

Education, Children and Families Committee

10.00, Tuesday, 10 December 2019

Outdoor Learning

Executive/routine

Wards

Council Commitments 18,28 and 37

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 The Education, Children and Families Committee is asked to:
 - 1.1.1 Note the performance and progress since the last Outdoor Learning report, and upcoming development work, particularly linked to reducing inequality and supporting the Council's net zero carbon target.
 - 1.1.2 Continue to support the recommendation that The City of Edinburgh Council's Primary Schools choose Benmore or Lagganlia as their first choice of a fully serviced residential outdoor learning week, providing there is available space during the peak period of mid-February through to mid-November.

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Report

Outdoor Learning

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 The City of Edinburgh Council's Outdoor Learning (OL) Team has continued to provide an impressive example of transformational change, maintaining significant progress and performance in relation to the residential centres; development of affordable onsite/local outdoor learning; Duke of Edinburgh's Award; policy review and renewal; and significant training. Reducing inequality and contributing to the Council's net zero carbon target are key priority across all areas.

3. Background

- 3.1 The OL Team is part of the Sport and Outdoor Learning Unit, which is an integral part of the Lifelong Learning Team. The Unit delivers a broad scope of activity (Appendix 9.2).
- 3.2 The Council's Sport and Outdoor Learning Unit incorporates the OL Team and operates two residential centres and two Edinburgh-based centres (Appendix 9.1 – Organisational Chart; and Appendix 9.3 - Description of Centres). The OL Team has significant breadth and depth of appropriate skills, knowledge and experience to deliver extensive work. This supports a significant range of responsibilities and activity, including direct activity delivery; training and conferences; large events; consultancy; resource development; policy ownership; kit and equipment hire; and face to face, telephone and email support.
- 3.3 Significant and recent capital investment has been allocated to the OL Centres. This is highly valued by staff, visitors, volunteers and families; and demonstrates the commitment and confidence in the OL Centres.
- 3.3.1 Capital works investment 1: the residential outdoor centres have been allocated significant funds for important improvements (Benmore – initially £850k and Lagganlia – initially £260k). There are plans to upgrade the heating and lighting at Benmore. Renewable options were carefully considered by the OL and Asset Management Teams including a biomass option, however, this was assessed to be financially unviable; even with spend to save funding. Electric replacements were agreed to be the only practical solution, with efficiency and controllability

given priority. Paul Jones, the Council's Energy and Sustainability Manager is providing support and guidance for the project.

- 3.3.2 Capital investment 2: the Bangholm (Trinity) site is due to be re-developed from August 2020. Bangholm-based OL staff have been fully consulted and OL facilities incorporated into the new design. This includes retaining and improving specialist indoor and outdoor storage for a range of specialist and general kit and equipment; office; outdoor learning spaces for training and delivery; and shared community and training rooms. The Bangholm re-development is proposed to be a net-zero carbon site.
- 3.4 The OL Team works closely with many partners including the Friends of the Award, the Green Team, Bridge8, All Ability Bike Club and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Scotland. These partners have a significant impact on school and community-based outdoor learning.
- 3.5 Outdoor learning is a dynamic and engaging context for the delivery of a wide range of outcomes. The statutory policy framework for outdoor learning is well established within Scotland's Curriculum for Excellence (Appendix 9.4). Learning for Sustainability is a core part of the General Teaching Council for Scotland's (GTCS) Professional Standards. 'Outdoor Learning' is one of the three core strands of Learning for Sustainability, alongside Global Citizenship and Sustainable Development Education.
- 3.6 The OL Team is responsible for maintaining the Communities and Families Excursions Policy, and Schools and Lifelong Learning Staff Travelling and Working Overseas Policy.
- 3.7 The Communities and Families Excursions Policy has been reviewed and a draft update submitted for consideration at the Education, Children and Families Committee meeting in December 2019. This includes substantial updates linked to reducing inequality and the Council's net zero carbon target (Appendix 8.15).
- 3.8 The Staff Travelling and Working Overseas Policy has been reviewed and a draft update submitted for consideration at the Education, Children and Families Committee meeting in December 2019. This includes updates linked to the Council's net zero carbon target and additional guidance and resources to ensure travel and work overseas is appropriate (Appendix 8.15).

4. Main report

- 4.1 A new OL website was launched (<https://www.experienceoutdoors.org.uk/>), providing an innovative platform for accessing core Outdoor Learning support (Appendix 9.7.1), and commercial activity where any surplus is directed back into the OL Team's core purpose (Appendix 8.6). The website has contributed to a significant increase in combined commercial income at the residential centres.
- 4.2 The Benmore and Lagganlia Outdoor Residential Centres continue to perform extremely well:

- 4.2.1 The number of young people visiting the Benmore and Lagganlia Outdoor Centres from Council schools continues to increase, with 3932 young people visiting in 2018/19; a 35% increase since 2015/16 (Appendix 9.5.1). The number of Council primary schools has increased from 49 (2015/16) to 68 (2018/19). Very high satisfaction rates reflect the high quality, wide ranging adventurous provision set within two Scottish National Parks (Appendix 9.6, including quotes – Table 2). The centres continue to use the evaluation feedback to avoid complacency and develop further (Appendix 9.6 Table 3).
- 4.2.2 Delivering provision via the Council's own centres allows the Schools and Lifelong Learning Team to directly manage quality and embed Council initiatives. Many cheaper alternatives with onsite activities, delivered by instructors rotating across different groups, do not generally deliver the same level, breadth and depth of outcomes and experiences.
- 4.2.3 Significant work continues in supporting young people to attend Benmore and Lagganlia residential experiences. This includes; visits to schools to explore 1 in 5 Poverty Project guidance and training (Appendix 9.8 - August Letter to Schools); presentations to parents by OL staff; access to general and specialist kit; grant information and charities (example - Appendix 9.9); sharing good practice (9.7.1); significant liaison between groups and residential centres to support additional needs requirements; priority booking two years ahead to allow sufficient time for funding solutions; and minimising price increases.
- 4.2.4 Supporting all young people to attend Benmore and Lagganlia reduces inequality of experiencing high-quality residential outdoor learning; delivered by first-rate appropriately qualified instructors; in inspirational and unique wild places.
- 4.2.5 The OL Team is reviewing how to collect anonymised information about the number of young people who do not attend and the reasons why. This will allow the OL Team to create a key performance indicator to measure and monitor the effectiveness of different strategies in reducing inequality. A possible solution is to include a section on the excursions EX4 approval form.
- 4.2.6 Lagganlia will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary in June 2020. Invitations will be sent to relevant persons, including the Education, Children and Families Committee.
- 4.2.7 The proposed Snowsports Centre at Lagganlia is expected to go out to tender in November/December 2019. The design and consideration of additional funding to deliver a first-class resource has extended the timescale for development and construction.
- 4.2.8 A new series of energy efficiency surveys are taking place, with future actions led by the recommendations. Whilst the price of electricity has increased, consumption at both centres was lower in 2018/19 than 2017/18. This may be due to milder weather in 2018/19. Energy awareness continues to improve, as has ownership of energy saving measures in the face of rising costs. The

centres' Facility Coordinators now have access to the CEC energy management system, enabling them to better monitor energy usage and identify efficiencies. The building management system at Lagganlia has now been repaired following a series of faults and problems sourcing parts. The system is working but is now obsolete due to age and requires a complete system replacement to avoid a recurrence of the issue.

- 4.3 The OL Team has undertaken significant Edinburgh-based work in connection with Schools and Communities:
- 4.3.1 Based on consultation with schools, staff are developing more support to further improve planned and progressive onsite and local outdoor learning (Appendix 9.4 and examples in Appendix 9.7). This activity is generally free / low cost; helping to reduce inequality and makes a significant contribution to the Council's net zero carbon target. Examples include the 50 Ways to Experience Outdoors project (Appendix 9.7.2); a new grant funded £26k digital Outdoor Learning Map project (Appendix 9.7.3), currently being piloted with targeted schools in deprived areas; the Outdoor Learning Challenge at Holyrood Park (Appendix 9.7.4), delivered to just under 2400 P6 pupils; and a pilot project in partnership with Oxgangs Primary School focusing on affordable and sustainable expeditions into the Pentlands (Appendix 9.7.6).
 - 4.3.2 During 2018/19, 97.7% of Council schools attended their free practical scenario-based risk awareness session at The Risk Factory (P7 pupils). This involved 3918 young people; an approximate 24% increase in pupils since 2015/16 (Appendix 9.5.3 Table 2). Quality assurance feedback remains very high and volunteer recruitment, training and retention continues to be essential in delivering these sessions.
- 4.4 The OL Team continues to develop the coordination of Wider Achievement Awards and associated direct delivery, including the Duke of Edinburgh's (DofE) Award:
- 4.4.1 Targeted support and provision mapping have resulted in a significant increase in the number of disadvantaged young people starting a DofE Award in 2018/19. Figures indicate a 4-year high, plus a 29% increase from 2017/18 (April to March figures - Appendix 9.5.2 Table 1). This remains a key priority; focusing on maintaining the increase in starters and ensuring more disadvantaged young people reach key milestones in their award, including completions. Progress is being made with 2019/20 data indicating an improved performance with completions (Appendix 9.5.2 Table 3).
 - 4.4.2 The total number of DofE starters and completions continue to rise to all-time highs (9.5.2). This resulted in a 10% increase in the estimated value of participants and leaders' contributions to the Edinburgh community; totalling 212,438 voluntary hours; estimated by DofE Scotland to be worth £1,958,042. These figures indicate the significant value of the DofE programme to the Edinburgh community (Appendix 9.5.2 Table 4).

