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Dear Darren

During the Senedd's plenary on 22 January I offered to provide you with further detail on the additional funding via the local authority education grant (LAEG) for Additional Learning Needs (ALN).

You'll be aware that funding for ALN is mainly provided to local authorities, through the un-hypothecated Revenue Support Grant (RSG), which we have continued to prioritise through an increase of £253m (4.3%) in 2025-26. However, additional hypothecated funding has also been granted for a number of purposes, to underpin the infrastructure, enable implementation and increase provision to support ALN learners.

This hypothecated funding is allocated through the Education Reform element of the LAEG, which supports reforms across schools and settings, supporting four policy areas: Curriculum for Wales, Additional Learning Needs, Professional Learning and Leadership and the Whole School Approach.

I recently announced additional in year funding, which included an additional £10m to support local authorities and schools in delivering provision for learners with ALN across Wales, and £5m to be directed to schools to prepare and increase the capacity of the Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinators (ALNCo's) to become members of the senior management / leadership team. This funding has been allocated through the LAEG, increasing the 2024-25 ALN grant from £22m to £37m.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

To continue this investment in ALN reform, the 2025-26 draft budget maintains the £10m uplift to support local authorities and schools in delivery of provision for learners with ALN, taking the 2025-26 ALN grant, through the LAEG, up to £32m. This funding is allocated to support:

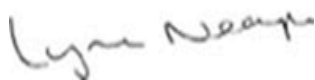
- Funding for ALN Provision - In response to growing demand and complexity of need, funding is provided to increase additional learning provision for children and young people to improve planning, appropriate workforce and access to high quality provision for learners with ALN.
- Funding for ALN Quality and Delivery – Local Authorities - To continue funding support costs associated with implementing and embedding the ALN system, maintain ALN processes including quality assurance and Person-Centred Practice (PCP) and support local authorities and schools to deliver their statutory duties under ALNET.
- Funding for ALN Quality and Delivery – Schools - To continue funding support costs associated with implementing and embedding the ALN system, improve the planning and provision to support high quality teaching and learning and support schools to deliver their statutory duties under ALNET.

A summary of the additional ALN funding allocated via the LAEG in 2024-25 and 2025-26 is attached at annex A.

ALN funding through the LAEG has been in place since 2020, significantly increasing investment in ALN, with over £117m of revenue grant funding prior to the 2025-26 financial year, to support implementation, increase resources in schools to implement the ALN system and lead whole-school strategies to embed inclusive education.

ALN capital investment of £60m has also been provided over the last 3 years for local authorities to improve or create inclusive spaces and facilities to support learners with ALN. This is in addition to the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme, which is investing over £750m to specifically support learners with ALN over the next nine years to continue to improve and expand existing facilities and create new specialist provision.

Yours sincerely



Lynne Neagle AS/MS
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Addysg
Cabinet Secretary for Education

Annex A

ALN LEAG Funding (all Wales) 2024-25 and 2025-26:

	FY 2024-25			FY 2025-26		
Purposes	Original Budget (£'000)	Additional Budget (£'000)	Total Budget (£'000)	Original Budget (£'000)	Additional Budget (£'000)	Total Budget (£'000)
ALN Provision - LAs	£9,100	£10,000	£19,100	£9,100	£10,000	£19,100
ALN Quality and Delivery - LAs	£2,464	£-	£2,464	£2,464	£-	£2,464
ALN Quality and Delivery and - schools	£10,436	£5,000	£15,436	£10,436	£-	£10,436
Total	£22,000	£15,000	£37,000	£22,000	£10,000	£32,000