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Mae'r ddogfen yma ar gael yn y Gymraeg

PARENT/CARER  
INFORMATION

# A Guide to EARLY YEARS FORUM

The Local Authority actively encourages partnership working between parents, carers, learners, schools, colleges and professionals.

The Early Years Forum is a multi agency forum which supports children under compulsory school age with a potential, or determined, **Additional Learning Needs (ALN)**.



RHONDDA CYNON TAF



### What is the Early Years Forum?

The Forum is a multi agency panel made up of a wide range of professionals who work with children under compulsory school age. This includes professionals from various services including Education, Health, Children's Services and Childcare. Some of the services include: Educational Psychologists, Health Visitors, Learner Support Service, Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Speech and Language Therapists, Flying Start, Children's Services, Resilient Families Service and Childcare team.

### What is the purpose of the Forum?

The Forum provides a central point of support for children with a potential Additional Learning Need (ALN). The Forum will discuss children and ensure that they are accessing the services and provision that is required to meet their needs. Professionals will consider whether a child has an ALN and requires Additional Learning Provision (ALP).

### When should a child be referred to the Forum?

Children should be referred when on-going needs are identified which may impact on their future education. Evidence of barriers to play/learning should be submitted with a referral and should include as much information about the child as possible, from a range of professionals. They will need to be aged between 0-5 and not be attending a maintained school or Nursery.

### Who can refer to Early Years Forum?

Children can be referred by Health professionals (e.g. Paediatricians, Health Visitors, Occupational Therapists or other health professionals). Early Years settings can also refer to the Forum. Parents can also refer to the Early Years Forum but a referral should be supported by Health professionals and Childcare professionals.

### What happens after a child is referred?

If the Local Authority (LA) determines that a child has an ALN then an Individual Development Plan (IDP) would be written for the child. An IDP is an agreed plan on how a child with ALN will be supported and by whom.

### Advocacy

When help is needed it can be sought from an advocate. An advocate is someone who will speak on your behalf. They can be a friend, family member or professional agency.

If you need a professional advocate please contact SNAP on:

**Helpline: 0808 801 0608**

 **02920 348 990**  [enquiries@snapcymru.org](mailto:enquiries@snapcymru.org)

### Information and Advice

For any information regarding Additional Learning Needs or Individual Development Plans please contact us by:

 **01443 744344**

 [ALNAS@rctcbc.gov.uk](mailto:ALNAS@rctcbc.gov.uk)

 [www.rctcbc.gov.uk](http://www.rctcbc.gov.uk)

 [www.snapcymru.org](http://www.snapcymru.org)

**ETW:**  
[www.sentw.gov.wales](http://www.sentw.gov.wales)

**SNAP Cymru**  
[www.snapcymru.org](http://www.snapcymru.org)

**NYAS**  
[www.nyas.net](http://www.nyas.net)

**Welsh Government**  
[www.gov.wales](http://www.gov.wales)



# PARENT PATHWAY

Early Years settings, Health professionals or parent/carer raises concern.

Parent/carer to seek advice, support and guidance from relevant professionals. Professionals discuss and collate appropriate evidence/assessments.

Referral is made to Early Years Forum (EY Forum).

Child discussed at EY Forum/Early Years Advisory Panel for possible determination of Additional Learning Need (ALN).

**YES**

Local Authority (LA) maintained Individual Learning Plan (IDP) is created in partnership with you and all relevant professionals.

LA maintained IDP will be reviewed annually and before transition to school.

**NO**

Early Years setting to continue to support child.