

Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament

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

Ymateb gan Cathryn Wheadon, Head Teacher, | Evidence from Cathryn Wheadon, Head Teacher,

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

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## 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?

To gain self confidence and expand their view of health and well-being.

To experience risk taking activities

To gain independence skills

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;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?

Pupils who live in areas of high deprivation experience difficulties accessing these activities as they are costly and parents also need to drive to reach the centres as they tend to be out of the way.

Pupils who live in urbanised areas will have a completely different view to pupils who live in rural areas.

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?

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Year 6 (age 10-11)

Is four nights/five days the best length for a residential outdoor experience?

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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).

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This will give the pupils enough time to embed their new skills and to build resilience when trying new skills

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?

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Agree

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

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