

Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament

Bil arfaethedig – Bil Addysg Awyr Agored (Cymru) | Proposed Outdoor Education (Wales) Bill

Ymateb gan Claire Beasley | Evidence from Claire Beasley

In what capacity are you responding: Parent / Carer

Your opinion

How important is outdoor education to children and young people's overall education and development?

Very important

What are the main benefits to children and young people from having a residential outdoor education experience?

Resilience

Confidence

Achieving personal and collective goals

Should children and young people have a guaranteed opportunity to participate in a residential outdoor education experience, at some stage during their school years, if they wish to?

Yes

Should an opportunity to participate in a residential outdoor education experience, at some stage during their school years, be free of charge on one occasion to pupils?

Yes

What are the main barriers which you believe currently exist to children and young people accessing residential outdoor education experiences?

Financial constraints;Patental anxiety / uncertainty;Child anxiety / uncertainty;

Equality Considerations: Could the proposed Bill have any positive impacts on some children and young people in particular? If so, who and why?

Children from low income families would benefit from the same experience as their peers without facing pressure or embarrassment if they could not afford to attend, missing out on a significant experience to help them with transition phase for secondary school.

Also children with disabilities would benefit as hopefully more resources would become available to Centres to support these children's needs to they can experience the same activities as their peers!

Equality Considerations: Could the proposed Bill have any negative impacts on some children and young people in particular. If so, who and why? What could this Bill do to mitigate any negative impacts?

Those children who are overly anxious about attending may struggle, so an opt out option should be included.

What age do you believe is most suitable for children and young people to be offered an opportunity to undertake a residential outdoor education experience?

Year 6 (age 10-11)

Is four nights/five days the best length for a residential outdoor experience?

No

Please explain your answer and highlight any possible implications from having a standard approach of four night/five day experiences (whether positive or negative).

It would be great to offer full weeks, but I think this is a little unrealistic to resources/Centre's capacity. A 3 day 2 night stay works just as well and would be less costly.

Do you agree there is a need for legislation to ensure all children and young people are given an opportunity to access a residential outdoor education experience, at some stage during their school years?

Agree

Is there anything else you would like to say about this proposal?

Great idea and fully support.

Hopefully support for existing providers to gain extra resources to accommodate the need there will be.