

OE-020 - Hywel Dda UHB

Senedd Cymru | Welsh Parliament

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

Ymateb gan Hywel Dda UHB | Evidence from Hywel Dda UHB

Proposed Outdoor Education (Wales) Bill

Consultation: Response form

Name: Connie Reynolds-Cunliffe

Are you submitting this response in a professional or personal capacity?:

| | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Professional capacity (including on behalf of an organisation) | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal capacity |
| Are you responding on behalf of an organisation? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | Age: <input type="checkbox"/> I am under 13 years old <input type="checkbox"/> I am aged 13 to 17 <input type="checkbox"/> I am aged 18 or over and wish my contribution to be anonymised <input type="checkbox"/> I am aged 18 or over and happy for my name to be published with my contribution |
| Are you (your organisation) currently a provider of outdoor education? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | In what capacity are you responding? <input type="checkbox"/> Child / Young person <input type="checkbox"/> Parent / Carer <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

If professional, or a provider of outdoor education, your role and the name of organisation for which you are responding:

Hywel Dda UHB

Consultation questions

1. How important is outdoor education to children and young people's overall education and development?

- Very important
- Quite important
- Don't know
- Not very important
- Not at all important

2. What are the main benefits to children and young people from having a residential outdoor education experience? Please list your top three benefits:

Outdoor education has been shown to have a small to medium impact on a range of factors (communication, interactional abilities, resilience, collaboration, conflict resolution, and self-regulation) when it is undertaken with structured learning outcomes.

3. 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
- No
- Don't know

4. 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
- No
- Don't know

5. What are the main barriers which you believe currently exist to children and young people accessing residential outdoor education experiences? (please tick all that apply)

- Financial constraints
- Health reasons
- Disabilities
- Additional Learning Needs
- Parental anxiety/uncertainty
- Child anxiety/uncertainty

- Other (Please state)
- None

6. Equalities considerations:

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

It is important that the learning outcomes are structured and encompass the range of abilities both physical and emotional that the children bring to the setting. Those with physical or learning disabilities also need to be properly accommodated and not as an afterthought or excluded from activities. If the Bill is to have meaning then it must encompass all children and these must be outlined in the learning outcomes and access to activities

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?

If not run to be inclusive, then those with physical or learning disabilities, or those with emotional or behavioural issues may feel and/or be excluded from fully embracing the experience and it can create further division.

7. 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)
- Younger (please state)
- Older (please state)
- Not at any age

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

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Please explain your answer and highlight any possible implications from having a standard approach of four night/five day experiences (whether positive or negative).

There is limited evidence on the best length of stay for residential outdoor education. The general pattern of 4 nights and 5 days is common but it will depend on the learning outcomes.

9. 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
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

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

It is key that the Bill must include additional funding so that all children are included. This funding must include all costs not just those for the residential elements, for example travel and any kit hire or purchase needs to be included. Schools and many families are struggling with the cost of living, so funding the residential elements but not the cost of coach hire to get the children to the location, hiring of boots, coats, backpacks, camping equipment, etc needs to be factored in to ensure that all children have access.