and share information in assessing, planning and delivering support to meet ALN?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

The current MIRAF sharing format run by Gwent POLice is an excellent example of how we need a centralised system which all agencies have access too. ALL parties should be on the same systems and be able to access each others information to ensure a consistent coherent approach.

- b) As well as using the code of practice to provide guidance, are there any other ways in which you think multi-agency partnership working could be strengthened?

Supporting comments

see above

Question 8 – Supporting looked after children

Do you agree that IDPs should be able to replace or function as personal education plans for children and young people who are looked after by a local authority?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

It would simplify the process. The PEPs are outdated and the children do not like doing them, they are also very childish in their terminology and the older children resent them.

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Question 9 – Resolving disputes at an early stage

- a) Do you agree that local authorities should be required to put in place disagreement resolution arrangements?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

If the disagreement is between home and school an unbiased third party should resolve it.

- b) Do you agree that there should be a requirement to use the appropriate local complaints processes prior to appeal to tribunal?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

There should be a graduated response and all attempts to resolve the issue before a tribunal has to happen. A tribunal would suggest the ultimate failure in pupils care and parent relations with school, I would hope all parties would endeavour to resolve all issues way before this.

Question 10 – Extending the right of appeal

Do you agree with our proposals in relation to extending rights of appeal to tribunal (see proposals 19, 20 and 21)?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Question 11

We have asked a number of specific questions. If you have any related issues which we have not specifically addressed, please use this space to report them.

The new workload and all of the changes are daunting, I feel the role is a senior manager role and requires the status, and most importantly the additional time, this should be written in the code of practice - even just as a suggestion for Head teachers. Many who have not been involved in Pastoral matters fail to understand the scale of the role and the hours of behind the scenes work.

Responses to consultations may be made public, on the internet or in a report. If you would prefer your response to remain anonymous, please tick here: ☒

ALN008: ANONYMOUS

Question 1 – New terminology

- a) Do you agree that a new term, 'additional learning needs', (ALN) should focus on children and young people who need additional and/or different support with learning to allow them to benefit as fully as possible from the education or training available to them?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

- b) Do you agree that the new system should apply to children and young people from birth up to the age of 25? If so, what implications should we consider for the professionals involved in assessing and providing that support?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Many services work with children and young people up to the point where they leave full time education. Services will need to be extended - so staffing/budgetary implications will need to be looked at.

Question 2 – Individual development plans (IDP)

- a) Do you agree that all children and young people with ALN should be entitled to an IDP which sets out their agreed additional learning provision?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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- b) Do you agree that IDPs should replace statutory assessment and statements of SEN, assessments for learners over 16 (under section 140 of the Learning and Skills Act 2000) and non-statutory plans including individual education plans under School Action and School Action Plus?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

IDPs are far more centred around the CYP and proved a more effective way of working to address issues arising by all professionals involved.

- c) Do you agree that local authorities should be ultimately responsible for preparing an IDP for children and young people aged 0–25 with ALN and for ensuring that agreed provision set out in the IDP is delivered and reviewed?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Question 3 – A new code of practice

- a) Do you agree that a new code of practice on ALN should include mandatory requirements in accordance with which local authorities, schools, further education institutions, local health boards and the tribunal must act?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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- b) Do you agree that the code of practice should set out guidance for any other bodies, such as third sector organisations or other providers of education and training?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Question 4 – Securing provision

Do you agree that further education institutions should be included alongside schools, maintained nurseries and pupil referral units, as institutions that must use their 'best endeavours' to secure the additional learning provision called for in an IDP?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Question 5 – Securing specialist provision for young people

Do you agree that local authorities should be responsible for securing specialist education provision for post-16 learners outside of the further education sector where the IDP indicates that this is necessary to meet a young person's ALN?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Question 6 – Placement at independent schools

Do you agree that local authorities should be prohibited from placing a child or young person at an independent school which has not been registered to provide the type of additional learning provision identified in their IDP?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

There would be a risk of that school failing to meet the needs of the CYP.
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Question 7 – A multi-agency approach to planning and delivery

- a) Do you agree that local authorities, local health boards and further education institutions should be required to cooperate and share information in assessing, planning and delivering support to meet ALN?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Multi disciplinary co-operation and joint working will make the support around the CYP.

- b) As well as using the code of practice to provide guidance, are there any other ways in which you think multi-agency partnership working could be strengthened?

Supporting comments

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Question 8 – Supporting looked after children

Do you agree that IDPs should be able to replace or function as personal education plans for children and young people who are looked after by a local authority?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Don't know enough about it.

Question 9 – Resolving disputes at an early stage

- a) Do you agree that local authorities should be required to put in place disagreement resolution arrangements?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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- b) Do you agree that there should be a requirement to use the appropriate local complaints processes prior to appeal to tribunal?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Question 10 – Extending the right of appeal

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Do you agree with our proposals in relation to extending rights of appeal to tribunal (see proposals 19, 20 and 21)?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Question 11

We have asked a number of specific questions. If you have any related issues which we have not specifically addressed, please use this space to report them.

Responses to consultations may be made public, on the internet or in a report. If you would prefer your response to remain anonymous, please tick here: ☒

ALN009: **Helen Etherington**
Carmarthenshire County Council

Question 1 – New terminology

- e) Do you agree that a new term, 'additional learning needs', (ALN) should focus on children and young people who need additional and/or different support with learning to allow them to benefit as fully as possible from the education or training available to them?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

I think that the term 'additional learning needs' should address those children whose needs would not fall under the 'average' range (i.e. 1 standard deviation, approximately 68% of the population) of the normal distribution. The needs of the majority of children should be met through good quality, differentiated teaching and through whole school approaches to physical literacy (motor-skills), emotional literacy/well-being, speech and language. I think that a number of professionals, including members of school staff, may need to be reminded of the normal distribution, and if a school has identified more than 16% of its population as having an ALN (14% more than 1 SD below the mean, and 2% more than 2 SD below the mean), then they should be looking closely at the standard of teaching within their schools, and whether there is appropriate differentiation to meet the learning needs of the children within the school population.

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

- f) Do you agree that the new system should apply to children and young people from birth up to the age of 25? If so, what implications should we consider for the professionals involved in assessing and providing that support?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

The extended age range is important for consistency, and at the upper end will address the current difficulties regarding transition from children to adult services, particularly for those young people on the autism spectrum without a learning disability. However, there will be implications in terms of some supporting professionals, particularly the Educational Psychology (EP) Profession, who may well be the best-placed professionals to undertake assessments of young people going through transition in the near future. There is already a shortage of EPs in Wales, and in terms of workforce planning, it may well be worth considering a proactive programme to train and employ more EPs. However, this is obviously challenging in the current austerity climate. Once the Individual Development Plans have been established and developed, there should be less of an onus on assessment at the transition stage, and more emphasis on intervention/forward planning through the person-centred review process as the IDP progresses.

