POE127 Terri Jones, Teaching Assistant

Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament

Bil arfaethedig – Bil Addysg Awyr Agored (Cymru) | Proposed Outdoor Education (Wales) Bill

Ymateb gan Terri Jones, Teaching Assistant, | Evidence from Terri Jones, Teaching Assistant,

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?

Plays on non academic strengths

Exposure to the world outside their local community

Builds life 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; 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?

Families in areas of deprivation. Their kids could have opportunities that they never had and would t be able to afford to give them normally

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?

There still needs to be an element of choice. I have a child with ASD and high anxiety who would not benefit in this environment

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?

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).

Less than four nights will feel rushed I'd imagine. It takes time for them to settle and really benefit from the experience. Four/ five nights feels like a proper trip, an adventure

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?

It would have to be equal provision across the country. Won't be fair if for example, Newport schools just get two basic activities but then Cardiff gets 7. It needs to be the same for all

12:00:00 AM