

Proposed Schools (Residential Outdoor Education) (Scotland) Bill

Introduction

A proposal for a Bill to ensure that young people have the opportunity to experience residential outdoor education.

The consultation runs from 29 April 2022 to 22 July 2022

All those wishing to respond to the consultation are strongly encouraged to enter their responses electronically through this survey. This makes collation of responses much simpler and quicker. However, the option also exists of sending in a separate response (in hard copy or by other electronic means such as e-mail), and details of how to do so are included in the member's consultation document.

Questions marked with an asterisk (*) require an answer.

All responses must include a name and contact details. Names will only be published if you give us permission, and contact details are never published – but we may use them to contact you if there is a query about your response. If you do not include a name and/or contact details, we may have to disregard your response.

Please note that you must complete the survey in order for your response to be accepted. If you don't wish to complete the survey in a single session, you can choose "Save and Continue later" at any point. Whilst you have the option to skip particular questions, you must continue to the end of the survey and press "Submit" to have your response fully recorded.

Please ensure you have read the consultation document before responding to any of the questions that follow. In particular, you should read the information contained in the document about how your response will be handled. The consultation document is available here:

[Consultation Document](#)

[Privacy Notice](#)

I confirm that I have read and understood the Privacy Notice which explains how my personal data will be used.

On the previous page we asked you if you are UNDER 12 YEARS old, and you responded Yes to this question.

If this is the case, we will have to contact your parent or guardian for consent.

If you are under 12 years of age, please put your contact details into the textbox. This can be your email address or phone number. We will then contact you and your parents to receive consent.

Otherwise please confirm that you are or are not under 12 years old.

No Response

About you

Please choose whether you are responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation.
Note: If you choose "individual" and consent to have the response published, it will appear under your own name. If you choose "on behalf of an organisation" and consent to have the response published, it will be published under the organisation's name.

an individual

Which of the following best describes you? (If you are a professional or academic, but not in a subject relevant to the consultation, please choose "Member of the public".)

Teacher/school employee

Optional: You may wish to explain briefly what expertise or experience you have that is relevant to the subject-matter of the consultation

I'm currently a PE teacher of 20 years . The last 15 years have been spent as a pupil support manager within a state comprehensive secondary school. I was the lead staff member on the only Scottish school that were part of the Learning Away /Brilliant Residential initiative by the Paul Hamlyn foundation. I currently run the outdoor Residential and learning programme within my school.

Please select the category which best describes your organisation

No Response

Please choose one of the following:

I am content for this response to be published and attributed to me or my organisation

Please provide your Full Name or the name of your organisation. (Only give the name of your organisation if you are submitting a response on its behalf).

(Note: the name will not be published if you have asked for the response to be anonymous or "not for publication". Otherwise this is the name that will be published with your response).

Ronnie Bleach

Please provide details of a way in which we can contact you if there are queries regarding your response. Email is preferred but you can also provide a postal address or phone number.

We will not publish these details.

Aim and approach - Note: All answers to the questions in this section may be published (unless your response is "not for publication").

Q1. Which of the following best expresses your view of the proposed Bill? (Please note that this question is compulsory.)

Fully supportive

Please explain the reasons for your response.

Outdoor Residential activities are a vital experience for all young people of Scotland. The skills they develop in this environment cannot be underestimated. The memories and relationships that are made and developed are life changing in many cases. Since Covid 19. The impact on mental health has been considerable and Outdoor Residential placement has a integral role to play in reversing this. Young people's reliance on electronic stimulus with mobile phones etc. Outdoor Residentials give an opportunity to escape this.

Q2. Do you think legislation is required, or are there other ways in which the proposed Bill's aims could be achieved more effectively? Please explain the reasons for your response.

Yes. School will continue to focus on other areas of the curriculum. This will allow funding to be allocated and support the provision of young people of all backgrounds having this vital experience

Q3. The proposed Bill will cover residential outdoor education provision for local authority and grant-aided schools only. Which of the following best expresses your view that independent schools or any other education establishments should not be covered by this obligation.

Fully supportive

Please give reasons for your response.

Funding is tight enough and should be focused on local authority schools. Traditionally independent schools have continued to maintain a higher degree of residential activity.

Q4. The intention is that the obligation to ensure that residential outdoor education is provided would fall on those who are responsible for arranging the provision, e.g. education authorities and managers of grant-aided schools. Which of the following best expresses your view of this proposal?

