

# 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".)

Professional with experience in a relevant subject

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

Qualified mountain leader, Duke of Edinburgh supervisor and assessor,

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).

Alastair Nasmyth

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.**

I believe in the educational and developmental value of residential outdoor experiences

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 think legislation is required as schemes such as these are at the whim of changing economical and political landscapes and this would help protect it from them. But legislation will only be effective if there is the financial backing to go with it and it's allocation must also be protected in the bill from a national source not from already stretched local authority budgets.

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.

Neutral (neither support nor oppose)

**Please give reasons for your response.**

From what I am aware many if not all provide their students with residential outdoor education already

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?

Neutral (neither support nor oppose)

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

I don't know enough about the role they already play and current work load. Will they have enough capacity to organize this provision to a suitable standard?

## Funding

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

In some other way

**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.)**

I think it should be a mix of these ideas. The Scottish government should provide funding to the local council. I don't know enough about the best mechanisms. That funding should make it free for children who meet a criteria for financial support and also cover a certain portion of the cost for the rest of the

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

children with the final amount being covered by the parents. The amount the Scottish Gov should put in needs to be linked to inflation, child numbers in school and number of children from less well off financial backgrounds.

## 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.**

There would be increased spending by the Government to achieve this. It would be partially off set by the parent/guardian contributions but it would also further offset by the investment in the outdoor sector. Increased employment in activity providers (individuals and companies) would provide income tax revenue and business tax revenue. Hopefully if new residential centres were built for the scheme they could supplement their costs by hiring the venues to groups outwith the local educational authority.

## 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 needs to be quality assurance for safety reasons as well as making sure the children are getting maximum benefit from the courses. I'm not knowledgeable enough about the framework used by schools and whether it would be a good fit to the outdoor learning environment. Paperwork can often get in the way of good practice as people are too busy filling out paperwork to make sure of good practice. Also the nature of the workforce in the outdoor sector is different to that of teachers. Teachers are expected to and regularly fill out much paperwork as part of their jobs where as that is much less the case in the outdoor environment when the large number of variables mean decisions are often dynamic and taken on the hoof when there is no time to sit down and fill out paper work.

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

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?

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

It may also be possible to start at a younger age but this range is one that would be independent enough to cope but would also learn a lot from the experience

## 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.

It could have a positive effect on the age group proposed providing them with important developmental experiences. If inclusive it could also have a great effect on people from disadvantaged backgrounds, people with disabilities and others who have historically not had the same access as others to the outdoors.

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

The places for children from less well off households should help with that in some way. Perhaps the provision of prayer rooms might help encourage those from some backgrounds feel more comfortable to attend.

## 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 will help build a bond between the younger generation and the environment making them more caring of it. It will help build a resilient generation of young people able to cope better with the difficulties in life. It will help create a generation who enjoy the outdoors and will benefit from the physical and mental benefits of activities in it.

## 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*