



Parent Partnership Service



Understanding Individual Development Plans - IDPs

An Individual Development Plan (IDP) is a plan created with, and agreed by all those people most closely involved with supporting a child or young person including parents/carers. IDPs will eventually replace some of the different types of support plans for children and young people with additional learning needs (ALN) such as Statements of SEN, and IEPs.

Here are some facts about IDPs:

- ✓ Children and young people who have ALN **and** who need Additional Learning Provision (ALP*) will have an IDP
- ✓ These changes will take place over a 3 year implementation period from 2021.
- ✓ The IDP will offer consistency and continuity for everyone.
- ✓ Provision and rights will be protected for all learners who have an IDP regardless of the type or complexity of their needs.

0-25 years

The new system will be for children and young people aged 0-25 in education. This will include children in Early Years settings like pre-school and nursery, schools, and colleges of further education. There will be a multi-agency approach, to include professionals from Education, Health and Social Services all working together to provide a single plan - the IDP.

Reviews and Meetings

Meetings and reviews about ALN and IDPs, should be positively focused to explore a better and more positive future for the child or young person. The child or young person should be at the centre of the process. The meeting should decide who is going to coordinate and also produce a clear action plan. The positive approach for meetings and reviews should focus less on what's wrong, and more on what we would like to happen. This is called Person Centred Practice (PCP).

Who will be involved?

The child or young person, and everyone who is important to the child or young person, to support their learning and their needs. This will include parents and carers.

* see Parent Partnership leaflet 'What is ALN and ALP?'



How will an IDP be developed and what will it include?

There are clear guidelines on what should be included within an IDP. This is set by Welsh Government and includes:

- Naming the professional responsible for the IDP
- Information about me (the child/young person)
 - * My views, wishes and feelings
 - * Information that was used to help write my IDP
 - * Information about my ALN and what they mean to me
 - * My Additional Learning Provision (ALP)
- Transition planning
- Reasons for decisions made
- Timeline of important dates.

The IDP will be written as a child or young person friendly document, using simple language and photos of the child young person, images, and what's important to them and what's important for them.

When will it be reviewed?

IDPs should be regularly reviewed, for example if there are any changes, and must be reviewed each year (annually)

Points to Remember

When writing an IDP, the Local Authority, School, Setting and college will:

- ✓ Listen to and include the views wishes and feelings of the parent, as well as those of the child/young person
- ✓ Have a positive attitude towards parents to ensure parents fully participate in decisions about their child's education and can contribute towards decision-making and outcomes for their child.
- ✓ Provide information and support to enable parent participation as fully as possible, to support and empower parents
- ✓ Appreciate that the lead up to a decision on whether a child has ALN, and other decisions on a child's ALN may be an anxious time for the parents and family

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