

## **Schools (Residential Outdoor Education) (Scotland) Bill**

The City of Edinburgh Council's (CEC) response to a request for information from The Scottish Parliament Education, Children and Young People Committee (15 November 2024).

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The following information has been compiled by the Council's Outdoor Learning and Adventure Education Team.

The Council continues to offer broad support for the Schools (Residential Outdoor Education) (Scotland) Bill based on the information presented so far. It recognises there are important questions to resolve, however this can be achieved through consultation, guidance, plus flexibility and autonomy for local authorities. This would support each local authority to develop a strategic approach and local guidance to reflect specific contexts, needs and priorities. A national funding solution is imperative to ensure equity of access.

The Council is committed to planned, progressive and creative outdoor learning experiences, integral to the curriculum. This includes relevant, accessible and impactful 'outdoor education' residential visits. Overnights, along with frequent onsite and local experiences, are complementary i.e. one should not replace another. This is because there are distinct benefits from high quality, well planned 'outdoor education' residential visits, as evident throughout this response.

The Bill is ensuring that 'outdoor education' residential visits are prominent within national outdoor learning discussions and debates. The Council is keen for this to be translated into any updated national Learning for Sustainability / outdoor learning guidance.

The City of Edinburgh Council owns and operates 3 outdoor centres:

- Bangholm Outdoor Centre (Edinburgh / residential visits: DofE expeditions across Scotland and Epic Adventures at the Bonaly Scouts Centre).
- Benmore Outdoor Centre (Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park).
- Lagganlia Outdoor Centre (Cairngorms National Park).

The OL&AE Team delivers 'outdoor education' residential experiences to about 6500 children and young people annually. CEC schools, mainly secondary schools, also use third-party providers and CEC staff self-led residential visits to ensure there is sufficient capacity and a range of aims are met. The information below therefore includes provision delivered via the Council's own centres; Council staff (self-led residential visits); and partners.

The Council welcomes visits by the Committee to our outdoor centres.

# Contents

Section 1: Questions from Committee .....	3
Question 1:.....	3
Question 2:.....	4
Question 3:.....	4
Question 4:.....	5
Question 5:.....	5
Question 6:.....	7
Section 2 Additional Information .....	9
2.1 Additional information.....	9
2.2 Council Committee Extracts .....	10

# Section 1: Questions from Committee

Question 1: ***The number of pupils currently receiving residential outdoor education provision each year over the last 5 years in your area, including a) the age range of participants and b) the number of participants with additional support needs.***

Nearly all City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) outdoor education residential visits are undertaken by P6 – S6 pupils.

2018/19 data has been included throughout the document where appropriate. This shows a full year prior to the March 2020 Covid-19 outbreak.

**Table 1.1** Pupil numbers and change

Number of pupils attending CEC school outdoor education residential visits <sup>1</sup>	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21 <sup>2</sup>	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25 <sup>3</sup>
Primary age	4996	4996	N/A	3753	4173	4142	2004
Secondary age <sup>4</sup>	3992	3992	N/A	1731	3272	3801	967
Total	8988	8988	N/A	5484	7445	7943	2971

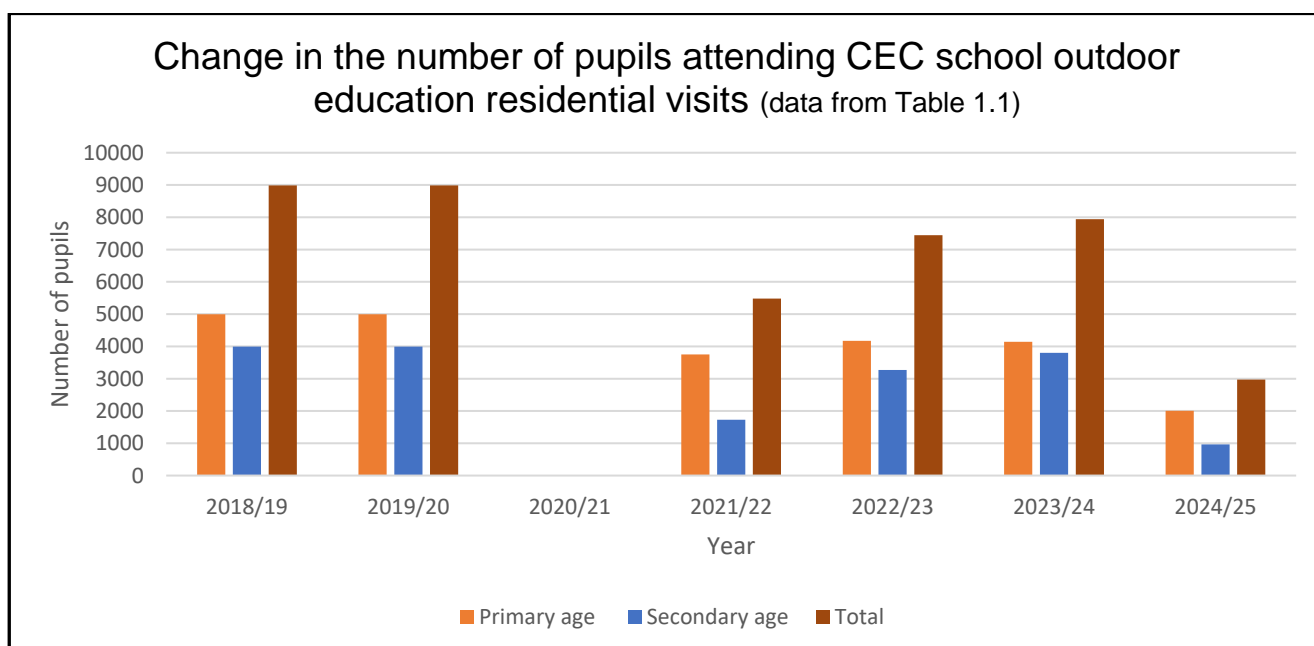
<sup>1</sup> Estimate based on central figures submitted with excursion proposals.

<sup>2</sup> No school residential visits permitted for nearly all the 2020/21 academic year.

<sup>3</sup> To date.

