COLEG CAMBRIA

Additional Learning Needs

ALN Information Guide



Introduction

A new system for supporting young people aged 16-25 with additional needs started in colleges from September 2023 with the introduction of the term Additional Learning Needs (ALN).

For the majority of young people, their needs can be met through high quality, teaching and learning and universal provision. Coleg Cambria has been working hard over the last few years to put in place differentiated teaching and support to help all learners make progress and the college has a wide range of universal support services i.e. provision that is ordinarily available to all. For a very small number of young people, universal provision will not be enough to meet their complex needs and they will require Additional Learning Provision (ALP). ALP is additional to or different to that provision which is generally available to all.

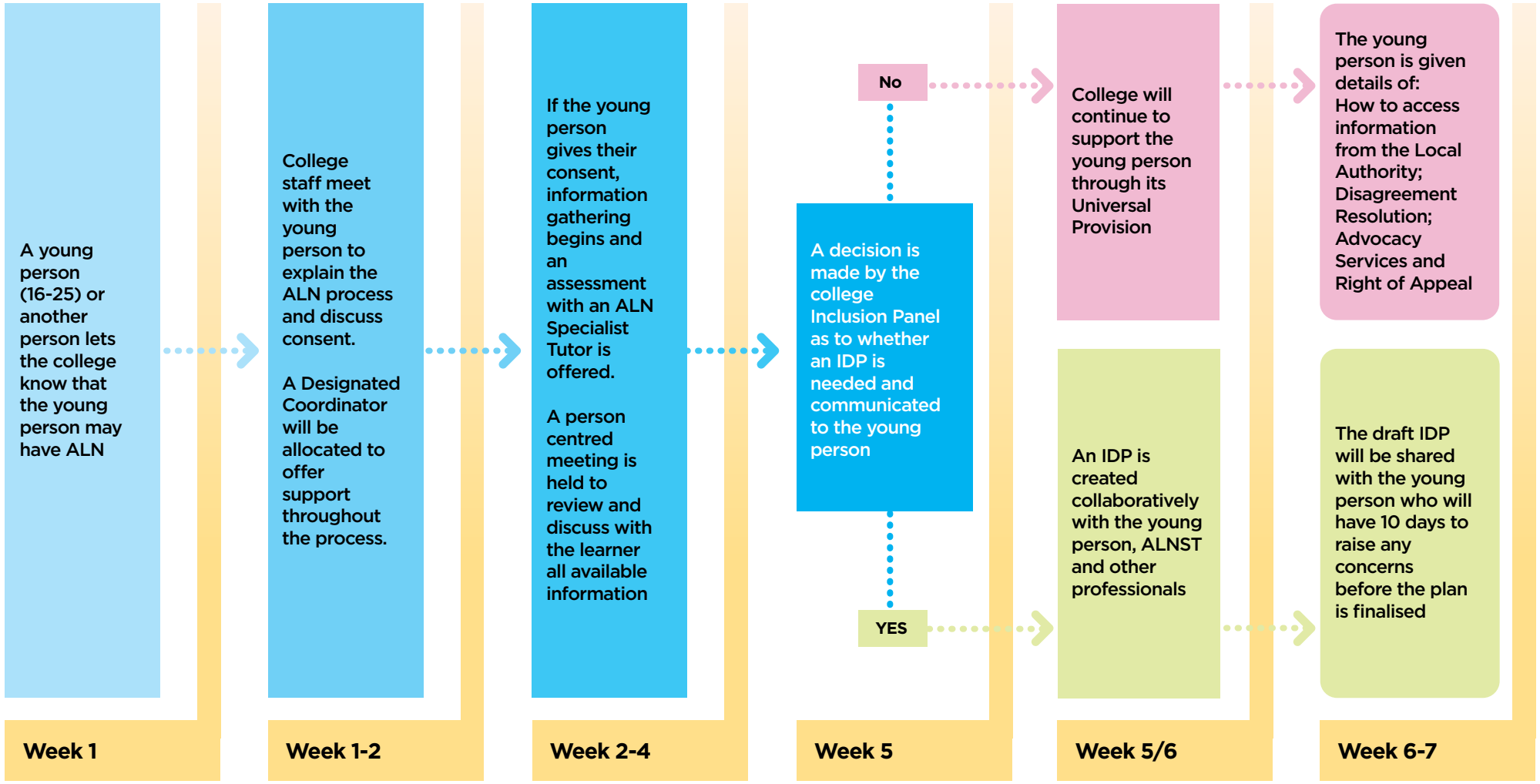
Additional Learning Needs (ALN)

A young person has additional learning needs if they have a learning difficulty or disability (whether the learning difficulty or disability arises from a medical condition or otherwise) which call for additional learning provision.

