

Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament

[Bil arfaethedig – Bil Addysg Awyr Agored \(Cymru\) - Ymgynghoriad ar gyfer plant a phobl ifanc](#) | [Proposed Outdoor Education \(Wales\) Bill – Children and young person’s consultation](#)

Ymateb gan Matthew Smith, Education Account Manager, | Evidence from Matthew Smith, Education Account Manager,

Capacity of response: Organisation currently providing outdoor education

Your opinion

What are the main good things for children about having an overnight outdoor education visit?

The increase in awareness for the natural environment.

The immense growth in confidence and self belief.

The realisation that the outdoors are close to all of us and how much we rely on the for education as well as fun.

The holistic benefits the outdoors gives and all stages of development.

What gets in the way of children taking part in overnight outdoor education visits?

Cost; Health or disability; Parents worrying; Children feeling anxious; Language barriers; Friends not going;

How can people make sure children have the best possible time at overnight outdoor education visits?

Be well informed - ask questions and be inquisitive about the outdoors. Go and experience it at different levels and scaffold learning slowly.

On a scale of 1 to 10, how important is it for all children have the chance to do a free overnight outdoor education visits at some time?

10

What is the best age or year to go

8-18 with learning done at different stages

How long should the trip be for?

5 days

Which groups of children would get the most out of taking part in an overnight outdoor education visit, and why?

All children - nature is for all, with all young people have a poverty of opportunity if it was not given to all. This is about equity not equality.

Should it be a law that children can go on at least one free overnight outdoor education visit?

Yes

Please tell us any other ideas that should be in the new law

This isnt a one time fix - you have to embed this into the curriculum at all stages, with the outdoor residential being one stage of the learning.

Get kids involved in local activities in parks and woods - then build up to the residential.