<sup>4</sup> Best fit; small number of mixed-age residential visits included as secondary.

**Graph 1.1**



All CEC primary schools (P7 pupils on-roll) organised an outdoor education residential in 2023/24.

Nearly every CEC primary overnight experience in 2023/24 was an outdoor education residential; 99.9% of CEC primary-aged pupils attending an overnight experience did so via an outdoor education residential. For secondary, around 81.2% of CEC pupils attending an overnight

experience did so via an outdoor education residential (2023/24). This lower figure reflects CEC secondary-aged pupils attending different types of residential visits to meet specific curriculum needs.

Most CEC primary-aged pupils undertake an outdoor education residential visit for 5 continuous days (4 nights) – Table 2.1. The figure is lower for CEC secondary-aged pupils, which reflects specialist residential outdoor education visits of a shorter duration, including Duke of Edinburgh’s Award expeditions.

**Table 1.2 Average duration**

Average duration for outdoor education residential visits (days)	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25 to date
Primary age	4.3	4.7	N/A	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.6
Secondary age	3.4	3.8	N/A	4.3	4.4	3.7	3.6

In September 2023, CEC schools recorded 46% of pupils as having an additional support need. The number of pupils with additional support needs attending residential visits is not collated centrally.

The Council is committed to ensuring that every child can participate in school experiences. This includes a range of progressive and creative onsite, local and residential outdoor learning and other education beyond the classroom experiences. Council staff work collaboratively to support attendance on residential visits (see Section 2.2 for case studies).

**Question 2: *The number of staff attending residential outdoor education trips.***

**Table 1.2 Supervisory adults**

Number of supervisory adults attending school residential outdoor education visits <sup>1</sup>	2018/19	2019/20 <sup>2</sup>	2020/21 <sup>3</sup>	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25 to date
Number of adults	893	727	N/A	546	824	1000	357

<sup>1</sup> Supervisory adults include a range of school and wider Council staff, approved volunteers and partners. The vast majority are school staff.

<sup>2</sup> Covid-19 outbreak / school closure in March 2020. No visits for the remainder of the year. Will include some ‘planned post-March’ visits data that did not happen.

<sup>3</sup> No school residential visits permitted for nearly all the 2020/21 academic year.

**Question 3: *The number of staff that had refused to take part in residential outdoor education trips.***

The Council does not collect this information centrally.

Suitable and sufficient supervision of residential outdoor education provision is the responsibility of each school.

Our general observations include the following:

- CEC school staff who attend are generally very supportive of outdoor education residential visits and continue to support them.
- We are not aware of any CEC outdoor education school residential visit to our Benmore or Lagganlia centres that has been cancelled over the last 5 years due to insufficient staff.
- CEC school staff want to attend for a variety of reasons, including:
  - knowing the impact residential visits have on pupils;
  - developing relationships with pupils;
  - understanding pupils' needs / how they learn;
  - career-long professional learning;
  - developing relationships with colleagues; and
  - an opportunity to work in a different location / environment.
- CEC school staff may say 'no' for several reasons. For example, personal circumstances at a specific time may make someone who normally attends outdoor education residentials temporarily unavailable. This is completely different to a single member of staff who refuses to attend any outdoor education residential visits. Our experiences are that CEC schools are very proactive and skilled in managing suitable and sufficient supervision. Caution is therefore required when collecting this information.

Our central excursions review and approval data also indicates:

- Nearly all CEC school outdoor education residential provision relies on school staff. Group leaders are generally teachers.
- CEC schools utilise a range of supervisory adult solutions, including Pupil Support Assistants; Pupils Support Officers; other school staff; wider Council staff; approved volunteers, including parents and carers; and partners. This diverse mix is highly valued and often provides specialist support. This allows the Council to deliver a significant number of appropriate, accessible and impactful outdoor education residential visits.

**Question 4: *Whether your local authority has any local agreement with teachers on whether they must be willing to attend these residential outdoor education trips and if this is covered in the LCNT.***

There is no local agreement for The City of Edinburgh Council.

**Question 5: *The costs associated with residential outdoor education provision and how these costs have changed over the last 5 years.***

The table below shows a range of current residential costs based on various evidence linked to internal and external supplies and services.

**Table 5.1** Some illustrative costs

A 5-day 4-night school outdoor education residential to a residential outdoor education centre.

Element	Cost range	Comments
Provider cost (non-CEC and CEC):	£300 - £650 per pupil.	Variance depends on provider (internal or external), time of year, location and type of adventurous activity.
Transport cost:	Between £1100 and £1500 for the drop-off and pick-up (provider is 123 miles away).	Varies depending on distance and time of year.

Teacher supply rate:	£334 per day.	Daily rate can vary. Supply teacher/s may be required if the attendance on a residential is not high and a cover teacher is required at school. CEC attendance rates tend to be high, city-wide average of 85% - 90% for visits to Benmore and Lagganlia.  Additional staff may also be required for visits requiring a higher staff : pupil ratio.
Specialist additional support needs kit hire:	Varies depending on needs and reasonable adjustments required.	Can be significantly higher for special school visits.

The Scottish Advisory Panel for Outdoor Education produced a visit calculator in 2023 to assist its membership in costing out different residential scenarios. This is attached and includes specific unit costs.

There are significant hidden costs too, including the planning and preparation time to organise a visit.

The cost of operating outdoor centres has risen significantly over the last 5 years. Our information and membership of national organisations indicates all outdoor education centres have and continue to experience significant increases in operational costs, including staffing, utilities, food and equipment. This results in higher charges to schools (see Table 5.2 below as an example). Centres have tried to minimise increases where reasonably practicable. There has also been a significant increase in transport costs as illustrated in Table 5.3, although this has stabilised somewhat.

**Table 5.2** Example changes to provider charges (outdoor education school residentials).

Context: month of May per pupil visit.			
	Type 1	Type 2	Type 3
Context	4-night Outdoor Education residential centre	2-night Outdoor Education residential centre	2-night Silver Duke of Edinburgh Expedition (camping)
2019 May	£295	Not available	£105
2020 May <sup>1</sup>	£305 Planned but not open (Covid-19)	Planned but not open (Covid-19)	Planned but not open (Covid-19)
2021 May <sup>1</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022 May	£325	£138	£120
2023 May	£335	£165	£135
2024 May	£372	£190	£135
2025 May <sup>2</sup>	£395	£200	£145

<sup>1</sup> No school residential visits permitted by Scottish Government in May 2020 and 2021.

