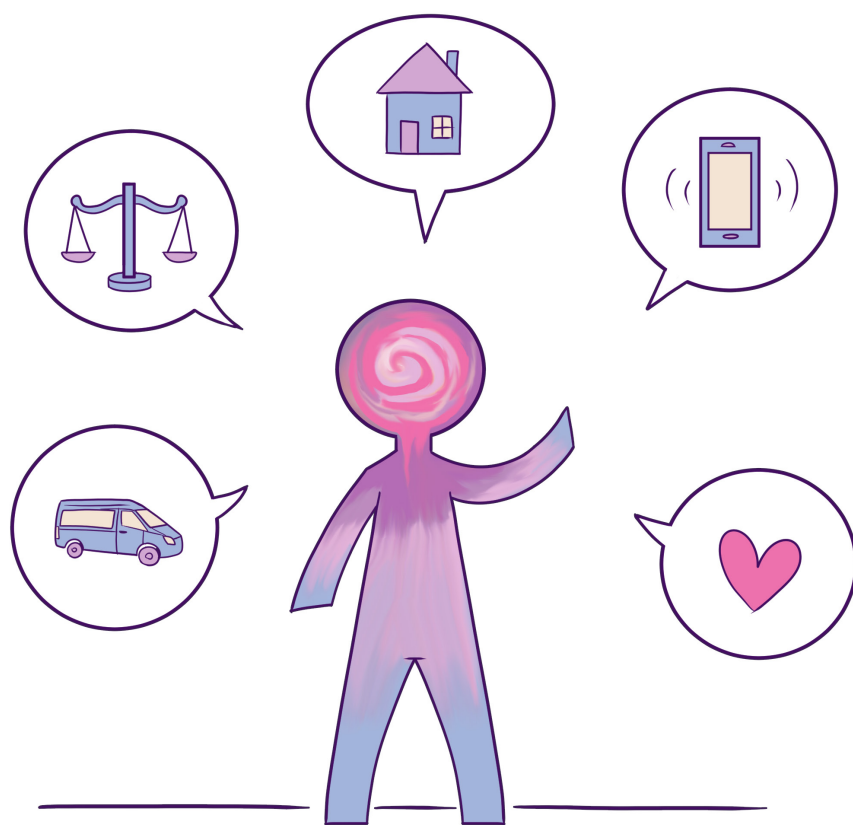


Learning Disabilities, Autism and Neurodivergence Bill: **Education**



Learning Disabilities, Autism and Neurodivergence (LDAN) Bill

Education



Easy Read



Neurodivergent children and young people, and children and young people with learning disabilities should be able to do as well as they can in education.



The Scottish Government believe everyone should live happy and full lives, no matter how they think or learn.



Neurodivergent children and young people and children and young people with learning disabilities do not have as good an education as they should and do less well in life as adults.



Some children and young people need more help from different people, like teachers, doctors, and others.

They need plans to help everyone work together.



These plans are called **Co-ordinated Support Plans**.



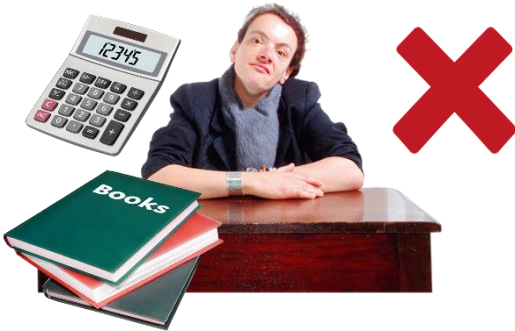
Not enough children and young people have Co-ordinated Support Plans.



The laws on education are good, but they are not working as well as they should. Schools are not always doing what the law says.



Schools aim to be fully inclusive in Scotland. The law says all children should be able to go to the same schools unless there is a good reason not to.



The Scottish Government have learned that education for children and young people with **additional support needs** is not working very well.



Additional support needs means the extra support needs some children have to help them learn.



People with **additional support needs** include neurodivergent children and young people, as well as children and young people with learning disabilities.



Other groups of children and young people have additional support needs, such as people with hearing difficulties.



A third of all school pupils in Scotland have additional support needs.



Some teachers do not know how to teach children and young people with additional support needs well.



Children and young people with additional support needs are doing worse at school in some parts of Scotland than other parts.



There is a law in Scotland that sets out **rights and duties** around supporting children and young people with additional support needs.



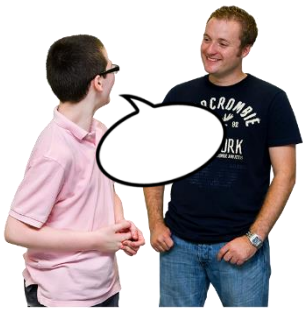
Rights are things we have in law that cannot be taken away.



Duties are things that the law says organisations must do to protect people's rights.



The following things need to be better to help children and young people with additional needs:



More **independent advocacy** available.



Independent advocacy is a way for people's voices to be heard, and not being influenced by the views of others. It helps people have more control over their own lives.



More use of coordinated support plans.



Things that are working well in some parts of Scotland should happen across all of Scotland.

 Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba



The Scottish Government need to look at ways to help teachers learn more about teaching children and young people with additional support needs.

What did the Lived Experience Advisory Panel (LEAP) think?

 Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba



The **Lived Experience Advisory Panel (LEAP)** is a group made up of neurodivergent people and people with learning disabilities to help advise the Scottish Government on this Consultation.

