

Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament

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

Ymateb gan Jade Wakley, Headteacher, | Evidence from Jade Wakley, Headteacher,

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?

Building confidence, resilience and providing experiences that children wouldn't necessarily have the opportunity to participate in. Also, developing social skills and independence.

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;Additional Learning Needs;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?

Financial constraints to fund the trip would no longer be a barrier.

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?

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?

Older (please state below)

9+

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).

We currently offer this experience in our own setting (a four night stay) however, this is a commitment for the members of staff whom attend and this proves difficult to staff when teachers and teaching assistants have their own commitments out of school hours.

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?

Neither agree nor disagree

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

Although I fully appreciate that this proposal would offer our young people so many exciting opportunities. The basics will still be required to be funded e.g. suitable clothing, accessories,

The ask of teaching staff to attend for 4 nights is a big commitment and this is proving more and more challenging each year. The number of staff required to make this trip possible becomes a financial burden on the school too. Parents tend to become extremely anxious about their children being away for so long and this has implications on us as schools.