<sup>2</sup> Indicative charges.

**Table 5.3** Example changes to coach charges

Context: 53-seater coach.		
	Benmore (not via the ferry) – average (c. 4 x 123 miles)	Lagganlia – average (c. 4 x 123 miles)
2019 May	£1080	£900
2020 May <sup>1</sup>	N/A: Covid-19	N/A: Covid-19
2021 May <sup>1</sup>	N/A: Covid-19	N/A: Covid-19
2022 May	£1400	£1595
2023 May	£1595	£1248
2024 May	£1480	£1175

<sup>1</sup> No school outdoor education residential centre visits permitted by Scottish Government in May 2020 and May 2021.

The Council would welcome a coordinated national discussion about the potential for using the existing [U22s free bus pass scheme](#) to support transport costs.

**Question 6: *Any feedback information gathered from pupils who received residential outdoor education provision***

The Council’s Outdoor Learning and Adventure Education (OL&AE) Team consults pupils and discusses their feedback from visits to its Benmore and Lagganlia Centres. Table 6.1 includes specific feedback from the latest residential pupil focus groups in October / November 2024 (two schools visiting Lagganlia – P7 pupils). This involves the OL&AE Manager talking to a group of young people whilst on the residential. It allows for a more in-depth discussion and the opportunity to explore ideas.

**Table 6.1** Example pupil feedback (Lagganlia Outdoor Centre)

	<b>Group 1</b>	<b>Group 2</b>
Why a residential visit (why not day visits)?	<p>You share a dorm, living away with my friends. We have the time to talk and reflect, especially early in the morning and in the evening. I really value this.</p> <p>Once we’re here it’s good for the environment. We are not travelling long distances each day. Plus, this saves time and we can get on with learning.</p> <p>I like getting further away, being more remote and going on a proper adventure. We couldn’t do that on single days.</p> <p>Places can be crowded in and around Edinburgh. Here is more remote. I went up Arthur’s Seat; it was great with a good view but getting into the Cairngorms was so much better. A proper adventure.</p>	<p>Sharing a bedroom and space with people who aren’t your family.</p> <p>Some kids don’t get the opportunity to go away with their friends.</p> <p>Going somewhere new, not been there before.</p> <p>Away from my family; hard but valuable and I have grown because of it.</p> <p>Learning about new environments in Scotland we could not easily access in one day. That means more of us can see and experience Scotland.</p> <p>Great to explore new places. If you go into town or around Edinburgh, most people are familiar with that place. At Lagganlia you learn new things or apply things I know or can do but in different places.</p>

	<p>It's not rushed. We have the time to try things, talk and reflect.</p> <p>We got out in the dark. That's quite tricky for a day visit. We used the telescopes to explore the stars. I would never have experienced that.</p>	<p>You would not get the experience of packing your bag, staying in dorms, having time to talk and reflect.</p> <p>I spent time with my dad getting ready for the visit. That was great.</p>
<p>How may this experience support you back in the classroom?</p>	<p>To be more independent. Improve my communication. I have grown in confidence.</p> <p>Helped me to be a leader.</p> <p>Being more mature, helping others.</p> <p>Understand my friends more. Learn how they react doing activities I have not seen them do at school.</p> <p>At school we learn about nature and the environment. We talk about it a lot at school, but this week I have done it.</p> <p>Helping me to prepare for secondary school; more independent, getting ready for activities and being in places with more people.</p>	<p>Don't judge a book by its cover. It may look like I want won't enjoy it but you can if you persevere.</p>
<p>How may this experience support you outside of school?</p>	<p>To become more responsible.</p> <p>To recognise we all have different strengths.</p> <p>To be more independent.</p> <p>Has helped to me to know what I want and need.</p>	<p>Taught me to live the moment. I was cold and freezing but once I had done it – I got a sense of real achievement.</p> <p>I have learnt we can always get better at something. Trying new things and practising are key.</p> <p>Don't boast about what you have done. Think about what you say and how it may impact on people. I have learnt this week to work with different people I don't normally work with.</p>

Section 2.2 includes additional information gathered from pupils, and other stakeholders for a November 2023 Council committee report.



