

# 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.

on behalf of an organisation

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".)

*No Response*

Please select the category which best describes your organisation

Commercial organisation (company, business)

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).

Active Outdoor Pursuits, Craigower Lodge Outdoor Centre, Newtonmore

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.**

The benefits provided by participating in outdoor education have been well documented over several decades. the full impact Covid will have on our population over the past two years and in the years / decades ahead, is hard to quantify but, it will be considerable. the benefits of a statutory Outdoor

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

residential experience for 12 to 15 year olds could significantly assist in mitigating these negative long term issues and the high costs involved in addressing them.

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.

Legislation is required to ensure that it actually happens now and in the future.

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 supportive

**Please give reasons for your response.**

A culture and appreciation of the benefits of outdoor education already exists within most Independent schools. This bill should guarantee that all young people can access these benefits.

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.**

in giving the responsibility of provision to Local Authorities and managers, it should be assumed that the roll out of the programme is assured and that participation and benefits are monitored and recorded to ensure quality of provision and that all schools participate and all children have the experience.

## 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.)**

Government funding should guarantee that the provision is guaranteed consistently and fairly for all children for generations to come.

## 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.**

I think the financial impact would be fairly small if even at all. I think the health benefits that will come from the implementation of this bill will offer long term savings to the Governments health budget.

## 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?

Neutral (neither support nor oppose)

**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.**

A framework already exists within all or most local authorities to ensure that Outdoor Centres meet quality and safety standards. The main standard being set by the Adventure Activities Licensing Regulations 2004 which is administered through HSE and is a requirement of all Outdoor Centres.

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?

Partially supportive

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

Other age ranges (particularly younger) would also benefit however, many schools already have provision for a P 6,7 residential trip. These are self funded by parents and are a great success, which is confirmed by schools , children and parents year after year. Given the current economic climate these trips may become more difficult for many parents to fund. perhaps a P 6/7 trip followed by and secondary school trip would catalyst for engaging more people in sport and healthy lifestyles that they will take into adulthood.

## 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.

a provider framework could be drafted to ensure that all schools were accessing similar provision in terms of content and cost. Funds should not be offered to top up other funding sources allowing a particular school the opportunity to buy into a more expensive or longer provision than the traditional 5 day residential experience.

## 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?

*No Response*

## 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)?

This would be one of the most beneficial bills to put put through the Scottish Parliament. It would be insightful and revolutionary on the scale of free education and prescriptions. The long term social and health benefits would be enormous, perhaps not yet imaginable.