With regards to the lower end of the age range, the emphasis here should be on effective multi-agency working and planning for early intervention to support young children who are identified as having ALN, and planning for their transition into school. If the system is going to be effective across this age range, then all health, social care and educational professionals involved will need to be conversant with person-centred practices, and with the implementation of individual development plans. Once the IDP has been established, it should grow and develop with the child, and the process of continual assessment, intervention and review should be more 'seamless' than is currently the case.

Question 2 – Individual development plans (IDP)

- g) Do you agree that all children and young people with ALN should be entitled to an IDP which sets out their agreed additional learning provision?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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- h) Do you agree that IDPs should replace statutory assessment and statements of SEN, assessments for learners over 16 (under section 140 of the Learning and Skills Act 2000) and non-statutory plans including individual education plans under School Action and School Action Plus?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

An integrated planning process that takes into consideration all elements of a child/young person's life which may impact on their educational attainment and progress, as proposed through the development of the IDP, is a far more efficient and holistic approach, which would minimise the fragmentation frequently experienced in the current statutory system. Ensuring that all children and young people from school action stage of the current COP onwards should ensure that more children and young people's needs are met effectively, with less dependence on a criteria-led system.

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

- i) Do you agree that local authorities should be ultimately responsible for preparing an IDP for children and young people aged 0–25 with ALN and for ensuring that agreed provision set out in the IDP is delivered and reviewed?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Yes, but in partnership with schools for school-aged children/young people, so that the latter take responsibility for daily implementation and delivery of interventions/actions identified through the IDP. In order for LAs to undertake these responsibilities effectively, they should also be fully versed in person-centred practices and encourage an ethos of putting the child/young person at the centre of any planning process. There may also be a requirement to develop systems to support this in terms of establishing a forum to ensure all children and young people, and their parents and families are aware of how an IDP is established and monitored, and to give them a voice when developing services and provision around ALN.

Question 3 – A new code of practice

- e) Do you agree that a new code of practice on ALN should include mandatory requirements in accordance with which local authorities, schools, further education institutions, local health boards and the tribunal must act?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

The current code of practice, although sound in itself, has been open to interpretation and there is a need to ensure that a new code is adhered to closely. Ensuring that the requirements outlined are mandatory for LHBs, FEs and tribunals would also help to promote effective multi-agency working, and encourage communication and co-operation between professionals, particularly around transition points.

- f) Do you agree that the code of practice should set out guidance for any other bodies, such as third sector organisations or other providers of education and training?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Question 4 – Securing provision

Do you agree that further education institutions should be included alongside schools, maintained nurseries and pupil referral units, as institutions that must use their 'best endeavours' to secure the additional learning provision called for in an IDP?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

I think this is essential in ensuring consistency of approach, and in ensuring that a young person's needs are met appropriately. FEs do not have the same access presently as schools do to supporting professionals, such as an Educational Psychologist (EP), Speech and Language Therapist (SLT) etc, and consequently this may be a challenge for them initially. However, requiring FEs to use their 'best endeavours' to secure the additional learning provision identified through the IDP may encourage them to:

- prioritise ALN within their establishments
- develop specialist roles around ALN
- be more proactive in ensuring all members of staff have a good knowledge of SEN, including 'mainstream' lecturers (i.e. develop training programmes/raise capacity of members of staff)
- forge closer links with the LA/LHB support services, or invest in employing their own EPs, SLTs etc.

Question 5 – Securing specialist provision for young people

Do you agree that local authorities should be responsible for securing specialist education provision for post-16 learners outside of the further education sector where the IDP indicates that this is necessary to meet a young person's ALN?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

This would encourage LAs to develop robust services to support young people through transition (development of transition services), and should reduce the current stress and anxiety many young people and their families experience when they leave school at 16. It would also ensure continuity of support, as professionals who have supported the young people through the progression of their IDP would be involved in the development and implementation of the action plan to secure the specialist education provision indicated. The Real Opportunities Project has been very successful in supporting young people through transition, and part of its success has probably been due to the fact that the teams established were multi-disciplinary, bringing a wealth of different skills and experience to effectively support the young people.

Question 6 – Placement at independent schools

Do you agree that local authorities should be prohibited from placing a child or young person at an independent school which has not been registered to provide the type of additional learning provision identified in their IDP?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

This is essential in ensuring that a child or young person's needs are met appropriately. It should encourage LAs to be more proactive in planning to support the needs of children and young people, and may prompt them to develop more 'in-county' provision/services – although this may prove difficult against the current backdrop of financial cuts. Working in partnership with parents is also important here, to ensure realistic and appropriate expectations.

Question 7 – A multi-agency approach to planning and delivery

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

- e) Do you agree that local authorities, local health boards and further education institutions should be required to cooperate and share information in assessing, planning and delivering support to meet ALN?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

This is absolutely paramount to:

- meet the individual needs of children and young people, in order to reduce duplication/cost for all concerned, including families
- develop multi-agency assessment and intervention services
- develop multi-agency services at the universal and emerging needs levels e.g. providing joint multi-agency training for schools/FE institutions to raise capacity
- share 'good-practice'
- obtain a picture of the 'whole' child

- f) As well as using the code of practice to provide guidance, are there any other ways in which you think multi-agency partnership working could be strengthened?

Supporting comments

- Developing multi-agency teams around the assessment and intervention of children/young people with severe and/or complex needs –possibly based at special schools. The team could then act as an 'outreach service' for mainstream schools. A similar model could be applied for autism.
- Clear guidelines from WG on effective multi-agency working in the early and transition years – development of multi-agency teams.
- Organising joint service meetings e.g. EPs, SLTs, social workers to share work practices/develop joint models of working.
- Having professionals based within a school cluster e.g. the secondary school, and working from there to service all feeder primary schools.
- Having flexibility regarding venue to hold IDP reviews e.g. school, health clinic, home to maximise attendance from professionals
- The development of an effective and safe online system which would:
 - ensure effective and timely communication
 - facilitate sharing of information in real time
 - allow professionals who are unable to attend a review/meeting to input updated information

Question 8 – Supporting looked after children

Do you agree that IDPs should be able to replace or function as personal education plans for children and young people who are looked after by a local authority?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Absorbing the PEP into the IDP would help to reduce duplication and cost, and promote more

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

effective communication between professionals in education, health and social care who are supporting the child/young person.