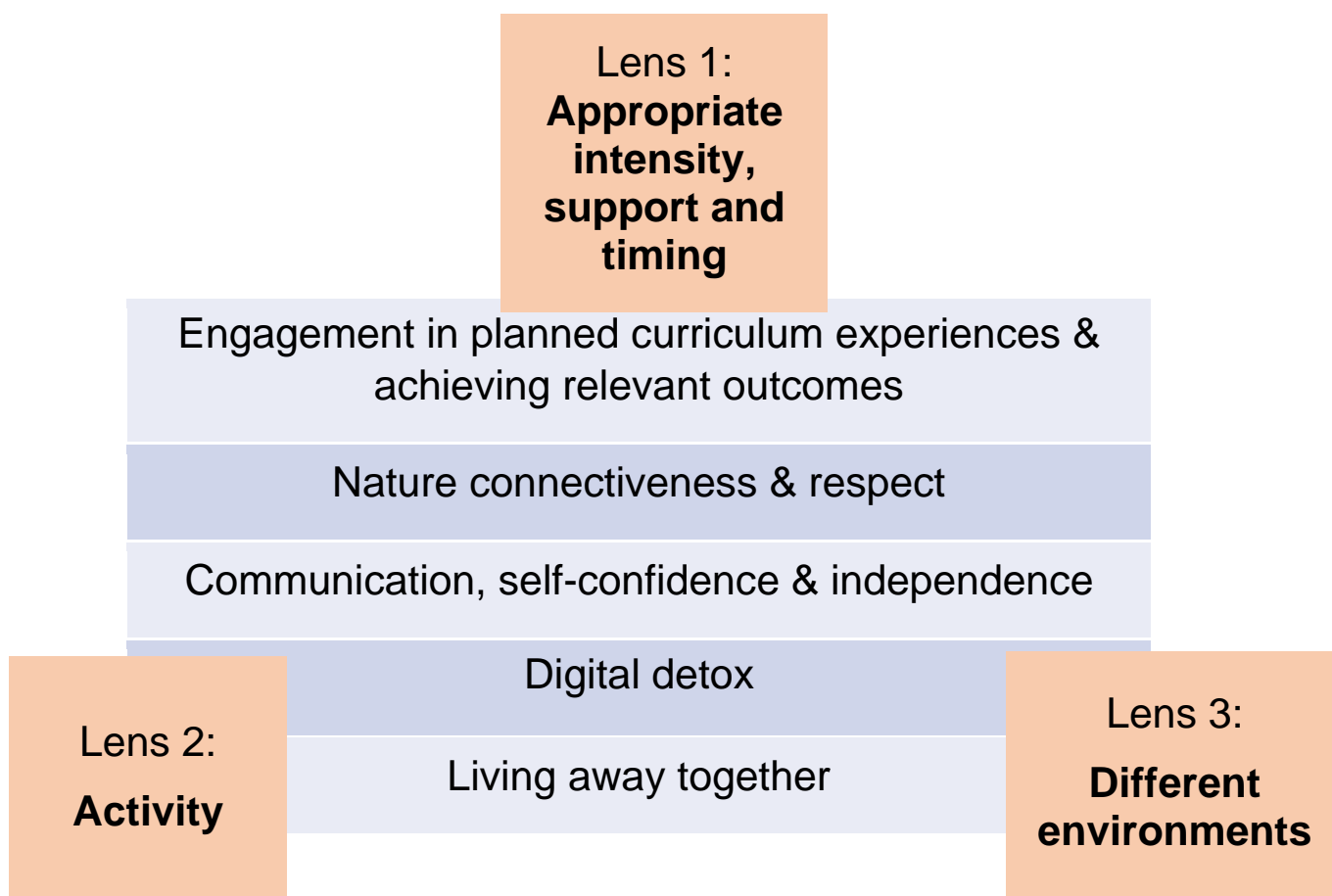
## Section 2 Additional Information

### 2.1 Additional information

The City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) continues to recognise and value the importance of appropriate, accessible and impactful outdoor education residential visits. This is based on:

- feedback from staff (see Table 2.1.1 and Section 2.2 for examples);
- feedback from our pupils, parents and carers (see Sections 1 and 2.2 for examples);
- external research (for example, but not limited to: [Learning Away 2015](#); [Holland et al 2023](#), and [Prince \(2020\)](#))
- direct observations of pupils on residential visits.

Based on the above, the Council recognises and values the following unique benefits of impactful outdoor education residential visits via 3 lenses. Research indicates that high quality pre and post work maximises more sustained outcomes. Recent national work developing a residential improvement framework will support this further.



Securing a high attendance rate on outdoor educational residential visits is critical. CEC schools and centres undertake significant work to address financial and non-financial barriers. Data for visits to Benmore and Lagganlia is collated to understand how pupils are funded and why some do not attend. This informs guidance and support. The Bill in its proposed form will make a significant contribution to removing financial barriers across Scotland.

The Council's Benmore and Lagganlia outdoor centres collect feedback from visiting schools. This continues to be extremely positive and is used to support improvement work.

**Table 2.1.1** Benmore and Lagganlia Outdoor Centres evaluation feedback

Questions (based on the Learning Away research)	Ongoing cumulative % <sup>1</sup>	Notes
Impact on enjoyable learning: nearly all our children/young people/vulnerable adults enjoyed their visit.	91% strongly agree (100% agree)	-
Impact on relationships: overall, our visit had a very positive impact on developing peer relationships (participant to participant) e.g. child to child.	77% strongly agree (100% agree)	-
Impact on relationships: overall, our visit had a very positive impact on participant to visiting staff relationships.	80% strongly agree (99% agree)	-
Impact on a 'sense of community': our visit provided a very positive opportunity for nearly all participants to live away with others successfully (including facing common challenges and overcoming problems together as a team).	81% strongly agree (98% agree)	-
Impact on confidence: staff have noted significant and appropriate changes in many participants' confidence (within themselves, their learning and/or relationships).	53% strongly agree (88% agree)	Impact on confidence can vary e.g. significant proportion may already be confident.
Impact on attainment, health, wellbeing and engagement: Overall, staff have noted significant general improvements in: <b>Engagement and resilience by priority learners who most require to develop these qualities.</b>	60% strongly agree (96% agree)	-
Impact on attainment, health, wellbeing and engagement: Overall, staff have noted significant general improvements in: <b>Environmental awareness (age-appropriate understanding of the physical environment, threats and solutions).</b>	40% strongly agree (90% agree)	Developing environmental awareness is part of our 2025 improvement work.
Overall, our visit has been a success.	95% strongly agree (100% agree)	-

<sup>1</sup>164 responses.

## 2.2 Council Committee Extracts

From The City of Edinburgh Council Education, Children and Families Committee. Outdoor Learning – Benmore and Lagganlia Outdoor Centres. November 2023.

[Item 7.1 - Outdoor Learning - Benmore and Lagganlia Outdoor Centres.pdf](#)





### The City of Edinburgh Council Outdoor Learning

## Residential MATTER!

Cross-Party Group on Outdoor Education

28 March 2023

[Extract from minutes](#)

Canal View  
Primary School

### **Ann Moore, Former Head Teacher at Canal View Primary School**

We have developed a strong relationship with Lagganlia and the instructors there. The primary school is in a built-up area, and our young people have little access to outdoor pursuits such as canoeing or skiing. The experience goes way beyond the Residential. Young people have a voice in the planning. They find Lagganlia on the map, they share what they think the experience could be like – with teachers and peers – then they meet the instructors and they have questions they want to ask.

