

## Local authority APD support statistics for England and Wales 2021-22

Below is a summary of the statistics collated from our survey which was sent to all English and Welsh local authorities/LAs regarding their support for children with APD.

They are separated into England and Wales for ease of reference.

### ENGLAND

Of 152 English LAs:

- 23% responded to our first request without the need for a Freedom of Information/FOI request
- 54% have an APD policy

When questioned on their legal obligation to support APD according to \*NatSIP guidelines:

- 54% of English LAs follow NatSIP guidelines for support of APD in their schools
- 26% believe they should only follow NatSIP guidelines where it co-exists with hearing loss

Regarding provision of equipment such as FM systems:

- 58% of English LAs provide equipment when recommended by professionals
- 13% only provide equipment if there is also a diagnosis of hearing loss
- 30% provide no equipment at all for APD

Regarding funding of equipment:

- 40% of English LAs fund the equipment directly
- 25% part-fund with the school, dependant on circumstances
- 35% expected schools to fund the full value

Of those who stated a mixture of funding sources, only 10 quoted that if there was an EHCP in place then council would provide the equipment otherwise the school would be expected to fund it.

Regarding English LAs that would like to, or would consider adding APD Support UK to their local offer:

- 73% responded positively to adding us to their local offer
- 15% responded negatively to adding us to their local offer
- 1% already have us on their local offer
- 11% either did not answer or were non-comital in their response

## WALES

For the 22 Welsh LAs:

- 18% responded to our first request without the need for an FOI request
- only 54% have an APD policy

When questioned on their legal obligation to support APD according to NatSIP guidelines:

- 68% of Welsh LAs follow NatSIP guidelines for support of APD in their schools
- 4 Welsh LAs in a consortium do not have a specific policy, but refer to a pathway for hearing difficulties that does not refer to APD
- 32% believe they should only follow NatSIP guidelines where it co-exists with hearing loss

Regarding provision of equipment such as FM systems:

- 82% of Welsh LAs provide equipment when recommended by professionals
- 9% only provide equipment if there is also a diagnosis of hearing loss
- 9% provide no equipment at all for APD

Regarding funding of equipment in Wales:

- 60% of Welsh LAs fund the equipment directly
- 40% part-fund with the school, dependant on circumstances
- 0% expected schools to fund the full value

Regarding Welsh LAs that would like to, or would consider adding us to their local offer:

- 9% wished to add us to their local offer
- 41% did not wish to add us to their local offer - of these, 4 councils (18%) stated that 'local offer' only applies to councils in England
- 50% were unsure or did not answer the question

No statistics are available from Scotland and Northern Ireland because they provide no diagnosis or support for APD at this time.

[Any parent wishing to find out the details of the support provided for APD by their own local authority are advised to contact them direct. The information was sent to us confidentially. It is held according to GDPR guidelines, and it cannot be shared with third parties. It would probably require you to make a Freedom of Information request. If requesting any personal information held by the LA on your child, you might need to make a Subject Access Request/SAR (for which they may charge).]