- 4.4.3 Bangholm Outdoor Centre staff delivered affordable DofE expedition provision to 179 different participants, an increase from 46 in 2016/17, resulting in 9430 participant hours during 2018/19 (Appendix 9.7.12).
- 4.5 Core development work linked to safety management and policy renewal include:
- 4.5.1 During 2018/19, the OL Team approved 3032 Communities and Families excursions (Categories 3 and 4), involving 24,376 participants (Appendix 9.5.4). This includes a vast range of day and residential activity, often involving significant adventurous activity and trips overseas. This is achieved by maintaining a specialist workforce innovatively funded via the Outdoor Learning Team structure and operations.
- 4.6 Career Long Professional Learning (CLPL) provision is a core part of building capacity and developing outdoor learning and excursions:
- 4.6.1 During 2018/19, the OL Team delivered approximately 544 hours of training, via 87 events, which involved approximately 1116 participants. Evaluation evidence is consistently very good or excellent, with some groups booking 12 months in advance to secure delivery. Examples include: excursion training incorporating a new delivery model, providing more site-based provision to support local contexts and contributing to the Council's net zero carbon target (Appendices 9.7.7); and new 2019/20 mandatory CLPL for school probationers (Outdoor Learning pedagogy and safety management - Appendix 9.7.8) - inducting the next generation of teachers to Outdoor Learning.
- 4.6.2 A new innovative and far-reaching CLPL offer for 2020 (Appendix 9.7.10) will be launched soon; focusing on building capacity and reducing inequalities.
- 4.6.3 Various OL Team staff received relevant training from Lifelong Learning colleagues, including 1in 5 Poverty Project; Mental Health First Aid; and Building Resilience courses. This allows Council initiatives, projects and priorities to be incorporated directly into the OL Team provision; a key advantage of the Council having its own centres.
- 4.7 Outdoor Learning Strategy:
- 4.7.1 Summary progress with the 2016-2020 Outdoor Learning Strategy is included in Appendix 9.10. This includes the progress detailed above and in the previous report (December 2017). A new Strategy is being developed (5.1 Next Steps).
- 4.8 Outdoor Learning staff are much respected and support significant work across the Council. Examples are detailed in Appendix 9.7.17.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 From November 2019, the OL Team will start to plan the next Outdoor Learning Strategy. This will include consultation with young people, led by The City of Edinburgh's Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament (MSYPs), Council staff, partners, volunteers and families. It will be created using baseline evidence and

consultation, and support Council priorities, which are City-wide, or locality focused. This will allow the OL Team to set realistic, relevant and focused targets that reflect the capacity of the OL Team and stakeholders, Council structural change and the targeted needs of Edinburgh residents.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 Price increases at Benmore and Lagganlia have been kept to a minimum. Income has continued to grow, mainly due to increased core use and commercial activity. Flexibility to manage commercial prices is important to quickly respond to market conditions and maximise income. Control over core provision prices allows the OL Centres to minimise increases. Significant increases in costs including staffing, combined with making an annual £100k contribution back to the Council is adding pressure to consider future price increases.
- 6.2 The continued provision to carry forward any budget surplus is critical to the sustained development of the residential Centres and to meet the predicted increased in demand for residential outdoor learning provision.
- 6.3 There is a potential financial risk if establishments do not comply with the Communities and Families Excursions and Schools and Lifelong Learning Staff Travelling and Working overseas policies.
- 6.4 Schools and groups delivering more purposeful onsite and Category 1 (local) excursions via active travel and public transport may reduce costs.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 7.1 OL Team develop provision by involving staff, volunteers, young people, families, and partners. This is via evaluation feedback; incident reports; parent enquiries; discussions during training; updates to Council procedures; and meetings with colleagues from across the Council.
- 7.2 The potential impact of failure to manage the health and safety of visits and other requirements such as insurance and application of other policies includes death, injury, ill health, legal liabilities, and reputational damage.
- 7.3 The Communities and Families Excursions and Schools and Lifelong Learning Staff Travelling and Working Overseas policies provide guidance on equality. Compliance with this guidance will minimise the risk of equalities issues arising from these policies.
- 7.4 A significant number of developments via the OL Team and partners are specifically targeted at addressing inequality. Planned work will continue to address this priority.
- 7.5 A significant number of developments via the OL Team and partners have a direct impact on supporting the Council's net zero carbon target. These include the development of onsite outdoor learning and Category 1 (local) excursions; policy

updates; supporting the Green Team; risk assessment; training; centre energy surveys and related actions; and audit tools.

8. Background reading/external references

- 8.1 Benmore Outdoor Centre ([location](#)).
- 8.2 Lagganlia Outdoor Centre ([location](#)).
- 8.3 Bangholm Outdoor Centre ([location](#)).
- 8.4 The Risk Factory ([location](#)).
- 8.5 Outdoor Learning Team's website: <https://www.experienceoutdoors.org.uk/>
- 8.6 Our Purpose, Our Definition, and Our Values: <https://www.experienceoutdoors.org.uk/our-purpose>
- 8.7 About Us: <https://www.experienceoutdoors.org.uk/about-us>
- 8.8 Our partners: <https://www.experienceoutdoors.org.uk/our-partners>
- 8.9 Our blog: <https://www.experienceoutdoors.org.uk/blog-overview>
- 8.10 Outdoor Learning Team's website – Outdoor Learning: <https://www.experienceoutdoors.org.uk/outdoor-learning-scotland>
- 8.11 Outdoor Learning Team's website – Outdoor Learning Map (to go live around December 2019 / January 2020), 50 Ways to Experience Outdoors: <https://www.experienceoutdoors.org.uk/resources/schools-communities>
- 8.12 Outdoor Learning Team's website – Every Child, Every Chance: <https://www.experienceoutdoors.org.uk/schools-communities/poverty-proofing>
- 8.13 Wider achievement:
Outdoor Learning website: <https://www.experienceoutdoors.org.uk/awards-achievements/overview>
Blog: <https://www.experienceoutdoors.org.uk/experience-outdoors/get-your-duke-of-edinburgh-award>
- 8.14 The Risk Factory website: <https://theriskfactory.org/>
- 8.15 Communities and Families Excursions Policy and Schools and Lifelong Learning Staff Travelling and Working Overseas. Education, Children and Families Committee, Tuesday, 10 December, 2019. [General link to meeting documents](#).
- 8.16 Previous report – updated Communities and Families Excursions Policy. Education, Children and Families Committee, Tuesday, 12 December, 2017. [General link to meeting documents](#) and [link to Communities and Families Excursions Policy report](#).
- 8.17 Previous Outdoor Learning Report. Education, Children and Families Committee, Tuesday, 12 December 2017. [General link to meeting documents](#) and [link to Outdoor Learning report](#).
- 8.18 Previous Committee report: [1 March 2016, Outdoor Centres and Outdoor Learning](#).

- 8.19 Previous Committee report: [11 September 2014, Sports and Outdoor Learning Unit](#).
- 8.20 Previous Committee report: [21 June 2011, Outdoor Learning Strategy 2011 – 2014](#).
- 8.21 The City of Edinburgh Council Child Poverty Resources – [website](#).
- 8.22 [Going Out There: Scottish Framework for Safe Practice in Offsite Visits](#). A framework developed in partnership by the Scottish Government, the Health and Safety Executive (HSE), the Scottish Advisory Panel for Outdoor Education, Education Scotland and the Association of Directors of Education, with input from other partners including voluntary organisations and providers.
- 8.23 Curriculum for Excellence Through Outdoor Learning – reference to a planned and progressive approach, which includes overseas experiences. [Curriculum for Excellence Through Outdoor Learning](#).
- 8.24 [The Scottish National Improvement Hub](#). Support for Professional Development in Outdoor Learning.
- 8.25 Road map for a net zero carbon Edinburgh by 2030 published [article](#).
- 8.26 Policy and Sustainability Committee, Friday, 25th October 2019. [General link to meeting documents](#) and [Achieving Net-Zero in the City of Edinburgh report](#).
- 8.27 [Learning for Sustainability – Education Scotland](#).
- 8.28 2018 Outdoor Challenge (Primary) press coverage: [Edinburgh Evening News link](#) .
- 8.29 Scottish Natural Heritage (Outdoor Learning Nature Fund) – confirmation of grant: <https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/education/outdoor-learning-nature-fund>

9. Appendices

Appendix 9.1 Organisational Structure

Appendix 9.2 Sport and Outdoor Learning Scope of Work

Appendix 9.3 Overview of Centres

Appendix 9.4 Planned and Progressive Outdoor Learning and Excursions

Appendix 9.5 Key Outdoor Learning Performance Data

Appendix 9.6 Benmore and Lagganlia Outdoor Centres – Key Cumulative Evaluation Data

Appendix 9.7 Examples of Work: detailed descriptions of recent projects

Appendix 9.8 Copy of Letter to Head Teachers (September 2019)