Partially supportive

Please explain the reasons for your response.

How much autonomy would individual schools have ?

Funding

Q5. Which of the following best expresses your view of how residential outdoor education experiences should be funded?

In full by the Scottish Government

Please explain the reasons for your response. (If you consider Scottish Government funding should be provided to local authorities, please set out the mechanism for such funding, for example through block grant, ring fenced funding etc.)

Q5. Which of the following best expresses your view of how residential outdoor education experiences should be funded?

We are at a crucial point in education with the health and wellbeing of our young people needing to be tge priority. Every pupil needs access to outdoor residential experience at least once in their school career.

Financial Implications

Q6. Any new law can have a financial impact which would affect individuals, businesses, the public sector, or others. What financial impact do you think this proposal could have if it became law?

some increase in costs

Please explain the reasons for your answer, including who you would expect to feel the financial impact of the proposal, and if there are any ways you think the proposal could be delivered more cost-effectively.

Currently the number of outdoor education providers would not have the capacity to deal with the demands of all pupils having a week long residential. Hopefully through time costs would be reduced and many different models of residential could be used. From low cost camping to use of organisations like ocean youth Trust Scotland.

Standard/ Quality of provision

Q7. Which of the following best expresses your view on the proposal for a quality framework to ensure the quality of the education provision of outdoor centres?

Partially supportive

Please give reasons for your response, including whether this should be done by HMIE using a quality framework as part of their inspection of schools and the extent to which, if any, it should be statutory.

There must be some quality assurance . At the current moment though many centres need to justify their provision of programmes in relation to CfE. Established centres with established programmes would probably be fine . The worry would be new providers starting up and capitalising on the increased numbers. Outdoor education training for people entering the sector for employment would need to be expanded to cope with the increased demands. Lots of outdoor education experience has been lost due to covid and people moving / profession.

Q8. Which of the following best expresses your view that the age range of 12 – 16 is appropriate for participation in the residential outdoor education experience?

Fully supportive

Please give reasons for your response, including whether you think other age ranges would be more appropriate.

Secondary age education is vital. As they require at times more help with mental health and well being. The avlability to develop personal skills on residential is second to none and for young people to recognise this and use examples for their journey on from school into employment/training/further /higher education.

Q8. Which of the following best expresses your view that the age range of 12 – 16 is appropriate for participation in the residential outdoor education experience?

Residential at primary age would also be very beneficial however on many areas this is still well provided for in school. Personal i have seen the great impact many residential have had on 12-16 year old. Full funding would allow many more to access this without tge excuse of finance

Equalities

Q9. Any new law can have an impact on different individuals in society, for example as a result of their age, disability, gender re-assignment, marriage and civil partnership status, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation.

What impact could this proposal have on particular people if it became law? If you do not have a view skip to next question.

Please explain the reasons for your answer and if there are any ways you think the proposal could avoid negative impacts on particular people.

I think this law would provide more equality across the board for all to participate

Q10. How might equity of provision for all be ensured, regardless of socio-economic status? Please give reasons for your response.

This can only be achieved if fully funded for the most deprived in school community and the flexibility for schools flexibility to make decisions where to provide full support plus additional finance support or resources to cover extra hidden costs.. this cannot purely be on a statistical basis in relation to SIDM figures.

Sustainability

Q11. Any new law can impact on work to protect and enhance the environment, achieve a sustainable economy, and create a strong, healthy, and just society for future generations.

Do you think the proposal could impact in any of these areas? [If you do not have a view then skip to next question]

Please explain the reasons for your answer, including what you think the impact of the proposal could be, and if there are any ways you think the proposal could avoid negative impacts?

I think this proposal would only enhance this. It would create employment opportunities for a vibrant outdoor education career for young people. It would provide access for all by removing finance barriers.

General

Q12. Do you have any other additional comments or suggestions on the proposed Bill (which have not already been covered in any of your responses to earlier questions)?

I'm a passionate advocate of outdoors learning for young people in secondary schools and see on the daily basis the impact this has for pupils and staff. I provide as many opportunities for residential across all year groups in school and do this in various formats from low cost camps giving first time overnight camping experiences to focused residential activities to develop skills or provide support for completing curricular work. I would be delighted to comment further regarding this bill. I think it is a forward thinking move that could make such a difference to the young people of Scotland. We again could be at the forefront of education in the world.