

Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament

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

Ymateb gan Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum, | Evidence from Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum,

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?

Connecting with nature and wildlife. Learning about other strengths they have outside of the classroom such as courage, confidence and leadership. Learning to have empathy and to give encouragement whilst working as a team.

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;

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

Ensuring all children have the option to do a residential outdoor activity week would allow those from poorer backgrounds to experience one of the most formative and important experiences that can happen during school years.

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?

Children should be given the opportunity to experience outdoor activities and residential, but not forced to.

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)

11 - 14

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).

Yes - enough time away from home to experience lots of different activities and bond with classmates in new environment of the residential centre. Any less time it is difficult for instructors to build the necessary trust and deliver a good experience for all.

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?

Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum strongly support this proposed Bill, as we see the benefits of children that are able to experience outdoor recreation residential weeks. All too often, cost and financial constraints mean that some school children do not have this opportunity which can be one of the most important weeks in a child's education.

12:00:00 AM