The buzz starts from P4, they meet cool, young instructors and see them out in the playground making dens etc. Staff were much more confident as a result of observing, chatting to and getting feedback from instructors. Two-way process, learning from each other, including the children. Very powerful as there are lots of challenges in going away for the first time, the worry of being safe and secure. Prepares them for transition into high school, they start to think – change is good, a necessary part of life, a bit scary but that's how it goes. Young people knew what they wanted to achieve, and they learned about adaptability. Sometimes it was necessary to be flexible, if the weather changed and an activity wasn't available, but they'd carry on and try a new activity and make it happen.

The relationships were improved between staff and children. It had a huge impact for both. Through this experience over more than 9 years, we felt it was crucial that every child had experience of high-quality learning outdoors. We have been lucky; Lagganlia is the gold standard, something the kids will never forget for their whole lives. Former pupils get in touch, remembering the experience. That's also the case for staff who talk warmly about the experience. For young people its development of independence, for us all its sharing and learning together. We do lots of that at school, but going to a wilderness was powerful and we then brought it back to school where children and staff worked together to develop and extend those learning experiences.

*Canal View continues to ensure high attendance at Lagganlia. Lagganlia instructors continue to visit the school. The journey continues...*



## The City of Edinburgh Council Outdoor Learning

### Residentials MATTER!

#### The Edinburgh Primary Head Teachers' Association (EPHTA) Committee

*Benmore and Lagganlia Outdoor Centres are vital partners for schools to deliver the curriculum and offer a range of wider achievement opportunities.*

*Residentials at both centres are noted as one of the main Primary School highlights by our learners and for some of our young people this is a once in a lifetime experience. The teams at the centres provide rich and high-quality learning experiences. These build on previous learning in our schools and provide depth to the curriculum.*

*From our experience in schools of delivering residentials opportunities, it is extremely important that the centres are owned by the Council. The centres and the experiences they provide are safe and the staff teams implement and follow Council policies and procedures.*

*Staff align with values of CEC schools, working through the resilience programme to match what happens in school. The positive relationships and partnerships between the Outdoor Learning Team and schools ensure that we can provide residential experiences that meet the needs of all our young people, including bespoke programmes for individual learners. These relationships provide valuable support to school staff planning and accompanying learners, as well as reassurance to families, to enable young people's participation.*

*Schools work hard and effectively to achieve high attendance rates in partnership with the Outdoor Learning Team. The commitment to relationships, inclusion and ethos provided at the CEC centres goes above and beyond and has enabled children who would not have been able to access the experience at other settings to take an active part in residentials.*

## The City of Edinburgh Council Outdoor Learning

# Residentials for EVERYONE - inclusion

## Bonaly Primary School

### Inclusive Benmore (Autumn 2023)

Benmore Outdoor Centre is a truly magical place that has brought generations of children the most wonderful memories. We are always delighted with the efforts that the centre put into making this residential accessible to all of our learners in P7 at Bonaly Primary. This is done through lots of forward planning, information sharing and great team work.



**This was particularly this year for one really amazing pupil at our school, who has a visual impairment. This child was very excited at the prospect of visiting the centre, spending time with her classmates, enjoying the sensory stimulation of the wide variety of flora, and accessing as many activities as possible.**



As a school, we had a good idea of how the week would look for this child, through regular communication and planning before our departure. However, what was put in place exceeded expectations. The team's flexibility around her medical and physical needs ensured she was always safe and everything she required was accessible at the centre. The instructors (one in particular, Neil) put a considerable amount of thought into how activities could be adapted, in order to make them inclusive and enjoyable for this child. This involved using a tandem bike to take her on group bike rides and careful guidance and support on the climbing wall. The feeling of pride for all Bonaly staff on seeing this child involved at this level was really wonderful!

**Doug Short Bonaly Primary School Group Leader**

*'My instructor was kind and helpful and I thank him for helping me to ride a tandem for the first time. It felt wobbly at first, but I soon got used to it and I felt really proud of myself for doing it. Another activity I really enjoyed was climbing. Although it was an unusual feeling being off the ground, I enjoyed the challenge of trying to get to the top, and when I did... I felt really proud of myself for doing it!'*  
P7 Pupil, Bonaly Primary School.



## The City of Edinburgh Council Outdoor Learning

# Residentials for EVERYONE - inclusion

## Leith Walk Primary School

### School, Outdoor Learning and other Council staff work collegiately to maximise attendance.

Leith Walk Primary School's 2022/23 visit to Lagganlia is a fine example. The School worked closely with Lagganlia to create a fabulous week for a P7 pupil with additional support needs. This included liaising with ASLS and Fleet to ensure onsite and offsite access and support. Juniper Green PS kindly swapped a member of staff so there was sufficient 2:1 support.

*'Lagganlia was an epic win! I loved it, and want to go straight back. I did climbing and abseiling. Kris was my instructor he was funny and he helped me do things I thought I could never do like kayaking and abseiling.'*

#### Leith Walk P7 pupil

*'The trip would not have happened without the hard work of Amy Barr and the School in arranging the correct support and ensuring everything was in place for our son to enjoy this experience with his class. Huge thanks to Blanca and Stuart, who accompanied him. It was crucial in allowing him to experience a taste of independence, much like his peers. The staff at Lagganlia were amazing! Our son absolutely loved it! He was able to try so many activities and have so many adventures that he would never have had access to without all the help from the Lagganlia team.'* Pupil's parents



## The City of Edinburgh Council Outdoor Learning Team

# GIRFEC and Child Planning Meetings (CPMs)

School, Centre and other Council staff work effectively to ensure pupils can attend residential visits. This often involves Centre staff attending MS Teams meetings, including CPMs and hosting pre-residential visits by families. This demonstrates the benefits of the Council operating its own centres.

**Katharine Mackintosh**

**Depute Head Teacher, Liberton Primary School**

I am responsible at Liberton Primary for planning and leading the P7 residential to Benmore. Increasingly over the years we have seen the hugely positive impact this experience has for our children with additional support needs.

Although there is often a lot of apprehension on the part of learners and their parents/carers beforehand, we have found many pupils in the CPM system have benefitted hugely and the experience is regularly referred to in CPMs as having been a great success. The impact we see is around engagement and participation as well as children developing socially and emotionally. It often leads to adults raising their expectations around what is possible for the child to achieve having seen what is possible in a different context.

