

Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament

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

Ymateb gan Simon Ablett, Outdoor Sports Coach and Leader, | Evidence from Simon Ablett, Outdoor Sports Coach and Leader,

Are you (your organisation) currently a provider of outdoor education?: Yes

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?

Wider life experience, independence, exposure to nature and outdoor environments, better understanding of risk, growth of confidence and ability, better mental health and resilience

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?

Don't know

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;Availability;

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

There is strong evidence that young people from racial minority backgrounds have a much more limited access to outdoor spaces than others. Also, young people from poorer/deprived backgrounds are likely to lack opportunities to experience outdoors education outside of school offered programmes

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?

Any activities that attract participation costs that are not means tested just give further advantage to young people with stable, financially comfortable backgrounds

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)

13-16

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 think it should be more than a single night away if possible, but shouldn't necessarily be limited to a standard approach of four night/five 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?
