Senedd Cymru Y Pwyllgor Plant, Pobl Ifanc ac Addysg

Ymchwiliad i effaith argyfwng Covid-19 ar blant a phobl ifanc yng Nghymru

COV 91 Ymateb gan: Unigolyn Welsh Parliament Children, Young People and Education Committee

Inquiry into the impact of the Covid-19 outbreak on children and young people in Wales

COV 91

Response from: Individual

As a parent of a year 10 teenager I welcome today's announcement of the restart of schools in late June.

Throughout the period of lockdown I have had three central concerns

- 1. The short and long term impact on education, not just in terms of grades achieved but in terms of its impact on total knowledge, the knock on effect to future study etc.
- 2 The severe impact on young people of the social isolation created by lockdown at a time on their lives when this is an essential part of their development
- 3 The massively underrated impact of the lack of access to the outdoors, exacerbated by the ongoing travel restrictions. Counter intuitively this is often greater in rural communities where the outdoors plays a major role in daily life and where alternatives (parks etc) are few and far between.

In short, I commend the initiative to restart schools and urge that Wales govt. presses ahead with a parallel lifting of travel restrictions.