In order to make the experience a success we ensure we have individual plans and meet regularly with parents in the run up to the week away. Sometimes these plans include supports and strategies we find are not needed, partly due to the environment and experience supporting inclusion. The Benmore experience often raises the confidence of children with additional support needs. It contributes positively to preparing them for the changes ahead with transition to high school, through developing strategies to manage new environments and challenge their own and others' perceptions of what they are able to achieve.





## The City of Edinburgh Council Outdoor Learning

# Residentials MATTER - don't just take our word for it!

Best memory of primary school, learned to be without my phone, learned lots and related this to stuff I'd learned at school like maths. I had to dig deep and conquer my fear of heights. Used my determination to overcome a fear of heights. All round brilliant! Best experience and I would go back in a heartbeat!

Feedback from former P7 pupils at Craigroyston Primary School (now in S1).

The people who were there were loving and caring- they made us feel safe and secure.

I would recommend this experience to everyone - it was amazing. There were some wee accidents, so people had to learn to manage risk.

Comfy beds and nice room: great sleep. Not all about outdoor learning, we did other stuff too. Gorge walking was challenging but great- had to push myself.

## The City of Edinburgh Council Outdoor Learning

# Residentials MATTER - don't just take our word for it!

For my daughter - helped her to ride a bike - never interested and she went mountain biking and loved it. Huge increase in confidence and interest in cycling. She still cycles now- all thanks to camp!

In-depth feedback from a parent at Craigroyston Primary School.

Confidence - significant impact, pushed herself and was pushed and supported just the right amount.

She tried new foods so helped her to experiment with foods and social eating.

Offered opportunity to develop her independence, organising herself, her equipment and setting her level of challenge etc.

As a parent, I believe it's essential that our children get the opportunity to experience new places... some of our kids never get beyond the very local spaces - how wonderful to exercise the great outdoors in such high quality environments. Wild - but safe!

Honestly - my child loved it, still talks about! Crucial that they get this opportunity- that the Council offers it and ensures cost is not a barrier is amazing.

Getting a break from technology- away from Social media for a week is hugely beneficial for the children.

# Oxgangs Primary School

## Pupil feedback

*Going to Lagganlia made me feel more confident about myself and my abilities. The staff at Lagganlia really encouraged us to do things that were difficult and challenging.*

*The staff got to know us, and they taught us about ourselves and how to accomplish things.*

*The staff made us feel more confident about trying scary stuff.*

*The staff pushed me to get better at things.*

*I learned more about my strengths and how to get better at new things.*

*The staff were amazing. They were really funny and helped us to try new things.*

*I think I made better relationships with all the P7s and with the staff at school.*

*It was overall amazing and I will tell everyone they should go.*

*I have made so many memories.*

*I tried lots of new food.*

*The whole trip was amazing, everything was great. I loved the gorge walking and abseiling.*

## Parents' feedback

Our daughter attended Lagganlia as part of the P7 camp last month. She and her friends have looked forward to their P7 camp in Lagganlia since they had heard about it from older children at the school – and the reality more than lived up to the expectation. She referred to it as “the best week of her life”!

We were particularly impressed by the sheer number of new experiences she enjoyed which took her beyond what we would normally have considered her comfort zone, but in a way that she thoroughly enjoyed rather than felt anxious about.

A specific example would be mountain biking: we've tried this with her ourselves without much success, but the guidance and encouragement offered by the staff at Lagganlia, combined with the enthusiasm of participating alongside her friends, really made the difference. She is now keen to try more – which is great news for us!

In summary, our daughter really enjoyed her time at Lagganlia, and we can see the real boost it has given to her confidence in trying new activities.

Our child hasn't stopped talking about camp since the moment she got back! She's essentially been homesick for Lagganlia which is pretty incredible having been there for only a few days. She's been on several Brownie camps before but this was somehow different - she came home a bit more grown-up, a bit more independent, and a bit more confident. Clearly the benefits of this will last far beyond P7.

*4 days at Lagganlia had a tremendous impact on my daughter. She absolutely loved it. She loved that they got to try so many activities with their schoolmates and make memories that will last the lifetime. My daughter became so emotional that she cried at school assembly when watching the video from camp and she cried at home again today while watching the video because the camp was so great and she misses the place and experiences so much. Kids are talking that it would be great to go to camp in P6 AND P7 (as some other schools apparently are doing), or to go to Lagganlia again. They have such wonderful memories from the camp, they are still filled with positivity, kindness and love of adventure.*



# The City of Edinburgh Council Outdoor Learning

## Post-visit persuasive writing!

### Should I go to camp?

Dear Future p7s,

Around this time next year, you'll be going to Benmore outdoor centre/camp, and I am going to tell you all about it. Hopefully it will convince you to go. Benmore was an amazing experience and I have created so many memories there. The bus ride is only one of the many exciting parts because you know you're on the way but it gets a bit boring halfway through. When you arrive, you'll find out your rooms and make your beds, the beds are a bit squeaky, but you get used to it. Don't worry about sharing showers and people walking in whilst you're using the bathrooms as you have 2 separated showers, and you can lock the door to the toilet. They have a bottom floor, a middle floor and a top floor. I can't tell you much about the top and bottom floor as I was on the middle floor except for the fact they all have fire exits with lights that stay on at night but they're pretty dim.

If you're a picky eater, vegetarian, have allergies or a specific diet not to worry because Benmore provide food for everyone, here is what we had whilst at Benmore. Breakfast: cereal options and bacon rolls, cereal options hash browns beans and toast, cereal options and sausage rolls, cereal options pancakes and toast. Lunch: ham rolls, egg mayo rolls, tuna mayo rolls, cheese rolls and soup with bread every lunch. Dinner: fish and chips with sauce options and a salad option, cheesy pasta bake and salad options, chicken and rice with salad options and on the last day pizza with wedges and sauce. Desserts: chocolate cake, birthday cake, sticky toffee pudding and on the last day waffles with ice cream (optional) and chocolate or strawberry sauce. I'm not gonna go through all of our meals but that's pretty much all of them, if you don't like any of the food they are extremely understanding and always have another option for you.