It is important to remember that young people learn in different ways, and their needs may change over time. Support could be increased, reduced or changed over time according to individual progress and this will be reviewed regularly. Schools and Colleges also offer different types of provision and what may have been considered additional provision in school could generally be available to all in College.



Coleg Cambria Process for Identifying and Supporting ALN (Easy Read Version)



35 term time days

See Annex 1 for a more comprehensive explanation of the ALN Process

Universal and Additional Provision

Universal Provision is the name given to provision , which is routinely available to all young people and may be provided at a whole class, small group or individual level.

Additional Learning Provision is enhanced or bespoke provision that has been identified in a person centred way to support the young person in making progress. Young people who require ALP are classed as having ALN and as such will be offered an Individual Development Plan.



Individual Development Plan

An Individual Development Plan (IDP) has replaced Statements of Special Educational Needs and Learning Skills Plans. These new plans will be person-centred and may include other agencies such as health professionals and third sector organisations. The most significant change for young people is that they will be at the centre of planning their provision.

IDPs will be reviewed at least annually and will be created and revised with the young person and with their consent, their parent/carer or advocate. The college, young person and NHS bodies can request a review at any time if they feel that information or needs have changed.

IDPs are designed to outline the ALN of a young person, their aspirations related to work, life and community and outcomes to achieve these. Any young person who receives ALP requires an IDP. The majority of these will be written and maintained by schools and colleges but some more complex cases may be written by the Local Authority.

Person Centred Approaches

Person centred approaches are central to the Additional Learning Needs and Educational Tribunal Act and Additional Learning Needs Code for Wales. They are about putting the young person at the centre of identifying needs, planning their provision and reviewing this.

Ensuring young people are involved in identifying what is important to and for them, in planning their provision and in outlining their hopes and aspirations, explaining how they wish to realise these are all part of an overarching ethos to person-centred practice. Reviews of IDPs will take place in a person-centred way.

Further Information and Advice about ALN and the ALN system

Further information and advice about ALN can be found on the College's website or you can contact the ALN team directly by emailing:

idp@cambria.ac.uk

You can also contact your Local Authority for further information and advice about ALN and the ALN system.

Local Authority	Email	Website
Denbighshire	aln@denbighshire.gov.uk	https://www.denbighshire.gov.uk/en/education-and-schools/additional-learning-needs/overview.aspx
Flintshire	aln@flintshire.gov.uk	https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/Children--Young-People-with-Additional-Learning-Needs.aspx
Wrexham	ALN@wrexham.gov.uk	https://www.wrexham.gov.uk/service/more-education-information/supporting-pupils-additional-learning-needs

Independent Advice and Advocacy

What to do if you are unhappy with an ALN decision

If you are unhappy with any decision regarding ALN please contact the College's ALN team by email on **idp@cambria.ac.uk**

A member of the team will work with you to resolve any concerns you raise regarding the consideration of ALN.

Advocacy and Disagreement Resolution

If you live in Denbighshire, Flintshire or Wrexham and you want independent advice, guidance and support, you can contact the Additional Learning Needs Information and Support Service (ALNISS), which is provided by **SNAP Cymru.** This service offers free support for young people who have/or may have additional learning needs, including dispute resolution and ALN issue-based advocacy. You can find out more about SNAP Cymru at **www.snapcymru.org.**

You can also contact SNAP Cymru via the helpline on **0808 801 0608** or by completing an enquiry form at **www.snapcymru.org/contact**

Appeal to the Educational Tribunal for Wales

If you are unhappy with a decision made about ALN, you have the right to appeal to the Educational Tribunal for Wales. They make decisions on appeals about additional learning needs. Information about when and how you can make an appeal can be found on their website: **ttps://educationtribunal.gov.wales/**

Appeals must be made within 8 weeks of a decision being made; however, if dispute resolution services are used, the time scale for appeal is extended by a further eight weeks.

Useful Links

Item	Description	Link/location
ALN Act	The 2018 Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal Act (2018)	https://www.legislation.gov.uk/anaw/2018/2/contents
ALN Code	The Additional Learning Needs Code	https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2022-06/220622-the-additional-learning-needs-code-for-wales-2021.pdf
ALN Timescales	Information about when young people will move onto the additional learning needs (ALN) system	https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2022-09/information-about-when-young-people-will-move-onto-the-additional-learning-needs-system.pdf
ALN Pathfinder	A website is designed to help young people with ALN and their families to make informed choices and plan their next steps.	https://www.alnpathfinder.wales/
ALN System	Information for young people moving on to the additional learning needs system.	https://www.gov.wales/additional-learning-needs-aln-system-young-peoples-guide
ALNET Video	An animation explaining the new ALN system for parents and young people	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zGqUdATKI6E
SNAP Cymru	A Website providing lots of information about the new ALN system and about how they can support children, young people and parents.	https://www.snapcymru.org/

Annex 1: Coleg Cambria ALN Process

