

POE12 Individual

Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament

[Bil arfaethedig – Bil Addysg Awyr Agored \(Cymru\)](#) | [Proposed Outdoor Education \(Wales\) Bill](#)

Ymateb gan Individual | Evidence from Individual

In what capacity are you responding: Child / Young person

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?

An opportunity to expand their horizons, and to experience being away from home and on an outdoor experience when they may not be privileged enough to experience this in their personal life. This encourages a bonding between students and can help them with appreciating nature.

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;Disabilities;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?

It helps children to begin to be able to adapt to new environments which is useful in later life, and this unique experience is also useful for general perspective. It is a bonding experience that can make a huge positive impact on young people, and can encourage them to expand their horizons and step out of their comfort zones.

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?

If the child is experiencing bullying or has a disability/limiting condition, they may not feel able to go on the trip, or it could be uncomfortable for them if it is not monitored by adults well enough.

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?

Don't know

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

I believe 3 nights would be better, because if the young people aren't comfortable at the camp or are having any issues, 3 days is a much more reasonable amount than 4-5 days.

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?
