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Llywodraeth Cymru
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Consultation Document

Inclusion and pupil support

Revised guidance for practitioners

Date of issue: 17 December 2015

Action required: Responses by 11 February 2016

Inclusion and pupil support

- Overview** The *Inclusion and Pupil Support* guidance was originally published in 2006. Since that time there have been a number of legislative and policy changes that need to be reflected in a refreshed version.
- How to respond** Responses to this consultation should be e-mailed/posted to the address below to arrive by **11 February 2016** at the latest.
- Further information and related documents** Large print, Braille and alternate language versions of this document are available on request.
The consultation documents can be accessed from the Welsh Government's website at www.gov.wales/consultations
- Contact details** For further information:
Pupil Wellbeing Branch
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Data protection

How the views and information you give us will be used

Any response you send us will be seen in full by Welsh Government staff dealing with the issues which this consultation is about. It may also be seen by other Welsh Government staff to help them plan future consultations.

The Welsh Government intends to publish a summary of the responses to this document. We may also publish responses in full. Normally, the name and address (or part of the address) of the person or organisation who sent the response are published with the response. This helps to show that the consultation was carried out properly. If you do not want your name or address published, please tell us this in writing when you send your response. We will then blank them out.

Names or addresses we blank out might still get published later, though we do not think this would happen very often. The Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 allow the public to ask to see information held by many public bodies, including the Welsh Government. This includes information which has not been published. However, the law also allows us to withhold information in some circumstances. If anyone asks to see information we have withheld, we will have to decide whether to release it or not. If someone has asked for their name and address not to be published, that is an important fact we would take into account. However, there might sometimes be important reasons why we would have to reveal someone's name and address, even though they have asked for them not to be published. We would get in touch with the person and ask their views before we finally decided to reveal the information.

What are the main issues?

The Inclusion and Pupil Support Guidance is a tool to help schools and local authorities create inclusive and supportive learning environments in which all learners can reach their potential. The non-statutory document provides a basic outline of the requirements on schools and local authorities in respect of supporting and including all pupils and signposts to the appropriate, more detailed Welsh Government guidance. The guidance was originally published in 2006 and is being revised to reflect the legislative and policy changes that have occurred since.

Where are we now?

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/educationandskills/schoolshome/pupilsupport/inclusionpupilsupportguidance/?lang=en>

Policy and legislative changes

Since the document was originally published in 2006 there have been a number of legislative and policy changes that need to be reflected in revised guidance.

This refresh would also contribute to the delivery of a number of commitments including:

The [*Programme for Government*](#) commitment to help everyone reach their potential, reduce inequality, and improve economic and social well-being;

Inclusion and wellbeing underpin the four strategic objectives set out in [*Qualified for Life*](#), the Welsh Government's long term vision for improving education in Wales.

The Welsh Government's response to the University of Edinburgh's Report [*Evaluation of education provision for children and young people educated outside the school setting*](#) contains a specific commitment to refresh the guidance.

What specific changes are we proposing?

- Guidance on Elective Home Education will be issued separately as stand alone guidance.
- The annex relating to the use of attendance codes will be removed from the Inclusion and Pupil Support document and issued as stand alone guidance. This will be reviewed in 2016.
- To ensure users have access to the latest guidance it will only be available on-line only. This will allow more regular updating of the content at minimal additional cost.