



Ein cyf/Our ref: MA-L/ARD/0166/17

Lynne Neagle AM
Chair
Children, Young People and Education Committee
National Assembly for Wales
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8 March 2017

Dear Lynne,

Thank you for your letter of 16 February about the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Bill and the *Supporting Learners with Healthcare Needs* guidance, which will be published shortly by the Welsh Government.

I am aware of the interest the committee has in the healthcare needs of children and young people – it is a very important matter. As I said during my evidence to the committee, I am happy to reflect about whether further provision within the Bill, beyond that already on the statute book, may help in ensuring the interests of learners with healthcare needs are protected. The committee's views would be very welcome.

In my letter to you of 6 February, I outlined that the revised guidance will be published this month. I have made further inquiries after receiving your letter and unfortunately it will not be possible to make the guidance available any sooner. I will ensure, however, the committee is made aware as soon as the guidance has been published.

I made a working draft of the Additional Learning Needs Code available to the committee last month to aid scrutiny of the Bill. If the committee needs additional information about the *Supporting Learners with Healthcare Needs* guidance to support its scrutiny of the Bill, the Welsh Government consulted on a draft of the guidance last year.

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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.

A copy of the draft guidance is available at:

<http://gov.wales/docs/dcells/consultation/160224-draft-guidance-en.pdf>

Thank you for writing to me about this important matter. I look forward to my next evidence session with the committee on 22 March.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alun', with a horizontal line underneath.

Alun Davies AC/AM

Gweinidog y Gymraeg a Dysgu Gydol Oes

Minister for Lifelong Learning and Welsh Language