Question 9 – Resolving disputes at an early stage

- e) Do you agree that local authorities should be required to put in place disagreement resolution arrangements?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Carmarthenshire participated in the Child's Right to Appeal project. The appointment of two Family Support Officers proved to be extremely effective in supporting parents, in improving communication between the authority and parents/families, and was felt to be instrumental in reducing the tribunal rate in county to zero. In my opinion, all authorities should invest in establishing similar posts who can act as a conduit between an authority and parents.

- f) Do you agree that there should be a requirement to use the appropriate local complaints processes prior to appeal to tribunal?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

This is important as many of the issues may be resolved effectively through the local complaints' procedures, and will consequently reduce the need to proceed to a formal tribunal process, which can be unpleasant and costly for all concerned.

Question 10 – Extending the right of appeal

Do you agree with our proposals in relation to extending rights of appeal to tribunal (see proposals 19, 20 and 21)?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

I think this will need to be managed carefully, particularly at the upper age range. The fact that the Tribunal's power to make an order will only relate only to the LA may be problematic for LAs in terms of management and cost, but should encourage them to carefully monitor the progress of a child/young person attending a setting outside the LA. Having this extended appeal system in place, together with the Equality Act is paramount in ensuring that LAs and all professionals:

- develop good, supportive working relationships with children, young people and their families
- are committed to meeting the individual needs of children and young people
- take responsibility for any decisions they make/actions undertaken

Question 11

We have asked a number of specific questions. If you have any related issues which we have not

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

specifically addressed, please use this space to report them.

I think that the White Paper is effective in setting out the reform proposals against the wider national context/strategies that are currently being implemented. However, there are training implications to ensure that all regions, LAs and their partners are fully conversant with person-centred practices and the implementation of the Individual Development Plan. LAs across Wales have a considerable amount of preparation to do in terms of ensuring all their schools are trained in person-centred planning, person-centred reviews and in the development of effective and supportive IDPs. It is also paramount that the links between ALN reform and the wider School Improvement agenda are recognised and, that the ALN reform agenda is subsequently prioritised by all local authorities.

Responses to consultations may be made public, on the internet or in a report. If you would prefer your response to remain anonymous, please tick here:

ALN010: Anonymous

Question 1 – New terminology

- g) Do you agree that a new term, 'additional learning needs', (ALN) should focus on children and young people who need additional and/or different support with learning to allow them to benefit as fully as possible from the education or training available to them?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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- h) Do you agree that the new system should apply to children and young people from birth up to the age of 25? If so, what implications should we consider for the professionals involved in assessing and providing that support?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Agree as long as the young person is remaining in education or supported work placement.
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Question 2 – Individual development plans (IDP)

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

- j) Do you agree that all children and young people with ALN should be entitled to an IDP which sets out their agreed additional learning provision?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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- k) Do you agree that IDPs should replace statutory assessment and statements of SEN, assessments for learners over 16 (under section 140 of the Learning and Skills Act 2000) and non-statutory plans including individual education plans under School Action and School Action Plus?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

The IDP should NOT replace statutory assessment and statements for Post 16 learners if they are still attending an educational establishment. These ensure consistency in terms of support within a centrally controlled system.

- l) Do you agree that local authorities should be ultimately responsible for preparing an IDP for children and young people aged 0–25 with ALN and for ensuring that agreed provision set out in the IDP is delivered and reviewed?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Question 3 – A new code of practice

- g) Do you agree that a new code of practice on ALN should include mandatory requirements in accordance with which local authorities, schools, further education institutions, local health boards and the tribunal must act?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

We agree especially in terms of health boards and tribunals.

- h) Do you agree that the code of practice should set out guidance for any other bodies, such as third sector organisations or other providers of education and training?

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Agree	X	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Question 4 – Securing provision

Do you agree that further education institutions should be included alongside schools, maintained nurseries and pupil referral units, as institutions that must use their 'best endeavours' to secure the additional learning provision called for in an IDP?

Agree	X	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Question 5 – Securing specialist provision for young people

Do you agree that local authorities should be responsible for securing specialist education provision for post-16 learners outside of the further education sector where the IDP indicates that this is necessary to meet a young person's ALN?

Agree	X	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Question 6 – Placement at independent schools

Do you agree that local authorities should be prohibited from placing a child or young person at an independent school which has not been registered to provide the type of additional learning provision identified in their IDP?

Agree	X	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Question 7 – A multi-agency approach to planning and delivery

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

- g) Do you agree that local authorities, local health boards and further education institutions should be required to cooperate and share information in assessing, planning and delivering support to meet ALN?

Agree	X	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Confidentiality must be considered.

- h) As well as using the code of practice to provide guidance, are there any other ways in which you think multi-agency partnership working could be strengthened?

Supporting comments

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Question 8 – Supporting looked after children

Do you agree that IDPs should be able to replace or function as personal education plans for children and young people who are looked after by a local authority?

Agree	X	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Question 9 – Resolving disputes at an early stage

- g) Do you agree that local authorities should be required to put in place disagreement resolution arrangements?

Agree	X	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

- h) Do you agree that there should be a requirement to use the appropriate local complaints processes prior to appeal to tribunal?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Question 10 – Extending the right of appeal

Do you agree with our proposals in relation to extending rights of appeal to tribunal (see proposals 19, 20 and 21)?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Question 11

We have asked a number of specific questions. If you have any related issues which we have not specifically addressed, please use this space to report them.

There needs to be more fairness with tribunals. Tribunals often favour independent reports over LA reports.

Tribunal recommendations should also be able to be amended in future reviews: they often become outdated yet parents still insist they remain in statements and so schools still have to adhere to unnecessary demands.

Responses to consultations may be made public, on the internet or in a report. If ☒ you would prefer your response to remain anonymous, please tick here:

ALN011: Anonymous

Question 1 – New terminology

- a) Do you agree that a new term, 'additional learning needs', (ALN) should focus on children and young people who need additional and/or different support with learning to allow them to benefit as fully as possible from the education or training available to them?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

- b) Do you agree that the new system should apply to children and young people from birth up to the age of 25? If so, what implications should we consider for the professionals involved in assessing and providing that support?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

A lot of communication between agencies will be needed and this will then ensure continuity for the young person.

Question 2 – Individual development plans (IDP)

- a) Do you agree that all children and young people with ALN should be entitled to an IDP which sets out their agreed additional learning provision?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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- b) Do you agree that IDPs should replace statutory assessment and statements of SEN, assessments for learners over 16 (under section 140 of the Learning and Skills Act 2000) and non-statutory plans including individual education plans under School Action and School Action Plus?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Supporting comments

Concerns re the County being able to monitor SA SA+

- c) Do you agree that local authorities should be ultimately responsible for preparing an IDP for children and young people aged 0–25 with ALN and for ensuring that agreed provision set out in the IDP is delivered and reviewed?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

LA also needs to provide support to ensure the agreed provision can be delivered and reviewed.