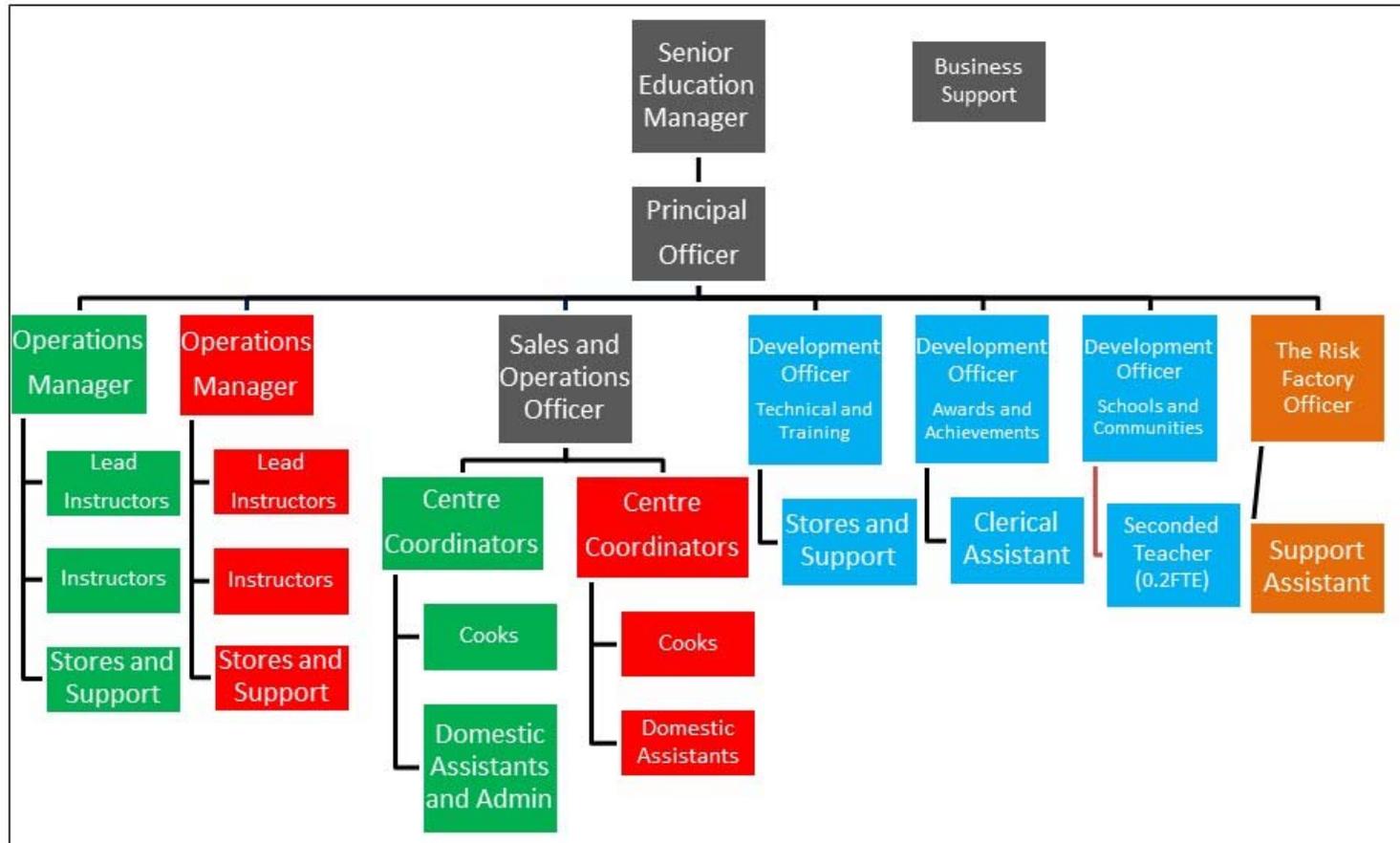
Appendix 9.9 Example eUpdate

Appendix 9.10 Summary Outdoor Learning Strategy Progress

Appendix 9.1 Organisational Structure

OUTDOOR LEARNING
 BANGHOLM ♦ BENMORE ♦ LAGGANLIA

Outdoor Learning Organisational Structure



■ Lagganlia
 ■ Benmore
 ■ Bangholm
 ■ The Risk Factory
 ■ Waverley

Appendix 9.2 Sport and Outdoor Learning Scope of Work

The Sport and Outdoor Learning Unit (S&OL) comprises Active Schools; Sports Development; Sports Academy; Community Sport Hubs; Primary Curricular Swimming; Active Travel; Sports Grants; Facility Development and Support; Outdoor Centres, namely Bangholm (Edinburgh), Benmore (Loch Lomond and Trossachs), and Lagganlia (Cairngorms); and the Risk Factory (Edinburgh). The Unit's staff work with schools and Council services; families; public bodies; and the third sector to champion the importance of sport and outdoor learning, and deliver:

- Strategic planning and development linked to Council and external priorities.
- Specialist advice and guidance linked to safety, affordable provision, education pedagogy (including statutory elements of the Curriculum for Excellence), and adventurous activity.
- Career-Long Professional Learning (CLPL) including courses, workshops, conferences, adventurous activity National Governing Body training and digital resources – building capacity.
- Envisable range of Adventurous activity National Governing Body training and assessment via internal course directorships (significant savings).
- City-wide, locality-targeted and residential/expedition sport, physical activity and outdoor learning programmes, sessions and ceremonies.
- City-wide sport and outdoor learning events, including large multi-school events
- Resources for self-led planning and delivering provision.
- Communities and Families excursions / offsite visit advice, approvals and compulsory training (health and safety). Includes significant technical adventurous activity, residential and overseas travel. Monitored via an up to date an extensive Excursions Policy and resources.
- Wider achievement awards, including coordinating the Duke of Edinburgh's Award across Edinburgh.
- Leadership awards for young people.
- Low cost kit and equipment hire, and maintenance to support inclusion.
- Partnership development and working to increase capacity, breadth and depth of provision and support.
- Supports the management of the Council's relationship with Edinburgh Leisure.
- Specialist support for Council services and initiatives e.g. locality working, school grounds and facilities design, policy development, Council Schools staff travelling abroad (not excursions) and probationer teacher induction.
- Supports the responsibility of the Council's sporting estate and infrastructure, and its future development.
- Work with the Estates Team on all sport facility Community Asset Transfer enquiries.
- Council representation across different specialist bodies, memberships, partnerships, and consultations.
- Successful applications for external funding e.g. 2019 Scottish Natural Heritage grant (£26k) – digital Outdoor Learning Map; and Cycling Scotland grant of c£20K annually to support Bikeability.

Appendix 9.3 Overview of Centres

The Outdoor Learning Team comprises four centres:

| | |
|--|---|
| Bangholm Outdoor Centre | <p>Bangholm is a non-residential centre located on Craighall Gardens in North Edinburgh (location - 8.3). Bangholm staff focus on excursion approval (UK and overseas); specialist technical advice; wider achievement awards (Duke of Edinburgh's Award, John Muir Award and Junior Award Scheme for Schools); Curriculum for Excellence advice and support; outdoor learning partnership working; delivering training and specialist courses; equipment and kit loans; and direct delivery to children, young people and others.</p> <p>Bangholm Outdoor Centre (location).</p> |
| Benmore and Lagganlia Outdoor Residential Centres | <p>Benmore Outdoor Centre in Benmore Botanic Gardens, near Dunoon (location – 8.1), and Lagganlia Outdoor Centre in Glen Feshie, near Aviemore (location – 8.2), are residential centres in unique locations within Scotland's two National Parks. These locations provide outstanding opportunities for children, young people and others to experience inspirational outdoor and adventurous learning in wild surroundings.</p> <p>Benmore Outdoor Centre (location).</p> <p>Explore Aygyll: LINK</p> <p>Lagganlia Outdoor Centre (location).</p> <p>Explore Cairngorms: LINK</p> |
| The Risk Factory | <p>The Risk Factory, located in Southwest Edinburgh, is an interactive safety centre focused on supporting children and young people. The Centre 'manufactures' everyday risks in a safe environment with the aim to teach how to deal with or avoid risks. The Centre is part funded by four local authorities: The City of Edinburgh Council, East Lothian, Midlothian and West Lothian Councils. The Risk Factory joined the Outdoor Learning Team in March 2017.</p> <p>The Risk Factory (location).</p> <p>The Risk Factory: https://theriskfactory.org/</p> |

Appendix 9.4 Planned and Progressive Outdoor Learning and Excursions.

“The Journey through education for any child in Scotland must include opportunities for a series of planned, quality outdoor learning experiences”

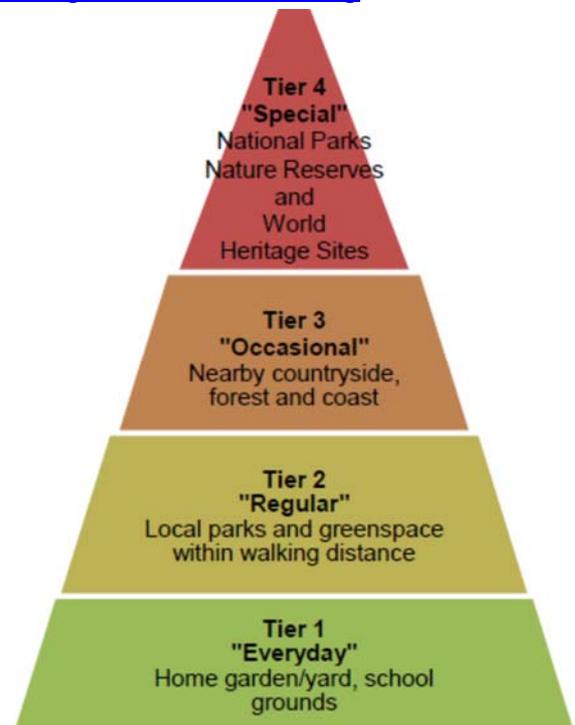
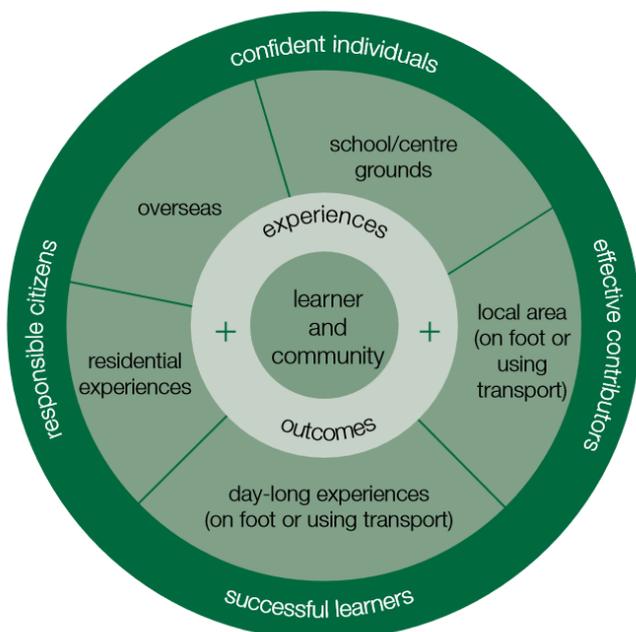
The vision for outdoor learning in Scotland is that:

- all children and young people are participating in a range of progressive and creative outdoor learning experiences which are clearly part of the curriculum.
- schools and centres are providing regular, frequent, enjoyable and challenging opportunities for all children and young people to learn outdoors throughout their school career and beyond
- teachers and educators embed outdoor learning in the curriculum so that learning in the outdoor environment becomes a reality for all children and young people.

Curriculum for Excellence through Outdoor Learning

Learning and Teaching Scotland 2010

Curriculum for Excellence Through Outdoor Learning – reference to a planned and progressive approach. [Curriculum for Excellence Through Outdoor Learning](#).



Diagrams presenting a progressive approach to planning outdoor learning and excursion. The pyramid provides a useful indication of frequency.

Appendix 9.5 Key Outdoor Learning Performance Data

9.5.1. Lagganlia and Benmore Outdoor Residential Centres

Table 1 Growth in the number of young people from Edinburgh visiting Benmore and Lagganlia

| | 2015/16 | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Total of CEC young people visiting Benmore and Lagganlia Young People: | 2912 | 3201 | 3639 | 3932 |

Table 2 Number of The City of Edinburgh primary schools visiting Benmore and / or Lagganlia

| | 2015/16 | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 | 2019/20 |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Number of CEC Primary Schools: | 49 | 54 | 60 | 61 | 68 |

Table 3 Income Growth

| Combined income 2013/14 | Combined income 2014/15 | Combined income 2015/16 | Combined income 2016/17 | Combined income 2017/18 | Combined income 2018/19 |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| £1,585,208.89 | £1,699,307.56 | £1,737,944.32 | £1,892,835.70 | £1,985,385 | £2,071,640 |

Any surplus is reinvested into the Centres' core purpose.