The activity's keep you busy all day and are very fun, even if you're scared it's so worth it. A few of my favourite activities were gorge walking, abseiling and caving. You do 2-3 activities every day. A morning activity, an afternoon activity and a night activity usually the night activity is a walk or a game. By nighttime you're absolutely shattered and need a good rest. You go to bed at 10 and wake up at 8. Breakfast is at half 8 so you have half an hour to get ready for the day. After tea and cake at 5 you have an hour of free time as dinner is at quarter past 6. After dinner you are given a paper folder thing to write about your day so you can remember what you did at camp, it's basically a diary.

I know some people don't want to go because they don't want to leave their phone but camp is the most fun I've ever had without devices ever. Although you miss your parents it's so much fun and you don't have time to think about how much you miss them. When your doing activities your having too much fun to give them a second thought and when you go to bed your too tired to think about them and maybe you'll think about them at free time but most of the time your too busy or tired to. I also

recommend bring a book as it gives you something to do during free time. I hope this convinced you to go to Benmore.

### Should you go to camp?

To Future Primary 7s,

Are you questioning whether you should go to camp? Well I'm here to persuade you to go. At first camp seemed terrifying to me I was adamant about not going but then I realised that it was a once in a life time opportunity and I decided to go and it was one of the best decisions I've ever made camp was amazing and you should definitely go but here are some reasons to persuade you even More to go.

At benmore the instructors are very nice people and if you are ever in doubt about wanting to do an activity they will try to their very best abilities to get you to do it but you will never be forced to do anything you don't want to. The bedrooms at benmore are not luxury but they are nice but the beds are very creaky and the walls are thin so be quite at night and in the bathroom the showers are quite small.

When you get woken up in the morning you go down for breakfast at 8:30 and the food for breakfast is very good you get cereal then toast and a roll that can either have bacon or sausage in it. If you are worried about being bored at benmore you most likely won't be because when you are doing activities they are all fun, everything is really fun you get free time after dinner until the evening activity in free time there are rooms you can go to like the common room which is pretty much just a hall, the lecture hall which has a pool table, football table thing and connect four and then there is the library which is always quite so I'd recommend going there if your wanting to just chill or read.

When it comes to lunch every day you get soup and rolls but it is a new type of soup every day but with the rolls you get a selection of cheese rolls, ham rolls, egg mayo rolls and tuna rolls I highly recommend the cheese rolls but that is my personal opinion. When you have dinner you get different food everyday when we first arrived on the Monday we had fish n chips also highly recommend putting cheese on the chips then on the Tuesday we had pasta bake which was alright on the Wednesday we had chicken and rice also recommend putting cheese on the chicken the chicken was nice and so was the rice that was probably my favourite meal there.

After dinner you get dessert which was ok I only ate one of them so I can't really give my opinion on this one and I can't remember what we even had so your gonna have to figure that one out on your own sorry .Benmore is a great place and I highly recommend you go because you learn new skills and get opportunities that you might never get again also when you go to benmore you cannot bring any electronics so sadly you can't bring your phone but when you are there you don't really even think about your phone because you are always busy either doing activities or stuff during free time. when you go to benmore you learn to be more independent and survive without your tv and phone or your parents which is hard and once you get back home you get a good sense of achievement. I hope this has persuaded you to think about going to camp.

### Colinton Primary School

Pupils from Colinton undertake persuasive writing. Their visit provides a purpose / context for writing. The content for the letters was gained form the residential, which then allows the pupils to focus on their writing skills.

The letters are then shared with the next cohort of pupils. This provides a valuable introduction to Benmore.



## The City of Edinburgh Council Outdoor Learning

# Evaluating the RESIDENTIAL

Buckstone Primary School undertakes effective evaluation with learners, parents / carers and staff each year. They then work with the Outdoor Learning Team to develop the following year's visit to Lagganlia. This supports the pre, delivery and post residential work.

## Buckstone Primary School - Lagganlia

### Learners

If you could change one thing, what would it be?

Is there anything you'd like to have known more about Lagganlia?

Was there anything missing from the kit list that you wish you'd brought?

### Parent and Carers

What do you think your child gained most from the residential?

Did you find the camp meeting and online question form ahead of camp helpful? Is there anything you feel we should add?

Did you find the information sent to you via email about Lagganlia helpful? Is there anything you feel we should add?

Is there anything you'd like to have had more information about ahead of the residential?

Anything else you'd like to tell us?

### Parent and Carers

What do you think your child gained most from the residential?

- Confidence in his abilities.
- Trying and enjoying new activities.
- Trying a range of outdoor activities.
- Being able to try new activities and challenging themselves.
- Confidence, time with friends and a chance to try new outdoor activities.
- Experiencing lots of different activities, independence and team work!
- Fun with friends.
- Confidence in themselves.
- An amazing experience that they will never forget.
- It was a wonderful experience and the best thing has been just pushing them out of their comfort zones in many different ways.
- New experiences.
- Self-organisation, trying new things.
- Self-confidence of being away from home for 5 days.
- Confidence.

# Residential visit calculator

## Inputs key

Free text entry	Auto (leave)
Choose from the list	

Variables					Notes
Number of pupils:					
<b>Staffing</b>					
Ratio (staff : pupil):					
Number of supervisory adults required:	#N/A				
Additional supervisory adults (above the standard ratio)					
Number of 1:1 staff:					
<b>Provider</b>	Charge			Subtotal	
Residential provider charge (5-day / 4-night / full catering):				0.00	
<b>Transport</b>	Type	Cost		Sub-total	
Transport 1:	None	0.00		0.00	
Transport 2:	None	0.00		0.00	
Other 1 (specify in 'type' and notes e.g. ASN transport / taxi / minibus / train):				0.00	
Other 2 (specify in 'type' and notes e.g. ASN transport / taxi / minibus / train):				0.00	
<b>IGNORE</b>	Type	Cost / hour	No. of hours	No. of staff	Sub-totals
Staffing 1:	None	0.00			0.00
Staffing 2:	None	0.00			0.00
Staffing 3:	None	0.00			0.00
Staffing 4:	None	0.00			0.00

