

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

30+ years delivery in residential outdoor education including Leadership Training and Assessing of Outdoor Instructors. Wide ranging sector support and involvement.

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).

Giles Trussell

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 have first hand evidence and experience of how a School Residential Outdoor Education experience can enhance an individual's confidence and awareness and also show how to work as part of a team. I have witnessed many young people leave a residential week with increased confidence and self esteem.

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 believe legislation is required. I have watched over the last 30 years the erosion of provision of Outdoor Education for young people and would like to see a reversal of this. It is not something that will be achieved by 'asking' education authorities to do something about it. Finance will need to be ring-fenced and applied in a fair and equitable way.

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.

It should be considered on a case by case basis. It would be useful to have a process where those schools and education establishments that do not currently have an agenda on this or funds available to support it, can have an opportunity to access resources and funds for to enable a residential experience for thier students.

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.

There could be a case for creating an independent team that oversees this and is able to provide support where it is needed.

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

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

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 this option would really kick-start the programme and show a clear commitment to the Bill. It would remove any doubt or uncertainty about how the provision would be funded in an equitable and inclusive way.

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.

Some increase in costs to the Scottish Government. However this could be looked at in a more complex way and it may be that there are hidden savings due to the outcome of the Bill. e.g. better behaviour in schools, better attendance in schools, improved work ethic, job prospects, mental and physical health improvements - all leading to a reduction in the need for costly additional services.

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.

There needs to be good guidance for all with this. Evidence of success of the provision would be easier to gather and monitor and then provide further steer to any development or changes that may be needed. I think given the proposal there is an outstanding opportunity to create a leading model for integrating residential outdoor education into schooling.

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.

While the younger ages could be catered for as well I see this age range as a more 'formative' in terms of

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?

personal development. There is more physical robustness and self awareness - often lacking in the younger ages - which equips them better for a residential experience. There is a case too for final year primary pupils having a residential as 'preparation' for leaving and/or simply a memorable and influential end to the first stage of their education.

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.

While this act may not suit everyone there has to be acknowledgment of this and allowances made. It could be that it will require some very individualised or bespoke opportunities that form part of the Bill. These would be easy enough to identify and integrate and fundamentally provide choice.

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

As previously indicated this could be done by full Government funding. No -one should be excluded due to financial reasons. There are likely many barriers facing some people e.g. lack of good clothing for a residential week. Obviously these kinds of things will need sensitive handling but resources could be developed to help with this kind of thing.

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 think benefits of the Bill far outweigh any negatives. If anything the Bill would have a positive impact on the above mentioned points.

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)?

None other than this appears to be an exciting opportunity to re-invigorate what has appeared to be a general erosion of Outdoor Education in Schools.

It would be incredible if, as a consequence, there was a renewed drive to create purpose built outdoor education centres run by various authorities. One model could be that local authorities unite to perhaps run residential centres together. I will watch with interest and hopefully see a commitment from the Scottish Government to revive (resuscitate may be a better word) and make sustainable Schools Residential Outdoor Education provision.