## OE-017 - Individual

Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament

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

Ymateb gan Unigolyn | Evidence from Individual

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

## Proposed Outdoor Education (Wales) Bill Consultation: Response form

Are you submitting this response in a professional or personal capacity?:

□ Professional capacity (including on including on including)	☐ Personal capacity
behalf of an organisation	
Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?  ☑ Yes □ No	Age:  I am under 13 years old  I am aged 13 to 17  I am aged 18 or over and wish my contribution to be anonymised  I am aged 18 or over and happy for my name to be published with my contribution
Are you (your organisation) currently a provider of outdoor education?  ☐ Yes ☐ No	In what capacity are you responding?  ☐ Child / Young person  ☐ Parent / Carer  ☐ Other

If professional, or a provider of outdoor education, your role and the name of organisation for which you are responding:

Click or tap here to enter text.

## **Consultation questions**

1. How important is outdoor education to children and young people's overall education and development?
<ul> <li></li></ul>
2. What are the main benefits to children and young people from having a residential outdoor education experience? Please list your top three benefits:
Being able to spend time outdoors away from electronic devices.
Improving their physical skills.
Mixing with other children and thereby improving social skills.
3. 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?
<ul> <li>■ Yes</li> <li>□ No</li> <li>□ Don't know</li> </ul>
4. 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?
<ul> <li>✓ Yes</li> <li>✓ No</li> <li>✓ Don't know</li> </ul>
5. What are the main barriers which you believe currently exist to children and young people accessing residential outdoor education experiences? (please tick all that apply)
<ul> <li>■ Financial constraints</li> <li>■ Health reasons</li> <li>■ Disabilities</li> <li>■ Additional Learning Needs</li> <li>■ Parental anxiety/uncertainty</li> <li>■ Child anxiety/uncertainty</li> </ul>

<ul> <li>■ Other (Please state) lack of safe options in a structured environment.</li> <li>■ None</li> </ul>
6. Equalities considerations:
Could the proposed Bill have any <u>positive</u> impacts on some children and young people in particular? If so, who and why?
It will give children the opportunity to stay away from home in a safe environment where they can mix with their peers and take part in activities they would not normally become involved in.
Could the proposed Bill have any <u>negative</u> impacts on some children and young people in particular. If so, who and why? What could this Bill do to mitigate any negative impacts?
Some children with limited physical ability may feel inadequate and this opportunity may prove to them that they are not inadequate.
7. 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?
<ul> <li>Year 6 (age 10-11)</li> <li>Younger (please state)</li> <li>✓ Older (please state) 12 plus</li> <li>✓ Not at any age</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>8. Is four nights/five days the best length for a residential outdoor experience?</li> <li>■ Yes</li> <li>■ No</li> <li>■ Don't know</li> </ul>
Please explain your answer and highlight any possible implications from having a standard approach of four night/five day experiences (whether positive or negative).
For children who have never stayed away from home before, this is an ideal amount of time as it is not so long that they would get homesick, yet it allows them time to adjust to being in a different environment.

- 9. 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
  - □ Agree

  - Disagree
  - Strongly disagree
- 10. Is there anything else you would like to say about this proposal?

This Council agrees that this Bill will ensure that young people will have the opportunity to stay away from home safely and to take part in lots of outdoor activities that they may never have the chance to do again. This can hopefully, only have a positive affect on young people.