Staffing 5:	None	0.00			0.00	
Staffing 6:	None	0.00			0.00	
<b>Additional staffing (return any column C cells to 'none' when not in use)</b>	Type	Cost / hour	No. of hours	No. of staff	Sub-totals	
Staffing 1:	None	0.00			0.00	
Staffing 2:	None	0.00			0.00	
Staffing 3:	None	0.00			0.00	
Staffing 4:	None	0.00			0.00	
Other 1 (specify in notes):					0.00	
Other 1 (specify in notes):					0.00	
<b>Equipment and kit (return any column C cells to 'none' when not in use)</b>	Type	Unit cost	No.		Sub-total	
ASN equipment hire:	None	0.00	4		0.00	
ASN equipment delivery:	None	0.00			0.00	
Spare clothing allocation (per 30):			0		0.00	
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	Type	Unit cost	No.		Sub-total	
Food - snacks (per 30):			0		0.00	
Other 1 (specify in notes):					0.00	
Other 2 (specify in notes):					0.00	
Other 3 (specify in notes):					0.00	
Other 4 (specify in notes):					0.00	
<b>Adjustments</b>	Type	Unit cost	No.		Sub-total	
Other 1 (specify in notes):					0.00	
Other 2 (specify in notes):					0.00	
Other 3 (specify in notes):					0.00	
<b>Totals</b>						
Total cost of visit:					0	
Number of pupils:					0	
Cost allocation per pupil:					#DIV/0!	

**Not included**

School admin time.

School staff prep time.

Packed lunches on first day - either FSM or provided by parents.



## Scenarios

		Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3	Scenario 4	Scenario 5
Description:						
Number pupils:						
Number of 1:1 pupils:						
Staff to pupil ratio:						
Provider charge:						
Supervisory staff required:						
Transport:						
Staffing backfill notes:						
Other info:						
Per pupil price:						

		<b>Scenario 6</b>	<b>Scenario 7</b>	<b>Scenario 8</b>	<b>Scenario 9</b>	<b>Scenario 10</b>
Description:						
Number pupils:						
Number of 1:1 pupils:						
Staff to pupil ratio:						
Provider charge:						
Supervisory staff required:						
Transport:						
Staffing backfill notes:						
Other info:						
Per pupil price:						

# Leave

	CHOICE			LOOKUP	
1500	Staffing Teacher Main Grade SCP 1:	27.95	51036	None	0
1700	Staffing Teacher Main Grade SCP 2:	29.57	54004	PSA Grade 4 SCP 023	15.63
500	Staffing Teacher Main Grade SCP 3:	31.33	57211	PSA Grade 4 SCP 024	15.84
750	Staffing Teacher Main Grade SCP 4:	33.36	60921	PSA Grade 4 SCP 025	16.00
1100	Staffing Teacher Main Grade SCP 5:	35.25	64377	PSA Grade 4 SCP 026	16.21
1300	PSA Grade 4 SCP 023	15.63	29,361	PSA Grade 4 SCP 027	16.42
350	PSA Grade 4 SCP 024	15.84	29,760	PSA Grade 4 SCP 028	16.63
650	PSA Grade 4 SCP 025	16.00	30,050	PSA Grade 4 SCP 029	16.86
554.16 Ullapool / Stornoway route	PSA Grade 4 SCP 026	16.21	30,449	PSA Grade 4 SCP 030	17.10
843.24 Ullapool / Stornoway route	PSA Grade 4 SCP 027	16.42	30,846	PSA Grade 4 SCP 031	17.34
228.5 Dunoon / HQ route	PSA Grade 4 SCP 028	16.63	31,243	PSA Grade 4 SCP 032	17.51
474.5 Dunoon / HQ route	PSA Grade 4 SCP 029	16.86	31,667	PSA Grade 4 SCP 033	17.80
0	PSA Grade 4 SCP 030	17.10	32,119	PSO Grade 5 SCP 034	18.03
	PSA Grade 4 SCP 031	17.34	32,570	PSO Grade 5 SCP 035	18.31
	PSA Grade 4 SCP 032	17.51	32,886	PSO Grade 5 SCP 036	18.54
	PSA Grade 4 SCP 033	17.80	33,444	PSO Grade 5 SCP 037	18.81

	PSO Grade 5 SCP 034	18.03	33,867	PSO Grade 5 SCP 038	19.06
	PSO Grade 5 SCP 035	18.31	34,397	PSO Grade 5 SCP 039	19.30
	PSO Grade 5 SCP 036	18.54	34,823	PSO Grade 5 SCP 040	19.55
	PSO Grade 5 SCP 037	18.81	35,326	PSO Grade 5 SCP 041	19.60
	PSO Grade 5 SCP 038	19.06	35,803	PSO Grade 5 SCP 042	19.82
	PSO Grade 5 SCP 039	19.30	36,253	PSO Grade 5 SCP 043	20.19
	PSO Grade 5 SCP 040	19.55	36,730	PSO Grade 5 SCP 044	20.44
= 2 x passengers + 2 x empty.	PSO Grade 5 SCP 041	19.60	36,810	PSO Grade 5 SCP 045	20.74
= 2 x passengers + 2 x empty.	PSO Grade 5 SCP 042	19.82	37,234	PSO Grade 5 SCP 046	21.01
journeys = 2 x passengers + 2 x empty.	PSO Grade 5 SCP 043	20.19	37,922	Staffing Teacher Main Grade SCP 1:	27.95
journeys = 2 x passengers + 2 x empty.	PSO Grade 5 SCP 044	20.44	38,402	Staffing Teacher Main Grade SCP 2:	29.57
	PSO Grade 5 SCP 045	20.74	38,956	Staffing Teacher Main Grade SCP 3:	31.33
	PSO Grade 5 SCP 046	21.01	39,461	Staffing Teacher Main Grade SCP 4:	33.36
	None			Staffing Teacher Main Grade SCP 5:	35.25

0	None	0		
25	Offroad wheelchair delivery and assembly (£25 per	25		
	To add 1			
	To add 2			
	To add 3			
	To add 4			
	To add 5			