9.5.2 Awards and Achievements

Table 1 Duke of Edinburgh's Award New Starters Trend Analysis

| STARTERS | 2015/16 | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Total Starters (Bronze, Silver, Gold) | 1271 | 1339 | 1382 | 1536 |
| Disadvantaged (B, S and G) | 272 | 325 | 271 | 349 |
| Non-Disadvantaged (B, S and G) | 999 | 1014 | 1111 | 1187 |

Table 2 Duke of Edinburgh's Award Completions Trend Analysis

| COMPLETIONS/ACHIEVED | 2015/16 | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 |
|------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Total Completions (B, S, G) | 551 | 647 | 599 | 684 |
| Disadvantaged (B, S and G) | 100 | 116 | 101 | 97 |
| Non-Disadvantaged (B, S and G) | 451 | 531 | 498 | 587 |

Table 3 Duke of Edinburgh's Award Completions Trend Analysis

| | 1 Apr – 30 Oct Year to Date | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------|------|
| COMPLETIONS/ACHIEVED | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
| Total Completions (B, S, G) | 397 | 426 | 485 |
| Disadvantaged (B, S and G) | 80 | 51 | 101 |
| Non-Disadvantaged (B, S and G) | 317 | 375 | 384 |

Resources have been carefully targeted include Sport and Outdoor Learning Development Officers; Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scotland staff; and the Friends of the Award (FOTA) – now based at the Risk Factory.

Table 4 Duke of Edinburgh's Award Contribution and Impact Trend Analysis

| Contribution to Local Authority | | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 |
|---|-------|------------|------------|------------|
| Value of participants' contributions to their community through the Volunteering section: | Hours | 24,345 | 25,380 | 27,956 |
| Value of participants' contributions to their community through the Volunteering section: | Money | £98,597 | £102,789 | £113,222 |
| Value of DofE Leaders' contributions to their community: | Hours | 160,787 | 167,851 | 184,482 |
| Value of DofE Leaders' contributions to their community: | Money | £1,607,870 | £1,678,510 | £1,844,820 |
| Total | Hours | 185,132 | 193,231 | 212,438 |
| Total | Money | £1,706,467 | £1,781,299 | £1,958,042 |

9.5.3 Schools and Communities

Table 1 Outdoor Learning Challenge

| | September 2019 (2 days) | September 2018 (1 day / 2 nd day cancelled) |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| Number of P6 Pupils who attended: | Just over 2400. | About 900. |
| Schools attending: | 47 CEC primary schools. 2 CEC special schools. | |
| Partners: | 48. | |
| Attendees at the twilight workshops: | Around 200. | No workshop. |

Table 2 The Risk Factory

| Number of Pupils | 2014/15 | 2015/16 | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| CEC Pupils | 3295 | 3155 | 3516 | 3669 | 3918 |
| Total (Funded – all partner local authorities) | 6949 | 6857 | 7397 | 3669 | 7637 |
| Total (Funded and Charged) | 6949 | 6857 | 7397 | 3669 | 7637 |

Table 3 The Risk Factory

| Number of Schools | 2018/19 |
|-----------------------|---------|
| CEC Schools | 85 |
| Total possible* | 87 |
| % of schools attended | 97.7 |

*88 schools, however, one school - composite attending alternate years.

9.5.4 Excursions

Table 1

| Categories 3 and 4 Excursions | 1 August - 31 July | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| | August 2014 – July 2015 | August 2015 – July 2016 | August 2016 – July 2017 | August 2017 – July 2018 | August 2018 – July 2019 |
| Number of Individual Excursions | | | | 3323 | 3032 |
| Number of EX forms submitted | | | | 782 | 764 |
| Primary School Pupils | 6680 | 6121 | 6830 | 8106 | 9817 |
| Secondary School Pupils | 11226 | 8175 | 11069 | 9648 | 12031 |
| Special School Pupils | 608 | 552 | 549 | 241 | 277 |
| Community Centre Young Persons | 675 | 1237 | 1492 | 803 | 621 |
| Duke of Edinburgh's Award Young Persons | 849 | 1068 | 1154 | 1072 | 810 |
| Residential centres young persons | 125 | 244 | 161 | 93 | 169 |
| Other (including adult groups) | 49 | 55 | 112 | 464 | 651 |
| Total Participants* | 20,212 | 17,452 | 21,367 | 20,427 | 24,376 |

9.5.5. Staff Working Overseas

Table 1

| Measure | Since January 2018 |
|--|--------------------|
| Number of Schools and Lifelong Learning staff approved to travel and work overseas (since January 2018): | 54 |
| Number of total days: | 299 |
| Average duration: | 5.6 days |

Appendix 9.6 Benmore and Lagganlia Outdoor Centres – Key Cumulative Evaluation Data

A new questionnaire was introduced in mid-September 2017 across both residential centres. This allows us to analyse performance, set benchmarks and future targets, and to develop the Centres. Last updated on 04 November 2019 (online responses). 234 responses in total. One response equals approximately 0.5%.

Table 1

| Questionnaire Statement | Strongly Agree | Agree | Strongly Agree and Agree | Comments |
|--|----------------|-------|--------------------------|--|
| Booking | | | | |
| The booking process was straightforward (sufficient pre-course information/guidance, helpful staff and efficient communication). | 71% | 21% | 92% | New system via the website. |
| Induction | | | | |
| On arrival, all our children/young people/vulnerable adults received an appropriate induction to the Centre. | 85% | 13% | 98% | Any individual comments are evaluated. |
| On arrival, all our supervising adults received an appropriate induction to the Centre. | 82% | 14% | 96% | Any individual comments are evaluated. |
| Quality of Instruction and Learning | | | | |
| We had the opportunity to identify programme priorities and aims before coming to the Centre. | 69% | 25.5% | 94.5% | Pre-visit work is a development area. |
| The programme was adapted to meet the needs of our participants (appropriate range of activities, support, challenge, daily discussions with centre staff making adjustments). <u>This maximised participation and outcomes.</u> | 85% | 14.5% | 99.5% | Any individual comments are evaluated. |
| Immediate Impact (during the visit) | | | | |
| Impact on enjoyable learning: | | | | |
| Nearly all our children/young people/vulnerable adults enjoyed their visit. | 96.5% | 2.5% | 99% | - |

| Impact on relationships: | | | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|---|
| Overall , our visit had a very positive impact on developing peer relationships. | 74.5% | 22.5% | 97% | - |
| Overall , our visit had a very positive impact on participant to visiting staff relationships. | 83.5% | 13.5% | 97% | - |
| 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). | 84.5% | 14.5% | 99% | - |
| Impact on confidence : staff have noted <u>significant</u> and <u>appropriate</u> changes in many participants' confidence (within themselves, their learning and/or relationships). | 68% | 30% | 98% | This focuses on significant changes. This often develops further back at school. |
| Impact on attainment, health, wellbeing and engagement: | | | | |
| Overall , staff have noted significant general improvements in: | | | | Significant % not sure. This depends on the aims of the School. A development area. |
| specific academic subjects (knowledge, understanding, skills vocabulary); | 24.5% | 43% | 67.5% | |
| environmental awareness (age appropriate understanding of the physical environment, threats, solutions); | 48% | 42% | 90% | A development area. |
| activity/discipline skills (e.g. climbing, kayaking, skiing); | 83% | 16% | 99% | - |
| participants recognising the importance of a fit and healthy lifestyle; | 41% | 46% | 87% | - |
| engagement and resilience by priority learners who most require to develop these qualities. | 64% | 27% | 91% | Focuses on learners who can be the hardest to reach. |

| Accommodation and Facilities | | | | |
|---|--|---|--------------|------------------------------------|
| The sleeping accommodation and washing facilities for the children and/or young people were clean, comfortable and appropriate. | 63% | 34% | 97% | Continued investment is essential. |
| The sleeping accommodation and washing facilities for the adults were clean, comfortable and appropriate. | 63% | 35% | 98% | Continued investment is essential. |
| Food | | | | |
| The quantity, quality and range of food were appropriate for nearly all participants (children, young people and adults). | 84% | 15% | 99% | Continued high standards. |
| Customer Care | | | | |
| Overall, the Centre staff are professional and helpful. | 96% | 3.5% | 99.5% | 1 response not sure. |
| Overall | | | | |
| Overall, our visit has been a success. | 95%% | 4.5% | 99.5% | 1 response not sure. |
| How well were your programme priorities and aims met (best fit)? | Exceeded Group Leader's expectations 56.5% | Reached Group Leader's expectations 40.5% | 97% | - |

Table 2

| |
|---|
| A selection of recent quotes linked to instructors. Each small group has their own dedicated instructor: |
| We were very impressed with the links made by the instructors to the specific outcomes we wanted to cover. Appropriate challenges and supports were provided for the children, and the instructors were excellent, striving to build and develop positive relationships with our pupils. |
| Flexibility is hugely appreciated and ensures best possible outcome for our young people. Experiences and instructors are always exceptional here, in my opinion. |
| All instructors were fantastic and flexible in their approach to learners' abilities and inhibitions with regards to practical activities as well as living together and domestic tasks. Additional support was pitched appropriately, similarly the challenge levels were excellently pitched and so the experience was varied and differentiated and 'met the needs of all learners' |
| The instructors at Lagganlia continue to show a very high level of skill in the manner they work with the children in their care. This includes distant observation of an activity that allows the child to work through problems and find solutions either as part of a group or as an individual. The children are always skilfully guided toward success and always comment on this. Finally, the sense of belonging/ relationships built when at camp |

