

Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament

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

Ymateb gan Martyn Lee, Governor, | Evidence from Martyn Lee, Governor,

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

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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?

Understand and gain an appreciation for the outside world.

Every new experience broadens their intellectual horizon and this experience can positively influence their educational trajectory.

The current state of mental health among children in our country is frightening, it's proven that spending time outdoors has a positive effect on mental wellness.

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;Patental anxiety / uncertainty;

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

FSM pupils. A high percentage of FSM students don't participate in residential trips, opening them up to that experience gives them the belief that they are capable and stops any extra barriers to learning and can remove some too.

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?

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Children with ALN. When a child with ALN has a bad experience it has a tendency to switch them off to that activity and can impact them for a long period of time which has a detrimental affect on their education.

Stricter supervision ratios around ALN children can help to prevent any negative experiences.

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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Older (please state below)

11/12 School year 7

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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This could e a child's first overnight separation from their parents, in those cases the prospect of a week away may be too great to overcome.

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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No

12:00:00 AM