LEAP members thought there should be a right to inclusive education.



LEAP members thought there should be better training for teachers on neurodivergence and learning disabilities.



LEAP members thought that Education Plans should be followed.



LEAP members thought the assessments for extra support staff for children is not working.



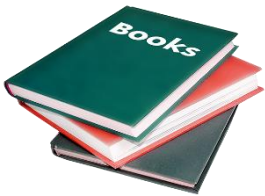
The assessments are not the same across Scotland.



LEAP members thought the Additional Support Needs legislation is not working.

Additional Support Needs legislation does not uphold the rights that children and young people have.

What do the Scottish Government want for neurodivergent people and people with learning disabilities?



The Scottish Government want an education system that fully upholds the rights of all children and young people.



The Scottish Government want all schools to have teachers who are confident and well trained to teach all children no matter how they think or learn.



The Scottish Government want all children and young people to learn a wide range of skills and abilities.



The Scottish Government want all schools to help all children and young people to do well and be happy, no matter how they think or learn.



The Scottish Government want better **data** to know how neurodivergent children and young people, and children and young people with learning disabilities, are doing in school.



Data is information that can be measured or counted.

What rights do neurodivergent people and people with learning disabilities have now?



There are different laws and **policies** that say how children and young people, including those with additional support needs, should be educated.



Policies are rules and plans that say what should happen.



One law says schools must include everyone.



Another law says how children with additional support needs should get help in school.

It gives rights in law to children and their parents or carers.



There is a guide for schools and others on how to follow these laws.

The guide explains the rights that children have.

It also explains how schools and others must do their jobs to protect those rights.



The Scottish Government have a plan for how children and young people with additional support needs should be educated.



All children and young people have the right to say what support they need in school.



There are some groups that can give advice and support to children and young people.



If children and young people or their parents or carers are not happy with a school decision they can go to the **Additional Support Needs Tribunal**.

This is a place that decides if the school is right or wrong.



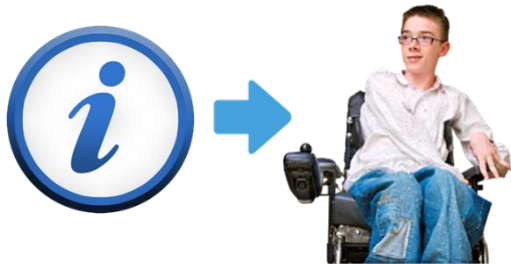
There is a right to have **independent advocacy** and a lawyer.



Teachers must know about additional support needs before they are allowed to teach.



There is a group called the General Teaching Council for Scotland (GTCS) that checks this.



There is lots of information available that teachers can use to learn more about additional support needs.



Teachers can get extra qualifications to show they have good knowledge of additional support needs.



The Scottish Government have a big plan called **Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC)**



GIRFEC says services for children and young people must listen to and care about every child. This is to help every child do as well as they can do.



GIRFEC says that some children might need a Child's Plan if they need extra help.

The plan should say what the child wants, what needs to be done better and how to do it better.

What can the Scottish Government do about it?



The Scottish Government want Scotland to be the best place in the world for a child to grow up.



The Scottish Government have an **Additional Support Action Plan**.



This is a list of things to make education better for children and young people with additional support needs.



The Scottish Government have already done a lot of these things.



The Scottish Government are worried that some children with additional support needs might not learn as much as children who are in school full time.



The Independent Review of
Qualifications and Assessment:
The Review and its Key Recommendations

June 2023

The Scottish Government are thinking about the proposals made in a review called The Independent Review of Qualifications and Assessment.

This review looked at how children and young people are assessed in schools.

This will include children and young people with learning disabilities and neurodivergent children and young people.



The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) is an international rights **treaty**, that covers every part of a child's life, for everyone under the age of 18.



A **treaty** is a written agreement in law between countries.



A part of the UNCRC says all children and young people with disabilities have the right to learn in primary and secondary schools.



This includes learning new skills.



The Scottish Government have written a guide for schools and others on how to respect and uphold these rights.



The Scottish Government want to make the UNCRC part of the law in Scotland.



The Scottish Government have created a guide to help schools and local authorities meet their duties with additional support needs laws.

What can the Learning Disabilities, Autism and Neurodivergence (LDAN) Bill do?



The Scottish Government think the laws we already have for children and young people with additional support needs are good.



The problem is that people do not always do what the laws say.



Here are some things the LDAN Bill could do that might help to make things better.



1. Strategies



Under other laws, local authorities already must share information about how they are supporting pupils in their area.



The Bill could make local authorities and schools give information about how they are supporting neurodivergent pupils and pupils with learning disabilities, as part of these reports.





2. Training



The Scottish Government could see if there is a need for the LDAN Bill to say that teachers and other educators must have training on neurodivergence, learning disabilities and additional support needs.



3. Data



The Scottish Government could see if it would help to have more information about children and young people with additional support needs.



The Bill could say we need to find out how many children and young people with additional support needs are neurodivergent or have learning disabilities.

What do you think?

Questions

1. What do you think about it?

Good

Bad

Not sure

1. Which of these proposals do you agree with? Please tell us why.

Questions

1. What do you think about it?

Good

Bad

Not sure

2. Which of these proposals do you not agree with? Please tell us why.

Questions

1. What do you think about it?

Good

Bad

Not sure

3. Is there anything else that we should consider which is relevant to this topic?