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| coupled with the lasting discussions had by the pupils about their instructors after leaving the centre, illustrates the quality of the staff at Lagganlia. |
| Instructors were very quick to build relationships with the children and were very quick to gage ability and emotional needs of the children. |
| We are very grateful for the fantastic learning opportunities Lagganlia have provided over the past week. The instructors have been unfailing in their enthusiasm and support of learners this week. Instructors were able to set appropriate challenges for our learners so they could experience success whilst also pushing the boundaries of their comfort zone. Thank you! |
| Instructors incredibly skilled at managing children and their different needs. Impressive levels of challenge and support according to needs. instructors worked so positively with children to encourage them to take responsibility for their own actions. It was done in a very sensitive and restorative way, Language used and phrased was very appropriate. |
| They offered an excellent and appropriate level of support to their whole group, especially one pupil in particular who gained an incredible amount of confidence and self -belief as a result of their lovely approach with him. They went above and beyond for him and even wrote an additional message on his certificate to highlight that his abilities exist outside of Benmore. All our staff were so thrilled and truly appreciate the effort they made. We are so grateful to all the fantastic instructors at Benmore for their expertise and care. |
| The instructors were extremely willing to meet the needs of our pupils. They were able to provide effective challenge to pupils, while supporting others with significant anxiety and those with emotional needs. |
| Excellent delivery of programme and excellent quality of instructors |
| Excellent instructors. Super rapport with children. Firm but humorous. Children loved Morna and Ewan (Benmore). Instructors very intuitive to children's needs. They supported all children with varying abilities. |
| All the instructors have been great, demonstrating sound support and challenge for vulnerable pupils. Staffing has been adapted to enable our pupils to get the best range of opportunities. |
| Other quotes: |
| The visit has been a resounding success on many different levels. To see some of our young people blossom and grow has been wonderful. Some amazing personal development from kids who were unsure up until the last moment if they would come, to those who we thought may only last a couple of nights, they have all exceeded our expectations. |
| All abilities were catered for and many children completed challenges they didn't think they were capable of. |
| We have had a super time. As a cluster group it has been great for the P7 pupils to develop and build on relationships with their peers and peers from another school. I truly believe they have made some lifelong friendships as well as developing their fitness and skill set. As a teacher it has been great to see our children out of their comfort zones and develop staff-pupil relationships. I have had a blast and look forward to coming back next year! |
| We have had another amazing week which has exceeded our expectations. The children have been encouraged and supported to grow in confidence and skills and team work under the care and expertise and nurturing environment which the staff have provided. Everything about the centre and its program is outstanding. Thank you to all involved for creating so many lifelong memories for the children and staff. We are already looking forward to coming back next year. |

This has been a once in a life time experience for these children, some who had never hiked before never-mind canoe, ski, abseil and gorge walk. They will never forget this experience and I can see already it has left a mark. It has made an impact. It has changed them. Something has shifted for them. One of the children in my cabin (as I was telling them to finish packing) said 'but I don't want to' I asked why? and he said, 'my heart aches when I have to pack - I don't want to leave here' You have left a massive imprint on these children that they will never forget. You are making an incredible difference on the lives of these children. They have a new appreciation for nature, which needs fostered now more than ever. So, on behalf of them a massive THANK you for everything you have taught these children. They will carry this with them for the rest of their lives. Never underestimated the difference you are making. Thank you.

Table 3

Development work based on feedback and centre self-evaluation:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Continuous development to reduce inequality and maximise the opportunity for everyone to visit. Includes sharing good practice; help sheet; general clothing and specialist kit; visits to schools; grant information; Pupil Equity Fund advice; and assistance with fundraising. |
| 2 | Developing pre and post curriculum work linked to visit; maximising the impact of a visit to Benmore and Lagganlia, including supporting specific subjects and themes such as Learning for Sustainability. |
| 3 | Maximising participants' recognition of the benefits of being outdoors. |
| 4 | Maximising environmental awareness throughout the visit, including travel to and from the centres. Provide information on sustainable travel to centres e.g. train and shared transport with other schools. |
| 5 | Review and development of evening activities at both centres. |

Appendix 9.7 Examples of Work: detailed descriptions of recent projects

| Area | Description |
|---|--|
| <p>9.7.1</p> <p>New website and raising the profile of Outdoor Learning.</p> <p>Being a visible and supportive Team</p> <p>Advice and support via signposting information, case studies, and teaching resources.</p> | <p>The website has been developed as a key tool for developing outdoor learning provision for Edinburgh children, young people and adults. https://www.experienceoutdoors.org.uk</p> <p>This includes key information relating to reducing inequality: Outdoor Learning Team’s website – Every Child, Every Chance: https://www.experienceoutdoors.org.uk/schools-communities/poverty-proofing</p> <p>Teaching and learning resources linked to the Curriculum for Excellence, which will be expanded and put onto the new Outdoor Learning Map: https://www.experienceoutdoors.org.uk/schools-communities/curriculum-for-excellence</p> <p>New resources and innovative projects, for example, the 50 Ways to Experience Outdoors (9.7.2) and new Outdoor Learning Map (9.7.3).</p> <p>Training – ‘one-stop-shop’ to support school and locality groups (9.7.10).</p> <p>The OL Team has undertaken significant work to champion the importance of Outdoor Learning and keeping stakeholders informed. This includes update letters to Head Teachers and Services; Outdoor Learning Newsletters; Outdoor Learning Networks; and workshop sessions at Primary Head Teacher and Business Manager events. https://www.experienceoutdoors.org.uk/schools-communities/networks https://www.experienceoutdoors.org.uk/schools-communities/curriculum-for-excellence</p> <p>Key outcomes: improved access to key support, advice and resources.</p> |
| <p>9.7.2</p> <p>50 Ways to Experience Outdoors</p> | <p>Designed by the Council’s teachers and the Outdoor Learning Team for teachers. This project was the idea of a teacher and was facilitated by the Outdoor Learning Team. 50 ideas are presented to develop affordable outdoor learning. Interactive links provide further details, including references to Curriculum</p> |

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| <p>Affordable outdoor learning and supporting the Council's net zero carbon target – onsite and Category 1 Excursions.</p> | <p>for Excellence. The new Outdoor Learning Map (below) will provide a platform for sharing good practice and ideas for implementing this resource across the City.</p> <p>50 Ways to Experience Outdoors: https://www.experienceoutdoors.org.uk/resources/schools-communities</p> <p>Key outcome: resource to be used creatively by school and community groups to increase affordable outdoor learning (onsite and Category 1 – local).</p> |
| <p>9.7.3</p> <p>Outdoor Learning Map</p> <p>Sharing good practice (from stakeholders to stakeholders).</p> | <p>In Spring 2019, the OL Team announced it was successful in its Scottish Natural Heritage Outdoor Learning in Nature Fund bid. This allowed the OL Team to create and develop an innovative online Outdoor Learning Map where users can upload and share good practice across Edinburgh and beyond. Additional funding is provided by Forestry and Land Scotland. The bid includes a seconded primary teacher (0.2 FTE) to support the development, launch and sustainability of this project. This is a significant platform for sharing key ideas, resources and good practice. Users will be able to search using different criteria. This will provide significant assistance in supporting the development of affordable learning and meeting the Council's net zero carbon target.</p> <p>The OL Map will also be used to search for the Council's Adventurous Activity Providers. Users will search by location, activity and /or name. This will save time and enable more schools and locality groups to locate appropriate providers.</p> <p>Additional funding is being sought to extend the seconded post to ensure this project has a firm grounding for growth and development.</p> <p>Outdoor Learning Map: https://www.experienceoutdoors.org.uk/resources/schools-communities</p> <p>Scottish Natural Heritage (Outdoor Learning Nature Fund) – confirmation of grant: https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/education/outdoor-learning-nature-fund</p> <p>Key outcomes: providing a platform for approved stakeholders to share good practice, ideas and resources linked to outdoor learning.</p> |
| <p>9.7.4</p> | <p>During September 2019, the CEC Outdoor Learning Team, in partnership with Dynamic Earth and Historic Environment</p> |

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| <p>Outdoor Learning Challenge Days. Holyrood Park</p> <p>Affordable outdoor learning and supporting the Council's net zero carbon target – Category 1 Excursions.</p> | <p>Scotland, organised and delivered the Outdoor Learning Challenge at Holyrood Park. This was spread over two days with three clear aims: to provide free outdoor learning provision to P6 pupils (excluding transport); to showcase Outdoor Learning providers/supporters working in and around Edinburgh; and to inspire and demonstrate to school staff how they can take the curriculum outdoors, including low cost solutions. Just under 2400 City of Edinburgh P6 pupils from 2 special and 47 primary schools attended. 38 separate partner organisations contributed to the activities/stations over the course of the whole event; between them running 60 different stations over the two days. This included many stations involving physical activity and significant support from our colleagues in the Sports Team. A twilight workshop was held for around 200 attendees, providing the opportunity to gain new ideas and meet providers. Many schools walked or used public transport to get to the event. This showcased affordable and environmentally sustainable outdoor learning.</p> <p>More info via our blog: https://www.experienceoutdoors.org.uk/experience-outdoors/outdoor-learning-at-holyrood-park</p> |
| | <p>Key outcomes: free provision to around 2400 CEC P6 pupils; Career Long Professional Learning (CLPL) workshop and experiences throughout the event; and improved links with outdoor learning providers.</p> |
| <p>9.7.5</p> <p>Edinburgh Schools Adventure Race</p> <p>Active travel and affordable excursion delivery.</p> | <p>The Edinburgh Schools Adventure Race takes place annually in June for S5s and is designed to encourage teams to develop strategies that will enable them to complete a series of activity tasks and answer various questions located in green space across the City. Supervised groups set off from their own school at 08:30; equipped with a GPS route tracker, City map and bus tickets. They complete activity challenges (climbing/abseiling, cycling, canoeing, orienteering); team building/problem solving activities; summit as many of Edinburgh's seven hills as they can; and answer general knowledge questions about Edinburgh. Teams then travel to the finish line at the City Chambers.</p> |
| | <p>Key outcome: participation in a free excursion with active travel, which raises the profile of sustainable development and the different Outdoor Learning partners.</p> |
| <p>9.7.6</p> <p>Oxgangs Pilot Project</p> <p>Affordable outdoor learning; supporting</p> | <p>Between May and July 2019, a new pilot project was established in partnership with Oxgangs Primary School. The aim was to devise affordable day expeditions into the Pentlands so all P7 pupils can access and explore their surrounding area. This benefited approximately 70 pupils. The project was captured and featured by the BBC in June 2019; linked to affordable excursions. Work involved the inclusion of one pupil in a hired</p> |