Question 3 – A new code of practice

- a) Do you agree that a new code of practice on ALN should include mandatory requirements in accordance with which local authorities, schools, further education institutions, local health boards and the tribunal must act?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

- b) Do you agree that the code of practice should set out guidance for any other bodies, such as third sector organisations or other providers of education and training?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Question 4 – Securing provision

Do you agree that further education institutions should be included alongside schools, maintained nurseries and pupil referral units, as institutions that must use their 'best endeavours' to secure the additional learning provision called for in an IDP?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Supporting comments

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Question 5 – Securing specialist provision for young people

Do you agree that local authorities should be responsible for securing specialist education provision for post-16 learners outside of the further education sector where the IDP indicates that this is necessary to meet a young person's ALN?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Question 6 – Placement at independent schools

Do you agree that local authorities should be prohibited from placing a child or young person at an independent school which has not been registered to provide the type of additional learning provision identified in their IDP?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Question 7 – A multi-agency approach to planning and delivery

- a) Do you agree that local authorities, local health boards and further education institutions should be required to cooperate and share information in assessing, planning and delivering support to meet ALN?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Needs to be mandatory.

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

- b) As well as using the code of practice to provide guidance, are there any other ways in which you think multi-agency partnership working could be strengthened?

Supporting comments

By making it mandatory.

Question 8 – Supporting looked after children

Do you agree that IDPs should be able to replace or function as personal education plans for children and young people who are looked after by a local authority?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Question 9 – Resolving disputes at an early stage

- a) Do you agree that local authorities should be required to put in place disagreement resolution arrangements?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

- b) Do you agree that there should be a requirement to use the appropriate local complaints processes prior to appeal to tribunal?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Question 10 – Extending the right of appeal

Do you agree with our proposals in relation to extending rights of appeal to tribunal (see proposals 19, 20 and 21)?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Question 11

We have asked a number of specific questions. If you have any related issues which we have not specifically addressed, please use this space to report them.

I believe that funding needs to be provided for the ALNCo qualification - protected funding may need to be considered.

Responses to consultations may be made public, on the internet or in a report. If you would prefer your response to remain anonymous, please tick here: ☒

ALN012: **Phillippa Owen**
 Flintshire Inclusion Service

Question 1 – New terminology

- a) Do you agree that a new term, 'additional learning needs' (ALN) should focus on children and young people who need additional and/or different support with learning to allow them to benefit as fully as possible from the education or training available to them?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

The word additional is more inclusive than 'special'.

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

- b) Do you agree that the new system should apply to children and young people from birth up to the age of 25? If so, what implications should we consider for the professionals involved in assessing and providing that support?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Not really sure why 25? If resources are limited why is a better service not provided up to the age of 18?

Question 2 – Individual development plans (IDP)

- a) Do you agree that all children and young people with ALN should be entitled to an IDP which sets out their agreed additional learning provision?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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- b) Do you agree that IDPs should replace statutory assessment and statements of SEN, assessments for learners over 16 (under section 140 of the Learning and Skills Act 2000) and non-statutory plans including individual education plans under School Action and School Action Plus?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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- c) Do you agree that local authorities should be ultimately responsible for preparing an IDP for children and young people aged 0–25 with ALN and for ensuring that agreed provision set out in the IDP is delivered and reviewed?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Question 3 – A new code of practice

- a) Do you agree that a new code of practice on ALN should include mandatory requirements in accordance with which local authorities, schools, further education institutions, local health boards and the tribunal must act?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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- b) Do you agree that the code of practice should set out guidance for any other bodies, such as third sector organisations or other providers of education and training?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Question 4 – Securing provision

Do you agree that further education institutions should be included alongside schools, maintained nurseries and pupil referral units, as institutions that must use their 'best endeavours' to secure the additional learning provision called for in an IDP?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

My concern here would be that with possible funding reductions this may be not always be possible or equitable.

Question 5 – Securing specialist provision for young people

Do you agree that local authorities should be responsible for securing specialist education provision for post-16 learners outside of the further education sector where the IDP indicates that this is necessary to meet a young person's ALN?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Question 6 – Placement at independent schools

Do you agree that local authorities should be prohibited from placing a child or young person at an independent school which has not been registered to provide the type of additional learning provision identified in their IDP?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Question 7 – A multi-agency approach to planning and delivery

- a) Do you agree that local authorities, local health boards and further education institutions should be required to cooperate and share information in assessing, planning and delivering support to meet ALN?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

I agree wholeheartedly but experience shows that Health teams will not share confidential information which might be a hurdle?

- b) As well as using the code of practice to provide guidance, are there any other ways in which you think multi-agency partnership working could be strengthened?

Supporting comments

Working with Clusters of schools as multi agencies certainly strengthens working relationships where it is possible to facilitate this style of working.

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Question 8 – Supporting looked after children

Do you agree that IDPs should be able to replace or function as personal education plans for children and young people who are looked after by a local authority?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

As long as all parties involved with the child/young person are represented at the IDP Meetings.

Question 9 – Resolving disputes at an early stage

- a) Do you agree that local authorities should be required to put in place disagreement resolution arrangements?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Would need to be better informed as to how this would work & who would be involved.

- b) Do you agree that there should be a requirement to use the appropriate local complaints processes prior to appeal to tribunal?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Question 10 – Extending the right of appeal

Do you agree with our proposals in relation to extending rights of appeal to tribunal (see proposals 19, 20 and 21)?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Question 11

We have asked a number of specific questions. If you have any related issues which we have not specifically addressed, please use this space to report them.

Responses to consultations may be made public, on the internet or in a report. If you would prefer your response to remain anonymous, please tick here: ☐

ALN013: Anonymous

Question 1 – New terminology

- a) Do you agree that a new term, 'additional learning needs', (ALN) should focus on children and young people who need additional and/or different support with learning to allow them to benefit as fully as possible from the education or training available to them?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

It's a better label

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

- b) Do you agree that the new system should apply to children and young people from birth up to the age of 25? If so, what implications should we consider for the professionals involved in assessing and providing that support?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

This is a huge group, no one professional would be able to support an individual across the whole spectrum. There are too many 'professionals' offering a form of support in FE and Training providers, focused on attaining qualifications which in many instances are meaningless and do not result in genuine success and 'change' for the individual.

It is critical that any change should focus funding support on the learner, not on the 'process'. We need professionals who understand how to remove barriers and motivate and engage learners, but once they have done that they must be able to teach the learner - not superficially, we need deep learning that will change and improve lives.

