

# 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**

Although I am now a teacher, I used to work in outdoor education including residential centres. In addition, I have been involved in the DofE programme in schools.

Please select the category which best describes your organisation

*No Response*

Please choose one of the following:

I would like this response to be published anonymously

**If you have requested anonymity or asked for your response not to be published, please give a reason (Note: your reason will not be published):**

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).

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.**

All young people should be provided with opportunities no matter their background. Residential experiences have a long lasting impact on everyone who has experienced them with them often recalling them many years later. There is strong evidence to support they enhance confidence which can then be taken back into the classroom as well as developing young people's skills for learning, life and work. My MEd dissertation was on this which is why I strongly support the proposal of everyone young person having the opportunity to take part in school residential experiences. It can also help to build resilience and aid with narrowing the gap especially, as for some young people, this may be their only opportunity to go on a trip.

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.

I support adding this into legislation so that every child has the right to outdoor residential experiences. With it being put into law, that means funding must be made available to support all young people to participate and not just those who can afford it. In fact it is those in the highest SIMD who potentially have the most to gain from such experiences, again something my research looked into.

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.

Partially opposed

**Please give reasons for your response.**

This should really apply to ALL young people. Yes those in the private sector generally have far more opportunities but there is also more choice as to whether to participate or not. I believe everyone should be strongly encouraged to take part in outdoor residential experiences no matter their background.

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?

Fully supportive

**Please explain the reasons for your response.**

Although that should also be done in partnership with individual establishments.

## 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.)**

By providing funding direct from Scottish Government, it would mean every authority has the same budget per head to offer similar experiences to every young person regardless of their local area. The direct funding also removes any potential stigma surrounding those who can afford to pay and those having to seek grants to pay for it. If the government proceeds with this, it is vital money is ring fenced and does not get diverted away to other things like it has done with every other budget getting slashed over the last number of years. My fear if money was handed to local authorities directly it would be diverted to other areas and not spent on what it is provided for. Something I have direct experience of in one LA with covid funding for organisations.

## 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?

no overall change 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.**

There should be no financial implications on anyone especially with the drastically increasing cost of living.

## 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?

Fully 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.**

An independent audit should be done by those with experience in outdoor residential. For those with lack of knowledge it would be very difficult to make valid comparisons of the different experiences offered by different centres. Equally every young person should be entitled to a similar type of experience regardless of the centre attended.

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.**

It allows pupils to develop their new peer groups at high school and build resilience and confidence that can be taken in a positive manner back to the classroom. High school is also where pupils are encouraged to participate in the DofE so a residential experience may further encourage them to participate in the award scheme.

## 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.

*No Response*

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

Through direct funding from the Scottish Government the equity of provision would be maintained.

## 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?

It may encourage young people and teachers to take up new activities linking with health. Outdoor activities also enhance the development of many of the skills required for learning, life and work which would feed into the economy as more people are gaining employability skills.

## 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)?

*No Response*