

Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament

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

Ymateb gan Mark Iggulden, Lecturer, | Evidence from Mark Iggulden, Lecturer,

Are you (your organisation) currently a provider of outdoor education?: No

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?

Positive risk taking / frontier adventure experiential learning, environmental awareness, health and wellbeing.

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; Outdoor education isn't valued high enough on local authorities agendas..... ;

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

All young people will/should benefit but particularly those with: High BMI / low levels of exercise, poor mental health and wellbeing, urbanised young people.

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?

I fail to see any negative impacts of an outdoor residential experience for all children in Wales.

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?

Yes

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

The young people can experience a range and depth of activity and education over 5 days. For some the 4 night experience will be their first time away from home and lengthening this might not yield any more positive results in the education of the young people.

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?

Strongly agree

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

This proposal is an absolute bare minimum of access to outdoor education.....

12:00:00 AM