I'm an 'old' mainstream teacher with post grad quals from Bangor University taught by Prof Tim Miles. Over the years I have supported children and adults with ALN and moderated and inspected adult learning. I have on occasions been dismayed by the lack of understanding of individual needs, teaching capability and literacy of teachers, tutors and trainers.

This change is really important - so also make changes to the 'vehicle' to deliver it. Maybe we need to focus on the way success is identified - in terms of outcomes - qualifications are unreliable, perhaps we should be listening more to the qualitative intelligence provided by the learner.

As in social care, maybe the starting point should be listening to the child/ YP, then the parent and hearing what support they believe they need?

Question 2 – Individual development plans (IDP)

- a) Do you agree that all children and young people with ALN should be entitled to an IDP which sets out their agreed additional learning provision?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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- b) Do you agree that IDPs should replace statutory assessment and statements of SEN, assessments for learners over 16 (under section 140 of the Learning and Skills Act 2000) and non-statutory plans including individual education plans under School Action and School Action Plus?

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

I think all learners should have an IDP but it has to be meaningful - a working document, monitored and amended as the individual's needs change - NOT purely a funding trigger!

I don't particularly like labels but sometimes they are necessary - How are we going to deal with the issues of sharing out the cake? I have worked with children who have been told they were just too lazy or not 'dyslexic enough' to get any support. I have seen literacy support that consists of issuing coloured overlays to young people who have been failed by mainstream only to be failed again in FE.

- c) Do you agree that local authorities should be ultimately responsible for preparing an IDP for children and young people aged 0–25 with ALN and for ensuring that agreed provision set out in the IDP is delivered and reviewed?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

How will this work? I envisage children waiting for years for an IDP!

Question 3 – A new code of practice

- a) Do you agree that a new code of practice on ALN should include mandatory requirements in accordance with which local authorities, schools, further education institutions, local health boards and the tribunal must act?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

I would like to be involved in developing it!

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

- b) Do you agree that the code of practice should set out guidance for any other bodies, such as third sector organisations or other providers of education and training?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Question 4 – Securing provision

Do you agree that further education institutions should be included alongside schools, maintained nurseries and pupil referral units, as institutions that must use their 'best endeavours' to secure the additional learning provision called for in an IDP?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Essential - it's often the last chance to capture these learners - but we have to get better at drilling down to find out whether the support is good enough!

Failure in FE too, can cause immense damage to an individual's life chances

Question 5 – Securing specialist provision for young people

Do you agree that local authorities should be responsible for securing specialist education provision for post-16 learners outside of the further education sector where the IDP indicates that this is necessary to meet a young person's ALN?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Yes - Are the issues in Wales because in the past the best teachers didn't stay in the classroom and rarely moved into additional learning support?

I remember teachers who couldn't manage a class or couldn't relate well with the children being moved to work with small groups of children who needed additional support.

These learners need the best teachers with a passion for learning and exceptional communication skills.

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Question 6 – Placement at independent schools

Do you agree that local authorities should be prohibited from placing a child or young person at an independent school which has not been registered to provide the type of additional learning provision identified in their IDP?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Absolutely

Question 7 – A multi-agency approach to planning and delivery

- a) Do you agree that local authorities, local health boards and further education institutions should be required to cooperate and share information in assessing, planning and delivering support to meet ALN?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

The only problem with this is the seemingly solid 'silo mentality' and maybe the basic barrier that they are funded differently. Has it been considered that the funding should sit firmly with the child and be managed by them or where necessary an advocate to enable them to select their best learning option? I may be out of date perhaps we do have a Direct Payments model facility to ALN support now?

- b) As well as using the code of practice to provide guidance, are there any other ways in which you think multi-agency partnership working could be strengthened?

Supporting comments

Person centred approaches must mean we have a parity of esteem - 'equal relationships. We have some way to go in health, social care and education before we relinquish the power balance and 'we know best' mentality. I didn't realise that until I started to listen to the children I supported and their so called 'pushy parents' I supported.

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Question 8 – Supporting looked after children

Do you agree that IDPs should be able to replace or function as personal education plans for children and young people who are looked after by a local authority?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

I would need to know more about these - I'm out of date. This would not be helpful if it resulted in sensitive information being withheld or disseminated inappropriately. We must do more to support 'children looked after' to have good learning experiences as well as better life chances.

Question 9 – Resolving disputes at an early stage

- a) Do you agree that local authorities should be required to put in place disagreement resolution arrangements?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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- b) Do you agree that there should be a requirement to use the appropriate local complaints processes prior to appeal to tribunal?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Question 10 – Extending the right of appeal

Do you agree with our proposals in relation to extending rights of appeal to tribunal (see proposals 19, 20 and 21)?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Question 11

We have asked a number of specific questions. If you have any related issues which we have not specifically addressed, please use this space to report them.

I am a semi-retired 'education' professional, parent and grandparent. One of my three children had a pretty traumatic mainstream experience and had I not known how to support him I doubt he would have gained his graduate and post graduate professional qualifications and been the useful citizen he is now.

I am only 'semi-retired' because my experience of mainstream education in Wales in the 1980s meant I stopped teaching, giving up pensions and holidays to be there to support my children's learning, finally working again to pay schools fees - something absolutely against my philosophy that we should have a good state education system - but I was tired of fighting.

With three well educated, well-balanced caring citizens I think we did a good job. However, I am monitoring four very young grandchildren's development as I know the statistics suggest one at least may have difficulty surviving our education system. At least one does not appear to be provided with the foundation tools necessary for a good start in literacy at the moment - Having said that I am probably old, grumpy and out of date!

I do hope you are able to reduce the superficiality of so many of the processes in place at present and really make a difference for the children who have the right to a good education but who do not have the voice to help them receive one.

Responses to consultations may be made public, on the internet or in ☒

ALN 014: Karenza Cassidy

I'm a parent of 2 children with autism (ages ** + **), complex medical issues, learning difficulties, home-schooled etc. i wanted to feedback having read the white paper proposals for Additional Learning Needs.

- very refreshing read, recognises current difficulties and frustrations of parents/children.
- like new terminology.
- good age 0-25 focus.
- paramount that it recognises current poor situation with agencies not working together, we have found this particularly difficult planning transition for my 15 year old. social services and education particularly unimpressive.
- i wonder how these changes are going to be put in place - finances, provisions, lack of staff when we are seeing cuts across the board?
- with a large pot of money, training etc. I would be excited about these proposals. is there a large pot of money?
- looking forward to hearing about how these changes and developments are going to be implemented.

ALN015: Sue James Ysgol Maes y Coed

I have read with interest the recent Consultation Document on changes that are proposed for Additional learning Needs.