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| <p>the Council's net zero carbon target; and accessing locations for pupils with significant additional support needs – Category 1 Excursions</p> | <p>all-terrain wheelchair. The project is continuing into 2020, with good practice shared across Edinburgh and beyond so that more young people get out for less. The project involves school staff attending the Outdoor Learning Team's Lowland Leader Training to build capacity and support continued delivery. The project involved wither public transport and low-cost minibus hire. The pupils designed their own routes and activities; and wrote to local businesses to access donated food for their expeditions - facilitated by School and OL Team staff.</p> <p>The project will feature as a case study for affordable outdoor learning; contributing to the Council's net zero carbon target; and access to the countryside for pupils with significant additional support needs.</p> |
| | <p>Key outcomes: affordable local offsite experiences for young people; Career Long Professional Learning (CLPL); and shared good practice linked to affordable outdoor learning, high-quality pedagogy, additional support needs, and a consideration of the Council's zero net carbon target.</p> |
| <p>9.7.7</p> <p>Updated Excursions Training</p> <p>Responding to feedback and supporting the Council's net zero carbon target.</p> | <p>The Team delivered excursion/safety management training (Group Leader and Excursion Coordinator) to 781 participants. This represents 98 training hours or 1562 participant training hours. The mandatory training supports staff from across Communities and Families to coordinate, plan and deliver a vast array of safe excursions; ranging from regular local activity to adventurous activity in remote locations. In response to self-evaluation feedback, the delivery model has been altered to provide more site-based training to support local contexts. This is a more sustainable approach and contributes to the Council's net zero carbon target. Feedback has been excellent.</p> |
| | <p>Key outcomes: more focused training for different audiences, increasing the opportunity to discuss establishment-specific contexts and excursions.</p> |
| <p>9.7.8</p> <p>New Probationer Training</p> <p>Training the next generation of teachers.</p> | <p>New core Career Long Professional Learning (CLPL) outdoor learning provision for Primary and Secondary school probationers has been created and scheduled throughout 2019/20. Attendance is mandatory and includes Outdoor Learning pedagogy and safety management. Progress of Primary participants will be tracked by gap tasks and follow-up training in Spring 2020. This CLPL offer will support approximately 318 probationers during 2019/20, with feedback providing developments for 2020/21. This key work supports the mandatory induction and training of the next generation of teachers.</p> |

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| | <p>Key outcome: improved knowledge of Outdoor Learning pedagogy, safety management and how to access further support and advice.</p> |
| <p>9.7.9</p> <p>Lead Teacher in Outdoor Learning – Primary</p> | <p>This course is designed to build capacity and support participants in developing their own practice, and supporting others within their school and beyond. The aim is to create a network of Lead Teachers who will champion Outdoor Learning and providing ongoing support within schools and school to school.</p> <p>The course was redesigned for 2017/18, with 12 participants completing the course. 14 participants are currently undertaking the 2018/19 course. Places are normally oversubscribed.</p> <p>Through direct tuition, peer to peer support and self-led learning, this course aims to further develop practitioner's skills and knowledge in Outdoor Learning and equip participants to support and lead Outdoor Learning in their school. Run over a full day Friday, two Friday afternoons, and a Friday afternoon / full day Saturday residential, the course will cover the rationale for Outdoor Learning, practical skills, literacy, numeracy, STEM and Health & Wellbeing in the outdoors, and developing action plans for the implementation.</p> <p>More info via our blog: https://www.experienceoutdoors.org.uk/outdoor-learning/lead-teach-in-outdoor-learning-course</p> <p>Key outcome: a network of outdoor learning Lead Teachers to support the development of high-quality outdoor learning across the City.</p> |
| <p>9.7.10</p> <p>Career Long Professional Learning (CLPL) Offer</p> <p>Building capacity.</p> | <p>The OL Team is currently finalising a Career Long Professional Learning (CLPL) offer for 2020. This is based on feedback and aims to build capacity and skills within Lifelong Learning and Schools, and beyond. It will include safety management; developing affordable excursions; supporting the Council's net zero carbon target; national governing body qualifications; wider achievement; supporting senior leaders in developing whole-school outdoor learning and delivering change; workforce wellbeing; and literacy/English and numeracy/mathematics via the outdoors.</p> <p>Key outcome: develop outdoor learning across the City by providing CLPL linked to feedback from stakeholders; focusing particularly on building capacity and reducing costs via safe self-led provision.</p> |

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| <p>9.7.11</p> <p>Risk Assessment Working Party</p> <p>Safety management, affordable outdoor learning and supporting the Council's net zero carbon target – Category 1 Excursions.</p> | <p>To support the improvement of safe practice and local excursions, a working party will be created shortly to produce draft risk assessments across a number of key areas. This will provide a starting point for staff and volunteers to amend and adapt to specific contexts. There will be a specific focus on supporting local excursions, which will improve confidence and reduce workload for staff. The aim is to increase further the number of purposeful local excursions, which are low / zero cost, incorporate active travel, and contribute to the Council's net zero carbon target.</p> <p>Key outcome: a choice of draft risk assessments to be adapted by establishments and services, with a specific aim to support safety management and further increase local excursions.</p> |
| <p>9.7.12</p> <p>Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) Direct Provision via the Bangholm Outdoor Centre</p> <p>Affordable expeditions.</p> | <p>Staff at the Bangholm Outdoor Centre in Edinburgh delivered affordable DofE expedition provision to 179 different participants, an increase from 46 in 2016/17, resulting in 9430 participant hours during 2018/19. Staff worked with the young people for their Bronze, Silver and Gold qualifiers and practices. Provision continues to expand with the use of tertiary instructors. Future project work will consider combining DofE Scotland resources and locality Lifelong Learning Development Officers to support targeted schools (disadvantaged young people).</p> <p>Key outcome: affordable DofE expedition support.</p> |
| <p>9.7.13</p> <p>DofE Gold Award Residential Provision</p> <p>Widening horizons.</p> | <p>OL staff organise DofE's Award direct provision via the Council's DofE Approved Activity Providers Scheme. During 2018/19, 59 participants attended climbing, photography, skiing, watersports, and multi-activity provision mostly via the Benmore and Lagganlia Outdoors Centres.</p> <p>Wildlife of Scotland DofE residential delivered by the Outdoor Learning Team:</p> <p>https://www.experienceoutdoors.org.uk/outdoor-learning/wildlife-of-scotland-dofe-residential</p> <p>Key outcome: breadth of offer to young people.</p> |
| <p>9.7.14</p> <p>Discover! Holiday Programme Support</p> <p>Affordable provision</p> | <p>The OL Team has a growing role in supporting the planning and delivery of the Discover! programme. This includes the development of Discover!-specific excursion planning resources, including Key Information and Consent (KIC) forms; and a support toolbox. Discover!-specific excursion training is also planned for November 2019 and beyond.</p> <p>The OL staff in partnership with Sport and OL Lifelong Learning Development Officers have focused on delivering outdoor activity within each hub locality. This has included the introduction of Bikeability across the four hubs, which has been</p> |

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| | <p>extremely well received by families. Feedback indicates this has provided an opportunity for some children and young people to learn to ride a bike. The aim is to develop the Bikeability offer so that the impact is far-reaching.</p> <p>Key outcomes: Discover! excursion support and training; and outdoor learning direct delivery.</p> |
| <p>9.7.15</p> <p>Biking Developments</p> <p>Active travel contributing to the Council's net zero carbon target.</p> | <p>The OL Team have been involved with a significant contribution to increasing active travel through cycling. This includes training instructors to build capacity; direct delivery in schools and the introduction of Bikeability within the Discover! holiday programme (Appendix 9.7.14). This includes working in partnership with Sport, other Lifelong Learning Staff, and Smarter Choices, Smarter Places colleagues.</p> <p>OL staff have trialled the delivery of the new Cycling UK courses, providing advice within Scottish Advisory Panel for Outdoor Education. This will form an important part of the new CLPL offer (Appendix 9.7.10).</p> <p>https://www.cyclinguk.org/courses-and-training/leading-instructing-and-training-others/courses-for-leaders/trail-mountain-bike-1</p> <p>https://www.cyclinguk.org/expeditionmodule</p> <p>A key aim is to support more schools in considering the safe use of cycling to travel to and from excursions. This may also include Bangholm staff supporting the maintenance of bikes.</p> <p>Key outcomes: increase in cycling through training instructors (building capacity) and direct delivery.</p> |
| <p>9.7.16</p> <p>Whole School Development of Outdoor Learning</p> <p>Whole-school development of outdoor learning including affordable onsite and local excursions.</p> | <p>OL Staff have engaged with different schools to support a whole-school improvement in Outdoor Learning. This has involved the bespoke design of continued support, particularly focusing on onsite and local Outdoor Learning. Examples include Pirniehall, Queensferry and Carrick Knowe Primary Schools. This approach will be developed via the new CLPL offer.</p> <p>Key outcomes: whole-school development of a planned and progressive approach to Outdoor Learning.</p> |
| <p>9.7.17</p> <p>Collaborative Work with Colleagues</p> | <p>Examples include the Syrian Resettlement Programme (climbing wall sessions at the Edinburgh International Climbing Arena) and Discover! holiday programme with Lifelong Learning Staff, including locality Lifelong Learning Development Officers</p> |

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| <p>from Across the Council</p> <p>Maximising support.</p> | <p>(Appendix 9.7.14); school grounds development with the Estates Team; safe use of inflatables with the Health and Safety Team; onsite sleepovers with the School Lets Team; biking delivery with the Sports Team and Smarter Choices (9.7.14), Smarter Places Team; and development of inhouse provision linked to Wellbeing Hubs in partnership with the Additional Support for Learning Service and Locality Teams.</p> <p>Key outcomes: OL staff working collaboratively across the Council to support locality and City-wide priorities.</p> |
| <p>9.7.18</p> <p>Edinburgh Community Rowing Project</p> <p>Support for disadvantaged young people – participation and talent pathway.</p> | <p>Edinburgh Community Rowing Project is a new partnership project involving Scottish Rowing, Bridge8, University of Edinburgh and The City of Edinburgh Council (OL Team and Active Schools). The project is in the setup phase to secure funding and a hub will be based within the Wester Hailes area at Bridge8.</p> <p>Key outcomes: rowing participation and talent pathways for disadvantaged young people.</p> |

Appendix 9.8 Copy of Letter to Head Teachers (August 2019)

Outdoor Learning 'Start of Academic Year' Update

Visit us at: <https://www.experienceoutdoors.org.uk/>

Important information from the Outdoor Learning Team

- 2021/22 residential bookings at Benmore and Lagganlia Outdoor Centres.
- Excursions Policy update and reminders.
- Schools and Lifelong Learning staff working and travelling overseas.
- Autumn Outdoor Learning newsletter.
- Outdoor Learning map.
- Primary Outdoor Learning challenge days (September).
- 50 Ways to Experience Outdoors in Edinburgh.
- Secondary Edinburgh Schools Adventure Race SAVE THE DATE.

