

## POE5 Individual

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Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament

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

Ymateb gan Individual | Evidence from Individual

In what capacity are you responding: Parent / Carer

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### 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?

independence, resilience, challenge, personal discovery, teamwork, grit, determination, perseverance, being away from technology and mobile phones, being out of your comfort zone, experiencing nature

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; Child anxiety / uncertainty; teacher anxiety - worry over risk and blame;

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

being together and undertaking personal challenge. Kurt Hahn's ideals of nature treating everyone the same makes individuals bond together irrespective of difference, wealth, and pupils really learn something about understanding each other. Atlantic College was built on this

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?

make sure there are equal opportunities for all, ideally and annual trip for each child for free- this is such an important concept

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?

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Year 6 (age 10-11)

all ages - ideally once per year (or more)

Is four nights/five days the best length for a residential outdoor experience?

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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).

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good amount of time to bond as a group and not too arduous for those away from home for the first time.

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?

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Strongly agree

Is there anything else you would like to say about this proposal?

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This is a long time overdue. It is so important, especially these days when children are more sedentary than ever that they experience this, especially with the impacts of climate change and understanding about being part of nature and protecting nature. They desperately need this - thank you for putting this in motion