Overall I think the changes are fine – the biggest change seems to be in changing the statement process with the IDP process. As an Advisory Teacher working across five authorities I have had the opportunity of being involved in the Pilot schemes that were introduced to certain authorities to trial the IDP/Transition process.

Generally the actual process is good – I attended a fantastic Transition review where everyone contributed positively to the meeting rather than everyone reading reports. Three key targets were set for this young person and everyone left happy with the process. Sadly the whole process fell apart because adult services work in a different way, funding is different and staffing ratios are different – consequently what was good on paper fell apart because of resources and funding and lack of staff who are fully qualified and have the knowledge and understanding to support these children and young people effectively.

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Whilst I think the changes afoot are good I believe strongly that in order for them to work effectively you have to put in the money and the resources and more importantly people who have empathy, understanding, experience and qualifications to get the best out of children with Additional Learning Needs and who parents trust.

I have worked in education for 33 years and with Sensory Impaired children for the last 30 years and sadly LEAs are becoming more 'corporate' and 'strategic' and managerial positions within LEAs are filled with people who have generally either lost touch with ALN or indeed have no knowledge, understanding or empathy with these children and talk only of budgets and increasing capacity!

The WAG bring out consultations and spend lots of money on producing literature such as Quality Standards but often leave LEAs to their own devices and as a result there are many LEAs not fulfilling their statutory obligations, not replacing highly skilled, experienced and qualified staff and stretching key ALN staff to their limit.

It seems to me LEAs can sail through inspections as long as they have the glossy brochure and tick the right boxes and yet key staff working with these children are struggling to maintain levels of support.

I believe education should change and there are things that can be made better or more efficient – the consultation proposals are fine but make sure as a WAG that you ensure all LEAs have strong experienced qualified staff to support these children and their families – that is the key to success and no tribunals. In 24 years working in a sensory authority where all Hearing Impaired children were educated in mainstream there were no tribunals.

I hope my comments, as a lowly Advisory Teacher will be of some use. I write them as someone who has dedicated my teaching life to ALN and who is passionate about working effectively with these children.

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

ALN016: **Anonymous**

Question 1 – New terminology

- a) Do you agree that a new term, 'additional learning needs', (ALN) should focus on children and young people who need additional and/or different support with learning to allow them to benefit as fully as possible from the education or training available to them?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Yes although greater clarification needs to be considered as to whether EAL and MAT children are included as ALN and do they require an IDP. Or is the expectation that these children are tracked and needs identified through good practise and differentiation within the setting?

- b) Do you agree that the new system should apply to children and young people from birth up to the age of 25? If so, what implications should we consider for the professionals involved in assessing and providing that support?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Yes there are transition plans in place for Nursery to Reception children and for Year 6 to Secondary education, it was also noted that there would be transition plans in place for FE will there be a more enforced transition plan from play groups and private nurseries into the the maintained settings for children with ALN?

Question 2 – Individual development plans (IDP)

- a) Do you agree that all children and young people with ALN should be entitled to an IDP which sets out their agreed additional learning provision?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

- b) Do you agree that IDPs should replace statutory assessment and statements of SEN, assessments for learners over 16 (under section 140 of the Learning and Skills Act 2000) and non-statutory plans including individual education plans under School Action and School Action Plus?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

I think it is a very specialised skill to write a statement and interpreting the appropriate assessments and reports from the various agencies involved. Therefore how training is delivered to ALNCO's is essential to ensure that standards and consistency within a LDP are maintained to ensure the child's needs are being met. If when writing the initial IDP for a child who has previously had a statement there must be legislation to ensure that all parties attend this meeting.

Question 3 – A new code of practice

- a) Do you agree that a new code of practice on ALN should include mandatory requirements in accordance with which local authorities, schools, further education institutions, local health boards and the tribunal must act?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Yes, I think there also needs to be training for Case Friends as in my experience the children usually designate a Teaching Assistant this can be a very daunting for the individual with such an important role. Also training is usually aimed at the ALNCO or teacher rather than Teaching Assistants.

- b) Do you agree that the code of practice should set out guidance for any other bodies, such as third sector organisations or other providers of education and training?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Question 4 – Securing provision

Do you agree that further education institutions should be included alongside schools, maintained nurseries and pupil referral units, as institutions that must use their 'best endeavours' to secure the additional learning provision called for in an IDP?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Yes, it will make FE more inclusive.

Question 5 – Securing specialist provision for young people

Do you agree that local authorities should be responsible for securing specialist education provision for post-16 learners outside of the further education sector where the IDP indicates that this is necessary to meet a young person's ALN?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Question 6 – Placement at independent schools

Do you agree that local authorities should be prohibited from placing a child or young person at an independent school which has not been registered to provide the type of additional learning provision identified in their IDP?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Question 7 – A multi-agency approach to planning and delivery

- a) Do you agree that local authorities, local health boards and further education institutions should be required to cooperate and share information in assessing, planning and delivering support to meet ALN?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Yes, but I am very aware that during the Annual Review process apologies are sent by outside agencies and when a written report is required in their absence this is not always up to date and reflective of the child's current needs at present. I also have many TAF meetings to attend and on many occasions the outside agencies don't attend or send a report, therefore if the IDP meeting is to take on this format is there going to be any redress? Will there be an expectation that outside agencies *MUST* attend once a year for an IDP review similar to an Annual Review even though it is more likely that in reality the IDP will be reviewed 3 times per year as this is the current practise with an IEP?

- b) As well as using the code of practice to provide guidance, are there any other ways in which you think multi-agency partnership working could be strengthened?

Supporting comments

Yes, I have a good working relationship with all my multi - agencies however my greatest difficulty is that there is no-one to over see a child with a practitioner that is working on a part time basis. I have several children who have practitioners that work part time and I cannot achieve a day when they can all attend even with 10 weeks notice as in line with the current Code of Practice for SEN.

Question 8 – Supporting looked after children

Do you agree that IDPs should be able to replace or function as personal education plans for children and young people who are looked after by a local authority?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Who will take the lead on this IDP for LAC children as I am involved with several children who are LAC but are not ALN. Therefore could this not be lead by the designated social worker over seeing the case if there are no concerns in the educational setting, and education providing relevent information?

Question 9 – Resolving disputes at an early stage

- a) Do you agree that local authorities should be required to put in place disagreement resolution arrangements?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

- b) Do you agree that there should be a requirement to use the appropriate local complaints processes prior to appeal to tribunal?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Yes as a school we always promote the use of Parent Partnership from the onset when a child is initially registered with ALN. This is especially beneficial if parents require greater support or reassurance regarding any matters whether this be a referral process to.

