

9 December 2022

Dear

ATISN 16862 Welsh in Education and ALN

Thank you for your request which I received on 11 November. You asked for:

- The number of Welsh medium special schools and specialist resource bases currently in Wales (dated 2022);
- the resources that have been commissioned as per the "Welsh language teaching and learning resources to support our learners with ALN" outlined in the Welsh in Education Action Plan 2017-2021;
- the findings and outcomes of the "research to inform planning for the workforce which supports out learners with ALN, and includes the availability of Welsh language support" as outlined in the Welsh in Education Action Plan 2017-2021; and
- the findings of "work with partners to understand what resources are available and are being used to support learners with ALN in the classroom, and commission research to identify the need for Welsh language screening, assessment and diagnostic tools" as outlined in the Welsh in Education Action Plan 2017-2021.

Our response

The information you requested is enclosed.

Next steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ

or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,

Wilmslow,
Cheshire,
SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely,

ATISN 16862: Response

- *The number of Welsh medium special schools and specialist resource bases currently in Wales (dated 2022):*

The attached link to [Address list of schools | GOV.WALES](#) lists all maintained schools in Wales, including all those recorded as being of a Welsh medium type. The Welsh Government does not hold information on the number of Welsh medium specialist resource bases, or special schools of a Welsh medium type.

- *The resources that have been commissioned as per the "Welsh language teaching and learning resources to support our learners with ALN" outlined in the Welsh in Education Action Plan 2017-2021:*

The resources are listed below:

- **Hetiau o bob lliw/Different coloured hats (Makaton)** – originally published 2015; revised version 2022 [Repository - Hwb \(gov.wales\)](#)
- **Aur am Air** – spelling app, Canolfan Peniarth, 2018
- **Mets Maesllan** – additional 32 reading books and digital resources - Canolfan Peniarth, publication 2023
- **Criw Cŵl** - [Repository - Hwb \(gov.wales\)](#); Welsh Government, 2021
- **Teipio testun** – Welsh touch typing resource, Doorway Online, 2021
- RNIB - 40 titles produced annually in **Braille, large print and audio** – available from RNIB
- **RNIB 100 tactile images** with Welsh labels for subjects such as Maths and Science; 2022, available from RNIB
- A new **Welsh Braille reading scheme**, 2022, available from RNIB
- Upgrading the **Unified Welsh Braille course**, 2022, available from RNIB
- **Adnoddau Iaith Arwyddion Prydain (BSL)** [Repository - Hwb \(gov.wales\)](#), 2022
- **Trin a Thrafod i Blant: Datblygu Hunan ymwybyddiaeth a Hunan-barch** - Welsh version of *Talkabout for Children 1 - Developing Self Awareness & Self Esteem* (Routledge); Canolfan Peniarth, publication January 2023
- **Trin a Thrafod i Blant: Datblygu Sgiliau Cymdeithasol** - Welsh version of *Talkabout for Children 2 - Developing Social Skills* (Routledge); Canolfan Peniarth, publication January 2023
- **Trin a Thrafod i Bobl Ifanc: Datblygu Sgiliau Cyfathrebu Cymdeithasol ac Emosiynol**- Welsh version of *Talkabout for Teenagers Developing Social and Emotional Communication Skills* (Routledge); Canolfan Peniarth, publication January 2023

- In 2022 the Welsh Government commissioned the development of a **bespoke Welsh tool which will provide an evidence based, bilingual approach to identifying Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN)** in children aged 0-4 years, 11 months.
- *The findings and outcomes of the "research to inform planning for the workforce which supports out learners with ALN, and includes the availability of Welsh language support" as outlined in the Welsh in Education Action Plan 2017-2021:*

A copy of the report of this study is attached which sets out its findings. Over four financial years from 2018 the Welsh Government allocated a total of £289,018 to four regions to support post-graduate training for local authority-based teachers of learners with a sensory impairment and we continue to fund 10 new places each year on the three-year Doctorate in Educational Psychology (DEdPsy) course at Cardiff University. At least one place on the DEdPsy course must be for a Welsh speaker or student with the aptitude and commitment to reach a standard allowing them to work as an Educational Psychologist through the medium of Welsh by the time they graduate.

- *The findings of "work with partners to understand what resources are available and are being used to support learners with ALN in the classroom, and commission research to identify the need for Welsh language screening, assessment and diagnostic tools" as outlined in the Welsh in Education Action Plan 2017-2021.*

In 2018 the Welsh Government asked a group of practitioners working with learners with ALN through the medium of Welsh to identify screening, assessment and diagnostic tools which were available and being used to support learners with ALN in the classroom. The information gathered is attached. The need for more Welsh language resources was identified without the need to commission research.

Through the development of resources listed above and the establishment of the new Adnodd bilingual educational resources company, the Welsh Government is seeking to boost Welsh-medium resources to support the teaching and learning of Curriculum for Wales and identify development and translation of resources to better support ALN learners.