NB: Orb links work best via Chrome.

Dear Head Teacher,

We hope the new academic year is going well. Please find below some key information regarding Outdoor Learning and excursions. A copy of this letter will be sent to Business Managers and please pass key information on to relevant staff.

1. Benmore and Lagganlia Outdoor Centres – 2021/22 Residential Bookings

We wish to inform all City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) schools they will very shortly be able to book their **2021/22 residential visits to Benmore and Lagganlia**. We appreciate this is well into the future, however, our residential centres are extremely busy with significant demand beyond next year. This is great news and reflects the high-quality experiences provided by Benmore and Lagganlia. Your commitment to using Edinburgh's own residential centres is highly valued and it is essential we plan well ahead for such significant demand.

We invite you to contact the Centres between **Tuesday 20 August** and **Friday 11 October**. Please ensure the person who makes the booking has authority from the main budget holder/Head Teacher and the Business Manager is aware.

CEC schools have the opportunity for priority booking, which is before reservations open to non-CEC schools on **Monday 14 October**. There is significant demand from non-CEC schools, including other local authority schools from across Scotland, resulting in us having to turn non-CEC schools down on a regular basis. CEC schools are our priority and **we encourage you to contact the Centres as soon as possible**. 2021/2022 term dates are available via https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20074/schools/20/term_dates/4

Please find below the **proposed/provisional** charges for 2021/22. Actual charges will be confirmed by April 2020.

Please talk to each Centre regarding any additional requirements.

| Arrival date** | 2021/22 Provisional Charge |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 02 August 2021 – 27 August 2021 | £295 |
| 30 August 2021 – 01 October 2021 | £315 |
| 04 October 2021 – 26 November 2021 | £310 |
| 29 November 2021 – 28 January 2022 | £260 |
| 31 January 2022 – 01 April 2022 | £310 |
| 04 April 2022 – 29 July 2022 | £315 |
| | |

*weekly charges for a fully serviced week includes 4 nights' accommodation, 3 ½ days' adventure activities, evening activities and all meals from Monday evening dinner until Friday breakfast (excludes transport to and from Edinburgh).

**the date of the first day of the residential visit i.e. arrival at the centre.

| | |
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| Lagganlia Adventure FOCUS Ski week. | Contact Lagganlia for a quote. |
| Lagganlia Adventure Education EXPEDITION week. | Provisional £20 per person supplement. |
| Benmore Sailing week. | Contact Benmore for a quote. |

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| Key contacts: | Benmore: 01369 706 337 Lagganlia: 01540 651 265 |
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Evaluation feedback from schools remains excellent. We are committed to providing dedicated instructors to groups for the whole visit; delivering high quality and safe outdoor learning in largely offsite, remote and inspiring locations with specialist kit and training. This creates a fabulous personalised learning experience and we do not want to dilute this in anyway. Our instructors are extremely well qualified, generally via national governing body qualifications. As many of you know, we are not large-scale camps, operating onsite activities via different staff who are often trained inhouse.



We want to ensure every young person can experience our Benmore or Lagganlia Outdoor Centres. We are therefore offering the opportunity to book a visit by our Edinburgh based staff to support financial planning of Benmore and Lagganlia residential visits. This includes sharing good practice regarding grant applications and other funding sources; setting up early payment schemes and accessing spare clothes for residential. We are also offering to attend your information sessions for parents/carers and can give a short presentation about a Centre. These have been trialled and feedback from schools and parents/carers

has been excellent. They aim to introduce the Centres and help maximise the number of young people attending our residentials. Please book early as these are proving popular.

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| Key contact: | To book a visit, email Andrew.Bradshaw@edinburgh.gov.uk |
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During September, the Centres will circulate a useful resource that shares existing good practice regarding residential financial planning to support families.

2. Excursions Policy

Many thanks for your continued support of the Excursion Policy. Some key updates/reminders:

- Each school is required to have a registered **Excursions Coordinator (EC)** who has attended EC training within the last 3 years. Category 3 and Category 4 excursions may not be approved until these tasks are completed. Register or update EC details via [CLICK HERE](#) (takes 3 to 5 mins). Search myHR for **CF2488** to book onto the EC training. Exceptional circumstances can apply e.g. a sudden change in EC. These will be referred by the Technical Advisers to Andrew Bradshaw.
- **Category 3** and **Category 4** excursions require the Group Leader (GL) to have attended **Group Leader (Theory)** training within the last 3 years. Search myHR for **CF2483** to book onto the GL (Theory) training.
- **GL (CF2483)** and **EC (CF2488)** training can be delivered at your schools, subject to a minimum number of normally 10 participants. This is very popular, and we recommend booking well in advance. Please contact Andrew.Bradshaw@edinburgh.gov.uk for more information.
-  The **Key Information and Consent (KIC)** forms have been updated with a few minor changes. Please introduce with your next excursion. If **KIC Annual** forms have already been distributed, **this is not a problem and introduce next time**. We will aim to update KIC forms by early May of each year for the following academic year. The latest forms can always be obtained from <https://orb.edinburgh.gov.uk/excursions> or our website <https://www.experienceoutdoors.org.uk/technical-safety/cec-excursion-planning>
- Ensure **Category 4 UK-based approvals** are sent to us no later than 3 weeks prior to departure. This allows us to complete a thorough check and to support you with any final adjustments where required.
- **Travel and Personal Accident Insurance**. Section 5 of the Excursions Policy provides information about excursions insurance. Travel and personal accident insurance must be arranged by completing a **Communities and Families**

Accounting form. Nearly all residentials, including UK-based overnight stays, require this insurance to be finalised via this form. The form and guidance will be distributed via the Excursion Coordinator eUpdate or can be requested from Jordan.Baillie@edinburgh.gov.uk. Send excursion insurance questions to excursions@edinburgh.gov.uk.



- New training. **Planning Overseas Trips – CF2747** ([CLICK HERE](#)): a new course to support staff running, or planning to organise, overseas excursions (Group Leader training bolt on module for Overseas Trips - CF2747) at Boroughmuir High School on Wednesday 4th September, 4 – 5.30pm. It will be an opportunity to get together with colleagues from other schools to share good practice on running international excursions, and to ask questions of CEC’s technical advisor for international trips. Book via myHR using CF2747. Please share these details with staff who are involved in, or plan to be involved in, overseas trips. **Risk Assessing Excursions:** delivered at schools, normally via two sessions and includes producing risk assessments for your excursions. Contact Andrew.Bradshaw@edinburgh.gov.uk for more information. This is proving popular so please book early.

An eUpdate will be sent to all registered Excursions Coordinators (ECs) and Business Managers on **Friday 23 August**. This will provide details of how to access the updated Excursions Policy and any key revisions. Please ensure new ECs have been registered prior to this date (takes 3 to 5 minutes – link below).

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| Excursions Policy Resources Orb links: | https://orb.edinburgh.gov.uk/excursions https://www.experienceoutdoors.org.uk/technical-safety/cec-excursion-planning Please use these pages to access the latest forms and the current Excursions Policy. Training Link |
| Excursions Training: | Training Link |
| Other Relevant Training: | First Aid Training via the Health and Safety Team Training Link |
| Register your Excursions Coordinator (or update any details): | CLICK HERE Typically takes between 3 and 5 minutes. |
| Key contact: | excursions@edinburgh.gov.uk / Tel: 0131 469 3953 |

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We have created three **optional** resources to support staff with the Excursions Policy; all accessible via <https://orb.edinburgh.gov.uk/excursions>:

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| 1 | Excursions Policy Summary Guide - 10 things to help you with The City of Edinburgh Communities and Families Excursions Policy. Includes key information about training. |
| 2 | Excursions Policy Induction Guide – Excursions Coordinators (useful for staff new to CEC and/or the Excursions Coordinator role). |
| 3 | Excursions Policy Induction Guide – Group Leaders (useful for staff new to CEC and/or the Group Leader role). |

3. Schools and Lifelong Learning Staff Working and Travelling Overseas

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| Orb link: | https://orb.edinburgh.gov.uk/workingoverseas |
| Key contact: | staffoverseas@edinburgh.gov.uk or Andrew Bagnall - Tel: 0131 551 4368 / 07718 668 558 |

IMPORTANT REMINDER: this policy and resources are for Schools and Lifelong Learning staff applying to undertake work and travel overseas (excludes excursions/travel with pupils) and includes teacher exchange programmes. They provide guidance, support, and a framework for approval. **Staff must not travel without prior approval.** Please submit the approval form as soon as possible as last-minute decisions may not be possible. If you are unsure about timescales due to waiting for information from third parties, contact us ASAP.

4. Autumn Outdoor Learning Newsletter

This will be distributed to school staff wb 26 August.

5. Outdoor Learning Map

Our new digital Outdoor Learning Map, part funded by the Scottish Natural Heritage Outdoor Learning Nature Fund, is developing well and is expected to be available this term. We are working with a few pilot schools to develop the initial content. The Map will allow contributors to share good practice and provide new ideas for delivering inspirational and effective outdoor learning. Watch this space!

<https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/education/outdoor-learning-nature-fund>

6. Primary Outdoor Learning Challenge Days – Sep 2019 (Holyrood Park)

Many thanks for the superb response! The event is being organised by the Sport and Outdoor Learning Team, a group of CEC teachers and outdoor learning partners. It is free to CEC schools and involves a range of exciting adventures within the Park.

Media coverage from last year (open in Chrome): [Edinburgh Evening News link](#)

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| Key contact: | Andrew.Bagnall@edinburgh.gov.uk |
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7. 50 Ways to Experience Outdoors in Edinburgh

Thank you to those schools and groups who have started to use this great resource. Developed by teachers for teachers and other staff, this resource is being used creatively across many different contexts. Schools and groups will be able to share how they have used and developed the '50 Ways' resource via the new Outdoor Learning Map. Access the resource via:

<https://www.experienceoutdoors.org.uk/resources/schools-communities>

8. Secondary Edinburgh Schools Adventure Race SAVE THE DATE

Our next race is due to be held on **Friday 12 June 2020** (provisional date and subject to final confirmation). It is designed to encourage teams to develop strategies that will enable them to complete a series of activity tasks and answer various questions located in green space across the City. Supervised groups will set off early from their own school; equipped with a GPS route tracker, a map of the City and a bus ticket. They will complete activity challenges (climbing/abseiling, cycling, canoeing, orienteering); team building/problem solving activities; summit as many of Edinburgh's seven hills as they can; and answer general knowledge questions about Edinburgh. Teams will then travel to the finish line at the City Chambers.