Question 10 – Extending the right of appeal

Do you agree with our proposals in relation to extending rights of appeal to tribunal (see proposals 19, 20 and 21)?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

It is good to extend the rights although I do feel that for some parents they may

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Supporting comments

It is good to extend the rights although I do feel that for some parents they may

use this process to try and push for a diagnosis, obtain 1: 1 support which is not always the appropriate level of support to meet the child's needs, or have implications for benefit applications.

Question 11

We have asked a number of specific questions. If you have any related issues which we have not specifically addressed, please use this space to report them.

I would like to be consulted on the full draft for the New Code of Practice for ALN.
Will in the COP it provide clarity on who is going to manage Resourced Provisions? As this is currently managed and maintained by the LA and overseen by the Headteacher and ALNCO. As a ALNCO who manages a Resourced Provision I would like to see some guidance on the admission process to ensure it is standardised due to the high level of need, to obtain accessibility to this specialised learning environment as the demand on places within these settings is great.

Responses to consultations may be made public, on the internet or in a report. If you would prefer your response to remain anonymous, please tick here: ☒

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

ALN017: **Anonymous**

Question 1 – New terminology

- a) Do you agree that a new term, 'additional learning needs', (ALN) should focus on children and young people who need additional and/or different support with learning to allow them to benefit as fully as possible from the education or training available to them?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

- b) Do you agree that the new system should apply to children and young people from birth up to the age of 25? If so, what implications should we consider for the professionals involved in assessing and providing that support?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

I think that the transition into adulthood should be supported for those young people that need it. There is currently a big drop off in support for some children, particularly those who find themselves educated in PRUs of alternative education centres.

Educational and Child Psychologists are well placed to support young people with this transition with our background in developmental psychology and eco systemic approaches to supporting learning and work.

Question 2 – Individual development plans (IDP)

- a) Do you agree that all children and young people with ALN should be entitled to an IDP which sets out their agreed additional learning provision?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

- b) Do you agree that IDPs should replace statutory assessment and statements of SEN, assessments for learners over 16 (under section 140 of the Learning and Skills Act 2000) and non-statutory plans including individual education plans under School Action and School Action Plus?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Although I do think that a clearly defined graduated response is useful for schools and parents. It will be vital that a highly professionally qualified educational psychologist is written into the assessment process, alongside other highly qualified professional from other fields, to ensure quality of assessment at a higher or more complex level of need.

- c) Do you agree that local authorities should be ultimately responsible for preparing an IDP for children and young people aged 0–25 with ALN and for ensuring that agreed provision set out in the IDP is delivered and reviewed?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Yes. I think that this will be essential to attempt to ensure equality of access to provision and assessment across settings

Question 3 – A new code of practice

- a) Do you agree that a new code of practice on ALN should include mandatory requirements in accordance with which local authorities, schools, further education institutions, local health boards and the tribunal must act?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

See above

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

- b) Do you agree that the code of practice should set out guidance for any other bodies, such as third sector organisations or other providers of education and training?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Question 4 – Securing provision

Do you agree that further education institutions should be included alongside schools, maintained nurseries and pupil referral units, as institutions that must use their 'best endeavours' to secure the additional learning provision called for in an IDP?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Question 5 – Securing specialist provision for young people

Do you agree that local authorities should be responsible for securing specialist education provision for post-16 learners outside of the further education sector where the IDP indicates that this is necessary to meet a young person's ALN?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Again, Educational Psychologists are very well-placed to work collaboratively with Social Services and Health, the young person and their community and family support systems to ensure this is done effectively and meaningfully.

Question 6 – Placement at independent schools

Do you agree that local authorities should be prohibited from placing a child or young person at an independent school which has not been registered to provide the type of additional learning provision identified in their IDP?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Question 7 – A multi-agency approach to planning and delivery

- a) Do you agree that local authorities, local health boards and further education institutions should be required to cooperate and share information in assessing, planning and delivering support to meet ALN?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Educational Psychology services have been working hard alongside other agencies to ensure that this good practice is already in place. We are trained

and experienced in multi agency working.

- b) As well as using the code of practice to provide guidance, are there any other ways in which you think multi-agency partnership working could be strengthened?

Supporting comments

smaller area 'teams around the schools' with allocated time for professionals to attend

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Question 8 – Supporting looked after children

Do you agree that IDPs should be able to replace or function as personal education plans for children and young people who are looked after by a local authority?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Currently, I think that both are needed as PEPs serve a different purpose and need to be very flexible. It may be possible to merge the two after time or on less complex cases.

I think that this should be approached with caution.

Question 9 – Resolving disputes at an early stage

- a) Do you agree that local authorities should be required to put in place disagreement resolution arrangements?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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- b) Do you agree that there should be a requirement to use the appropriate local complaints processes prior to appeal to tribunal?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Question 10 – Extending the right of appeal

Do you agree with our proposals in relation to extending rights of appeal to tribunal (see proposals 19, 20 and 21)?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Question 11

We have asked a number of specific questions. If you have any related issues which we have not specifically addressed, please use this space to report them.

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ALN018: Jane Wareham
Ysgol y Castell, Kidwelly

Question 1 – New terminology

- a) Do you agree that a new term, 'additional learning needs', (ALN) should focus on children and young people who need additional and/or different support with learning to allow them to benefit as fully as possible from the education or training available to them?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

- b) Do you agree that the new system should apply to children and young people from birth up to the age of 25? If so, what implications should we consider for the professionals involved in assessing and providing that support?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Question 2 – Individual development plans (IDP)

- a) Do you agree that all children and young people with ALN should be entitled to an IDP which sets out their agreed additional learning provision?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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- b) Do you agree that IDPs should replace statutory assessment and statements of SEN, assessments for learners over 16 (under section 140 of the Learning and Skills Act 2000) and non-statutory plans including individual education plans under School Action and School Action Plus?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Supporting comments

WE HAVE TRIALLED THIS AND IT IS THE BEST POSSIBLE PRACTICE. I CANNOT STRESS HOW MUCH TRANSPARENT AND MORE EFFECTIVE THIS PRACTICE IS AND TOTALLY CENTRED ON THE CHILD'S VOICE.

