

ALN TRANSFORMATION NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2019: Issue No. 4

Powys ALN Parent Carer Forum

"Parents, carers and the local authority working together recognizing each other's experience, skills and knowledge, to help improve services for children and young people in Powys"

Several meetings of the Powys ALN Parent Carer Forum have been held and more recently we have held information drop-in sessions. It is hoped that over the next academic year the forum will grow in numbers and assist with shaping ALN provision in Powys. If you would like to find out more about the Powys ALN Parent Carer Forum you can visit the Powys website www.powys.gov.uk/ALN or contact us on Tel. 01597 826742 Email aln.transformation@powys.gov.uk

The Spring and Summer term forum meetings are due to take place on the following dates:

- Tuesday 25th February 2020 at 6.30pm in Newtown
- Thursday 2nd July 2020 at 6.30pm in Brecon



Welsh Government Update

Kirsty Williams Minister for Education announced on the 17th September 2019 that the role-out of the new ALN legislation would be delayed until September 2021.

An updated implementation guide has not yet been released, however, once further information is available this will be shared. In the meantime the full WG statement can be accessed at <https://gov.wales/written-statement-implementation-additional-learning-needs-system>

Despite this delay we can confirm that Powys County Council will be continuing with our transformation programme, and will evaluate our priorities whilst we wait to receive further information from Welsh Government.

Feedback from engagement events

During ALN Transformation events held earlier this year parents and carers told us that it was important that all staff in schools to have an understanding of Special Educational Needs (SEN) / Additional Learning Needs (ALN). Therefore, after working closely with colleagues in the Catering and Cleaning Department we are pleased to confirm that all schools catering staff will be receiving an ALN awareness raising workplace talk. Alongside this awareness raising work, school menus are currently being updated with easy read text and simple food descriptions, these new look menus will be in use from February in schools across Powys.

RIX Wiki Trial

Five schools from across the County will be taking part in phase one of the RIX Wiki Trial, if successful we will be looking to widen the trial in Spring Term 2020.

A wiki is a simple, easy-to-build personal website that can be accessed using a PC, laptop, smartphone or tablet. They can be used to create multi-media person-centred plans that use pictures, words, video and sound to capture the voice, skills, aspirations and needs of the individual.

Wikis are seen as a very useful tool to supporting education, health and care planning for children and young people with additional learning needs.

The council sees Wikis as an important tool in helping it meet the requirements of the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018, which states the importance of having the learner's views and feelings at the heart of the process of planning the support required to enable them to overcome barriers to learning and achieve their full potential.

RIX Wiki has been developed by RIX Research and Media, an international research and development centre based at the University of East London. They explore and develop ways of using new technologies to transform the lives of people with learning disabilities.

To find out more about the RIX Wiki visit www.rixwiki.org/

Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018



Yn agored a blaengar - Open and enterprising

Powys