

Your Guide to Giving Informed Consent

If you **consent**
to something you
agree to do it or allow
it to be done.

When planning what to do when you leave school, you will be asked to decide what will happen to your Individual Development Plan (IDP). This is usually around the time of your Year 11 review, as part of your transition planning.

If you are carrying on in education, you will be asked to give your **consent** for your IDP to continue and to be shared with your next college or school.

It is important that you have information and support to understand what this means and to make the right decision for you.



Here are key words and phrases that may be used when talking about continuing your Individual Development Plan (IDP).

“Compulsory Schooling”

This is the time when a child must be provided with an education (from age 5 to 16 years old). This usually means being a pupil at a school but can be in other settings.

“Child”

A person not over compulsory school age

“Young person”

A person over compulsory school age, but under 25.

“Informed Consent”

Informed consent means being given and understanding the full information about the possible effects or results of agreeing to something.

“Maintain an IDP”

The word to ‘maintain’ is used to mean being legally responsible for making sure the additional learning provision (ALP) described in your IDP is provided.

Most IDPs are maintained by schools or colleges but for some children and young people, the local authority is responsible for maintaining their IDPs.

“Ceasing to maintain an IDP”

Ceasing to maintain an IDP is when a school, college or local authority closes an IDP.



What happens to my IDP when I leave school?

Your IDP is a document that is intended to move with you as you progress in your education. When you leave education, for example if you move into employment when you leave school, your IDP will **cease**. If you intend continuing your education, for example doing a course at a college of further education, then your IDP can transfer to the college.

This means that the college becomes responsible for '**maintaining**' your IDP and for making sure that you have the Additional Learning Provision (ALP) that you need to be successful at college.

The Additional Learning Needs Code for Wales 2021, says that upon finishing compulsory schooling, you become a **young person** and it is important that you understand your rights and any other changes in how you are supported.



What does becoming a 'young person' mean for me?

As a **child**, your parents/carers usually make decisions about your education but as you become a **young person** you decide whether you want your IDP to transfer to college. That is why, during your last year in school, you are asked for your views.

Of course, until you finish **compulsory schooling**, your parents/carers are still involved and will want to help you make these important decisions.



Will I need support in college?

Your teacher, a Careers Wales Adviser, or someone similar will have a conversation with you about this. Inviting college staff to your review will help you find out what support looks like at college.

Questions you might like to think about:

- How does the support I get at the moment help me?
- Are there any drawbacks to getting this support?
- Am I worried about how I might be supported at college?

Support in college could look quite different and this conversation helps you make a decision based on good information.



What happens if I **consent** to telling the college about my learning needs?

- College can be ready to put support in place for when you start.
- Tutors will know what you find difficult and how to best support you.
- You are more likely to succeed if you get the help you need in college.
- It will be up to you to help decide what the support looks like - you won't have to accept support that you're not comfortable with.
- Your IDP describes the Additional Learning Provision (ALP) you currently receive in school. College staff will review this with you to decide if you need 'additional' support and your IDP to continue.



What if I don't want to tell college that I have extra support and I don't want to share my IDP?

- This could make it more difficult for college staff to make sure that you get the help that you need and may make it harder for you to succeed at college.
- If you do not want to carry on with your IDP at college it will cease/stop. You can still have support offered through the college's Universal Learning Provision (ULP)*, but you may not get extra support to meet an additional learning need. You can find out more about ULP on the next page.
- You won't have a formal annual IDP review where you can talk about your support. However, there will be other opportunities to discuss how you are getting on.



What is Universal Learning Provision (ULP) at college?

College staff are the best people to tell you about the range of ULP available to all learners (with or without an IDP). When thinking about going to college, take opportunities to find out more by visiting the campus, looking at their website and speaking with college staff.

Some examples of ULP are:

- A Personal Tutor to talk to and review your progress.
- Key staff to support your well-being.
- Literacy and Numeracy support sessions.
- A quiet space.
- Exam Access Arrangements.

Some young people with an IDP at school will not need their **IDP maintaining** at college because support that was 'additional' at school, is part of the ULP at college (and therefore not extra).



Can I change my mind?

Yes! When you become a **young person**, your school should check with you if your decision is the same, but you can change your mind at any time.

If you start college without an IDP and then feel you do need additional support, you should speak with your tutor about this.



Do you have any questions?

How do you feel about

- Telling the college about the needs you've been getting support with at school? This can be discussed at your review and is a question on college application forms.
- Continuing your IDP?
- Accepting the support college offer you?

It's fine if you need more time or information to help you decide. Do talk things over. There may be other things you can do - such as a visit to college or talking with other learners who have/haven't had additional support at college.

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