- c) Do you agree that local authorities should be ultimately responsible for preparing an IDP for children and young people aged 0–25 with ALN and for ensuring that agreed provision set out in the IDP is delivered and reviewed?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

I STRONGLY AGREE WITH THIS

Question 3 – A new code of practice

- a) Do you agree that a new code of practice on ALN should include mandatory requirements in accordance with which local authorities, schools, further education institutions, local health boards and the tribunal must act?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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- b) Do you agree that the code of practice should set out guidance for any other bodies, such as third sector organisations or other providers of education and training?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Question 4 – Securing provision

Do you agree that further education institutions should be included alongside schools, maintained nurseries and pupil referral units, as institutions that must use their 'best endeavours' to secure the additional learning provision called for in an IDP?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Question 4 – Securing provision

Do you agree that further education institutions should be included alongside schools, maintained nurseries and pupil referral units, as institutions that must use their 'best endeavours' to secure the additional learning provision called for in an IDP?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Supporting comments

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Question 5 – Securing specialist provision for young people

Do you agree that local authorities should be responsible for securing specialist education provision for post-16 learners outside of the further education sector where the IDP indicates that this is necessary to meet a young person's ALN?

Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Question 6 – Placement at independent schools

Do you agree that local authorities should be prohibited from placing a child or young person at an independent school which has not been registered to provide the type of additional learning provision identified in their IDP?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Question 7 – A multi-agency approach to planning and delivery

- a) Do you agree that local authorities, local health boards and further education institutions should be required to cooperate and share information in assessing, planning and delivering support to meet ALN?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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- b) As well as using the code of practice to provide guidance, are there any other ways in which you think multi-agency partnership working could be strengthened?

Supporting comments

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Question 8 – Supporting looked after children

Do you agree that IDPs should be able to replace or function as personal education plans for children and young people who are looked after by a local authority?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Question 9 – Resolving disputes at an early stage

- a) Do you agree that local authorities should be required to put in place disagreement resolution arrangements?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Supporting comments

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- b) Do you agree that there should be a requirement to use the appropriate local complaints processes prior to appeal to tribunal?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Question 10 – Extending the right of appeal

Do you agree with our proposals in relation to extending rights of appeal to tribunal (see proposals 19, 20 and 21)?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Question 11

We have asked a number of specific questions. If you have any related issues which we have not specifically addressed, please use this space to report them.

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ALN019: Keith Ingram

Question 1 – New terminology

- a) Do you agree that a new term, 'additional learning needs' (ALN) should focus on children and young people who need additional and/or different support with learning to allow them to benefit as fully as possible from the education or training available to them?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

- b) Do you agree that the new system should apply to children and young people from birth up to the age of 25? If so, what implications should we consider for the professionals involved in assessing and providing that support?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Will require FE and HE to have required skills

Question 2 – Individual development plans (IDP)

- a) Do you agree that all children and young people with ALN should be entitled to an IDP which sets out their agreed additional learning provision?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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- b) Do you agree that IDPs should replace statutory assessment and statements of SEN, assessments for learners over 16 (under section 140 of the Learning and Skills Act 2000) and non-statutory plans including individual education plans under School Action and School Action Plus?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Supporting comments

Providing the LA has some kind of statutory responsibility to implement. If it is simply a plan with no teeth then why bother

- c) Do you agree that local authorities should be ultimately responsible for preparing an IDP for children and young people aged 0–25 with ALN and for ensuring that agreed provision set out in the IDP is delivered and reviewed?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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- a) Do you agree that a new code of practice on ALN should include mandatory requirements in accordance with which local authorities, schools, further education institutions, local health boards and the tribunal must act?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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- b) Do you agree that the code of practice should set out guidance for any other bodies, such as third sector organisations or other providers of education and training?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Question 4 – Securing provision

Do you agree that further education institutions should be included alongside schools, maintained nurseries and pupil referral units, as institutions that must use their 'best endeavours' to secure the additional learning provision called for in an IDP?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Question 5 – Securing specialist provision for young people

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Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Do you agree that local authorities should be prohibited from placing a child or young person at an independent school which has not been registered to provide the type of additional learning provision identified in their IDP?

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Supporting comments

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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Question 7 – A multi-agency approach to planning and delivery

- a) Do you agree that local authorities, local health boards and further education institutions should be required to cooperate and share information in assessing, planning and delivering support to meet ALN?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Has several implications re data sharing

- b) As well as using the code of practice to provide guidance, are there any other ways in which you think multi-agency partnership working could be strengthened?

Supporting comments

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Question 8 – Supporting looked after children

Do you agree that IDPs should be able to replace or function as personal education plans for children and young people who are looked after by a local authority?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Question 9 – Resolving disputes at an early stage

- a) Do you agree that local authorities should be required to put in place disagreement resolution arrangements?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Supporting comments

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- b) Do you agree that there should be a requirement to use the appropriate local complaints processes prior to appeal to tribunal?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Do you agree with our proposals in relation to extending rights of appeal to tribunal (see proposals 19, 20 and 21)?

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Supporting comments

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Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Question 11

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ALN020: Julie Grice
Action for Children

Question 1 – New terminology

- a) Do you agree that a new term, 'additional learning needs', (ALN) should focus on children and young people who need additional and/or different support with learning to allow them to benefit as fully as possible from the education or training available to them?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

This terminology is more "current"

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

- b) Do you agree that the new system should apply to children and young people from birth up to the age of 25? If so, what implications should we consider for the professionals involved in assessing and providing that support?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

Yes there is a varied standard of provision currently

Question 2 – Individual development plans (IDP)

- a) Do you agree that all children and young people with ALN should be entitled to an IDP which sets out their agreed additional learning provision?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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- b) Do you agree that IDPs should replace statutory assessment and statements of SEN, assessments for learners over 16 (under section 140 of the Learning and Skills Act 2000) and non-statutory plans including individual education plans under School Action and School Action Plus?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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- c) Do you agree that local authorities should be ultimately responsible for preparing an IDP for children and young people aged 0–25 with ALN and for ensuring that agreed provision set out in the IDP is delivered and reviewed?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

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Supporting comments

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- b) Do you agree that the code of practice should set out guidance for any other bodies, such as third sector organisations or other providers of education and training?

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Supporting comments

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Supporting comments

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Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

It is important that all schools follow the new guidelines
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Question 7 – A multi-agency approach to planning and delivery

- a) Do you agree that local authorities, local health boards and further education institutions should be required to cooperate and share information in assessing, planning and delivering support to meet ALN?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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- b) As well as using the code of practice to provide guidance, are there any other ways in which you think multi-agency partnership working could be strengthened?

Supporting comments

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Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Question 8 – Supporting looked after children

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Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Question 9 – Resolving disputes at an early stage

- a) Do you agree that local authorities should be required to put in place disagreement resolution arrangements?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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- b) Do you agree that there should be a requirement to use the appropriate local complaints processes prior to appeal to tribunal?

Agree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Question 10 – Extending the right of appeal

Do you agree with our proposals in relation to extending rights of appeal to tribunal (see proposals 19, 20 and 21)?

Legislative proposals for additional learning needs Responses 1-20

Agree	<input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Supporting comments

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Question 11

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