

Easy Read



Know Your Rights

Your guide to the Additional Learning Needs Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018



This leaflet was written by **Disability Wales**. It is an easy read version of “**Know your rights Use your rights Live your rights**’.
March 2022

How to use this document



This is an easy read document. But you may still need support to read it. Ask someone you know to help you.



Words in **bold blue writing** may be hard to understand. You can check what the words in blue mean on **page 15**.



Where the document says **we**, this means **Disability Wales**. For more information contact:

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Introduction



This booklet has been written by **Disability Wales**.



This booklet is for disabled people and disabled people's organisations.



This booklet gives information about **The Additional Learning Needs Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018**. But it is not legal advice.



There are 8 booklets in total. Each booklet has information about a different law.



This booklet was correct in January 2021. But **The Additional Learning Needs Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018** might change in the future.

About our work



We work hard to protect the **rights** of disabled people.



Rights are the things you are allowed to do. For example, you have the right to get married and the right to vote.

Rights tell us how we should be treated. For example, you have the right to be treated with respect.

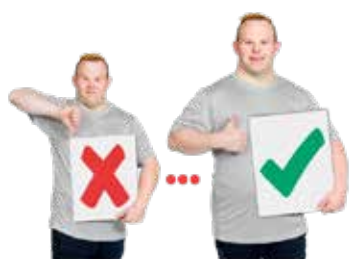
Other people have **rights** too. For example, you must treat other people with respect.



In 2020, we asked disabled people in Wales about their **rights**.



A lot of disabled people told us their **rights** were not well protected in Wales.



A lot of disabled people felt this would not improve in the future.



We want disabled people to know and use their **rights**. And to feel protected.



We wrote these 8 booklets to help.

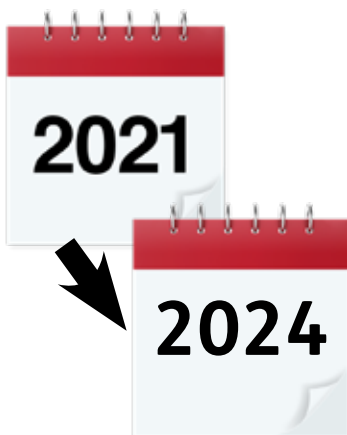
The Additional Learning Needs Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018



The **Additional Learning Needs Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018** is a new law. We will call it the **Act** for short.



The **Act** is for people with additional learning needs aged 0-25.



The **Act** will start being used between 2021 and 2024. It will replace:

- the special educational needs system
- and the learning difficulties and/or disabilities system



Some people with **additional learning needs** find learning much harder than other people.



Some people with **additional learning needs** find using education facilities much harder than other people.



People with **additional learning needs** need extra support when in education or training.



The **Act** will make life easier for children and young people with **additional learning needs**.



And it will help schools, colleges, children or young people and their parents work better together.

Know your rights

Assessments for additional learning needs



If a school or **local authority** thinks you have **additional learning needs**, they must do an **assessment**.



The **local authority** is your council. They provide lots of services in your area like social services, education, roads, lighting, and rubbish collection.



Assessment is a way of finding out if someone needs help and support.



An **assessment** will check if you have **additional learning needs**. And will work out what support you need.



The **assessment** should consider what you want to happen. Like where you want to go to school.



Local authorities should try to keep you in your usual school. With other students who do not have **additional learning need**. But this is not always possible.

Individual development plans



If you have an **additional learning need**, your school or **local authority** must write an **individual development plan**.

An **individual development plan** says what **additional learning needs** you have. And what support you need.



You should get a copy of your **individual development plan**. And if you are under 18, your parents should get a copy.



You and your parents should get any advice you need about your **additional learning needs**. Like where to go for more help.



You might get help from the NHS for your **additional learning needs**.



The NHS might change your **individual development plan** if they think it will help you.



If you move schools or **local authority**, your **individual development plan** stays the same.



Your **individual development plan** should be checked every year. To see if anything has changed.



The **individual development plan** should include if you want to be supported in Welsh.



Any support you get for **additional learning need** is free.

Use your rights



If you are unhappy with your school, you can complain to the **local authority**. Or the **Educational Tribunal**.

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The **Educational Tribunal** can help solve problems when people don't agree.



The **Educational Tribunal** can make final decisions about **assessments**, **ALN**, support, and **individual development plan**.



And about how much a child or young person understands.



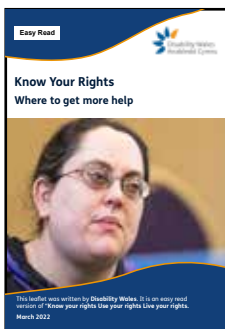
If you go to an **Educational Tribunal**, you have the right to an **advocate**.

An **advocate** is someone who speaks up for you to help you say what you want to say and get your needs met.

Local authorities and the NHS must follow:



- the **United Nations Convention on the Rights of Disabled People**.
- And the **United Nations Convention on the Rights of Children**.



Find out more about the **United Nations Convention on the Rights of Children** in **Know Your Rights - Your guide to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Disabled People**. Find out more about the **Act** in the **More Information** section.



If you think **local authorities** or the NHS have not followed the rules, you can make a complaint.

More information



The **Welsh Government's** Frequently Asked Questions about **Additional Learning Needs Education Tribunal**:

www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-02/aln-frequently-asked-questions-2_0.pdf

The **Welsh Government's** plan for the **Additional Learning Needs** system:

www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-03/additional-learning-needs-aln-transformation-programme-v3.pdf

The **Welsh Government's** factsheet for children and young people. And for their parents or carers:

www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-06/aln-factsheet-how-will-the-act-affect-children-young-people-and-parents-carers.pdf

The **Welsh Government's** Easy Read version of **Additional Learning Needs Education Tribunal**:

www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-10/helping-children-and-young-people-who-need-extra-support-to-learn-children-and-young-people-with-additional-learning-needs.pdf

United Nations Convention on the Rights of Children:

www.unicef.org.uk/what-we-do/un-convention-child-rights

Hard words

Advocate

An advocate is someone who speaks up for you to help you say what you want to say and get your needs met.

Assessment

An assessment is a check to see what care and support you might need.

Educational Tribunal

The Educational Tribunal can help solve problems when people don't agree.

Individual development plan

An individual development plan says what ALN you have. And what support you need.

Local authority

The local authority is your council. They provide lots of services in your area like social services, education, roads, lighting, and rubbish collection.

Rights

Rights are the things you are allowed to do. For example, you have the right to get married and the right to vote.

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