

Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament

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

Ymateb gan Karen Cartlidge | Evidence from Karen Cartlidge

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?

Team work,

Appreciation of nature & the environment

To escape everything for a while

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?

School budgets; Financial constraints;

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

Some children have both parents working full time. They're dropped off at childcare, go to school where they're kept inside in bad weather, then picked up from childcare in the dark. Weekends parents need to catch up with a week of chores / visiting family. When do children get to go outside & just be? How do they learn how precious our environment is & experience why we would want to care for it? When do they get to play & take risks?

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 guess in split families where 1 parent may feel anxious about letting them go. Meet with parents and run through everything before giving them the opportunity to ask questions

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?

Younger (please state below)

Summer KS2 so aged 7/8 when they've already adapted to a more grown up experience of junior school. They've been swimming with school & are now competent at getting themselves ready

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).

Younger children would benefit in shorter stays, older children may enjoy longer

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?

We shouldn't need to legislate, this should already be happening. School budgets have been stripped to the bone though. Our school can't even afford a pantomime!

12:00:00 AM