

Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament

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

Ymateb gan Malpas Court Primary School, | Evidence from Malpas Court Primary School,

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

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?

It is the highlight of all children's education. We all remember where and when we went on a residential trip and what we learnt as a child. Most children when asked what they did in school that day say nothing or I don't know when you ask about their residential you have so much back from them! I work in a community First area and children do not go far from their 4 story flat they live in unless we take them out on a trip! There are masses of studies on Out door learning and the benefits it has on children's wellbeing. I am a Forest school leader and have seen this in action! We have also been an international school in order to enable our pupils to see that there is more to life than coming to school and living in a cramped flat and these experiences have given them ambition and want to make something of themselves and go and see the world. How can you have these feelings with no experiences of getting away

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;

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

Yes our vulnerable and disadvantaged children would greatly benefit from free outdoor residential visits. Children who's parents cannot take them because of financial worries, medical difficulties mental health as they will not leave the home.

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?

NO

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?

Year 6 (age 10-11)

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

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).

I think that 4/5 nights is an appropriate length of time to be away from home not too long and not too short enough time to develop independence and make new friends bur also not too long to become home sick if they have never been away from home before!

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

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

We all went on residential trips when we were young now it is not a fair system as many families especially if they have lots of children can afford to go! Parents need to be able to allow all their children the same opportunities and this is not possible with the high cost of these trips. It would be a wonderful opportunity for all children and fit in with Curriculum for Wales and Welsh Governments focus on outdoor learning and authentic experiences.

12:00:00 AM