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| Key contact: | Fraser.Roberston@edinburgh.gov.uk |
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We are working hard to keep you informed and support your Outdoor Learning. If you require any additional advice or support, please do not hesitate in contacting us. We will provide another update in January 2020.

Andrew Bradshaw

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Bradshaw

Principal Officer Outdoor Learning | Sports and Outdoor Learning Team | Schools and
Lifelong Learning | Communities and Families |

Andrew.Bradshaw@edinburgh.gov.uk

07718 660 549

Appendix 9.9 Example eUpdate (LINKS COLUMN REMOVED)

|  | | CEC Excursions eUpdate |
|---|--|--------------------------|
| August 2019 | Edition 7 | |
| <p>Welcome to the seventh edition of our eUpdate. If you wish to unsubscribe, please email excursions@edinburgh.gov.uk.</p> <p>We hope you had a good Summer! Please note: Orb links work best via Chrome (you may need to copy and paste links into Chrome).</p> <p>The Outdoor Learning Team. http://experienceoutdoors.org.uk/</p> | | |
| <p>CEC is not responsible for the content of external sites. The inclusion of a link to an external website via this update should not be understood to be an endorsement of that website or the site's owners (or their products/services).</p> | | |
| | Notes | Click on the links below |
| 1 | Visit our EXCURSIONS pages via the Orb or our website. | |
| 2 | <p>REVIEWED EXCURSIONS POLICY</p> <p>Once the new INTRANET (Orb replacement) is live, we will then upload the 2019 updated Policy (September). You will be informed of this and receive a summary of key changes/updates. Until then, the current policy remains live and must be used.</p> | |
| 3 | <p>KEY INFORMATION AND CONSENT (KIC) FORMS</p> <p>KIC forms have been updated with a few minor changes. Please introduce with your next excursion. If KICannual forms have already been distributed, this is not a problem and introduce next time. We will aim to update KIC forms by early May of each year for the following academic year. The latest forms can always be obtained from:</p> | |
| 4 | <p>EXCURSIONS COORDINATOR (EC)</p> <p>Each school/establishment/service is required to have a registered Excursions Coordinator (EC) who has attended EC training within the last 3 years. Category 3 and Category 4 excursions may not be approved until these tasks are completed. Exceptional circumstances can apply e.g. a sudden change in EC. These will be referred by the Technical Advisers to Andrew Bradshaw.</p> | |

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| 5 | <p>RISK ASSESSMENT TEMPLATES</p> <p>Please note: we are having to return a significant number. We will be launching example risk assessments this Autumn (via Working Party).</p> <p>Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure hazards are identified e.g. ‘weather’ or ‘camping’ are too vague. - Column 2 includes ‘HOW’ as well as ‘WHO’. ‘HOW’ is often missed. - Ensure the details at the top of the RA are completed. - Ensure the risk assessment is ‘signed off’ by a senior manager. <p>See Point (6) re: new Risk Assessment training.</p> <p>Please pass on this information and thanks for your cooperation.</p> | |
| 6 | <p>EXCURSIONS TRAINING</p> <p>Review our training:</p> <p>Please note: there are some issues with dates not appearing on the CEC website. We recommend searching and booking via myHR whenever possible.</p> <p>Group Leader (Theory) – CF2483</p> <p>Excursions Coordinator – CF2488</p> <p>GL (CF2483) and EC (CF2488) training can be delivered at your schools, subject to a minimum number of normally 10 participants. This is very popular, and we recommend booking well in advance.</p> <p>New training</p> <p>Planning Overseas Trips – CF2747: a new course to support staff running, or planning to organise, overseas excursions (Group Leader training bolt on module for Overseas Trips - CF2747) at Boroughmuir High School on Wednesday 4th September, 4 – 5.30pm. It will be an opportunity to get together with colleagues from other schools to share good practice on running international excursions, and to ask questions of CEC’s technical advisor for overseas trips. Please share details with staff who are involved in, or plan to be involved in, overseas trips.</p> <p>Risk Assessing Excursions: delivered at schools, normally via two sessions and includes producing risk assessments for your excursions.</p> | |
| 7 | <p>TRAVEL AND PERSONAL ACCIDENT INSURANCE VIA CEC</p> <p>Required for nearly all residentials. See Section 5 of the Excursions Policy. First reported in June 2018. Form attached.</p> | |

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| | Not compulsory for Duke of Edinburgh's Award Expeditions as the national scheme has limited personal accident insurance. Groups may still want to organise CEC T&PA insurance – local decision. | |
| 8 | <p>TRAMPOLINE CENTRES (Category 4)</p> <p>Groups can only visit Ryze AND Gravity subject to approval from your Head of Establishment and the Sport and Outdoor Learning Team. Jumpstation has now closed. Group Leaders must read the additional guidance, adapt the risk assessment (APPENDIX 10) provided on the Orb/new website and complete an EX4 form. Jump In (Musselburgh) is not yet approved – we will inform you of any changes.</p> <p>INNOFLATE (Livingston) is not approved.</p> | |
| 9 | <p>DofE EXPEDITIONS – WATER PROVISION (reminder)</p> <p>Technical advisers will review expedition plans carefully. Use Appendix 9 (guidance and risks assessment). DofE Group Leaders must submit an adapted Appendix 9 risk assessment with the EX4 form.</p> | |
| 10 | <p>SHE REPORTING (Excursion incidents and near misses) SHE guidance was updated in April 2018 by the Health and Safety Team. Please insert 'excursions' into the text for any reported incident.</p> | |
| 11 | <p>FIRST AID GUIDANCE (Health and Safety Team resources)</p> | |
| 12 | <p>VISITS TO LAGGANLIA AND BENMORE</p> <p>2021/22 bookings have opened for CEC groups. Contact the centres ASAP (contact details below).</p> <p>We want to ensure every young person can experience our Benmore or Lagganlia Outdoor Centres. We are therefore offering the opportunity to book a visit by our Edinburgh based staff to support financial planning of Benmore and Lagganlia residential visits. This includes sharing good practice regarding grant applications and other funding sources; setting up early payment schemes and accessing spare clothes for residential. We are also offering to attend your information sessions for parents/carers and can give a short presentation about a Centre. These have been trialled and feedback from schools/groups and parents/carers has been excellent. They aim to introduce the Centres and help maximise the number of young people attending our residential. Please book early as these are proving popular.</p> | |
| 13 | <p>AUTUMN OUTDOOR LEARNING NEWSLETTER</p> | |
| 14 | <p>SAVE THE DATE - Secondary Edinburgh Schools Adventure Race</p> <p>designed to encourage teams to develop strategies that will enable them to complete a series of activity tasks and answer various questions located in green space across the City. Supervised groups will set off early from their own school; equipped with a GPS route tracker, a map of</p> | |

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| | the City and a bus ticket. They will complete activity challenges (climbing/abseiling, cycling, canoeing, orienteering); team building/problem solving activities; summit as many of Edinburgh's seven hills as they can; and answer general knowledge questions about Edinburgh. Teams will then travel to the finish line at the City Chambers. | |
| 15 | <p>EXTERNAL FUNDING FOR OUTDOOR LEARNING</p> <p>John Watson's Trust (deadlines throughout the year). Check the criteria carefully. <u>Excursions allowed, including residential visits.</u> Straightforward application form. An opportunity not to be missed!</p> <p>The Andy Fanshawe Memorial Trust Grants (UK). Check the criteria carefully. <u>Single residential visits not allowed.</u></p> <p>Local School Nature Grants. Sign up to receive information.</p> <p>General PDF sheet detailing different Outdoor Learning GRANTS.</p> | |
| 16 | POLICY: Latest CEC Excursions Policy (for all Non-Residential Units). | |
| 17 | POLICY: Latest CEC guidance for Residential Units. | |
| 18 | POLICY: List of CEC Adventurous Activity Approved Providers. | |
| 19 | YOUR CONTACT DETAILS: Keep us informed of any changes to your establishment's Excursions Coordinator's contact details (e.g. new person). | |
| Key Contacts | | Email/Te l |
| General excursions admin and submission of forms. | | |
| Excursions advice (general, adventurous activities/technical advice, UK based excursions) – Cliff Smith. | | |
| International excursions advice – Andrew Bagnall. | | |
| The Duke of Edinburgh's Award advice – Fraser Robertson | | |
| Bangholm Outdoor Learning Centre. Craighall Gardens. Edinburgh. EH6 4RJ. | | |
| Benmore Outdoor Learning Centre. By Dunoon. Argyll. PA23 8QX. | | |
| Lagganlia Outdoor Learning Centre. Kincaig. Kingussie. Inverness-shire. PH21 1NG. | | |
| Principal Officer for Outdoor Learning. Andrew Bradshaw. | | |



Appendix 9.10 Summary Outdoor Learning Strategy progress

| Strategy Aim | Progress |
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| In school | |
| 1.1 City based and residential OL courses are reviewed, and developed with links to CfE meeting the needs of all learners. | Reviewed and continuously developed. New online questionnaire is used to measure impact. High satisfaction levels maintained with development points identified. Next steps: identified in the Committee Report. |
| 1.2 Progressive pathways (3-18) are developed for Outdoor Learning including SQA Qualifications. | <p>Limited initial work. To be considered for the new OL Strategy. Potential apprenticeship DofE support re-started in 2019.</p> <p>Trainee instructor programmes well established at Benmore and Lagganlia. Significant contribution to OL workforce during training and retention as instructors. A good example of succession planning and effective induction.</p> |
| 1.3 The excursions policy, processes and training supports Communities and Families staff in delivering safe OL experiences | <p>Major and urgent review of the Communities and Families Excursions Policy completed and implemented in 2018. Included a new training programme and forms, linked to GDPR and approval requirements. Training feedback is very good. Second review completed in September/October 2019, with links to reducing inequality, and the Council's net zero carbon target. Submitted to Committee for review. Forms updated based on feedback. Outdoor Learning and Excursion Advisory Group (OLEAG) continue to meet to provide appropriate support and challenge.</p> <p>New Schools and Lifelong Learning Staff Travelling and Working Overseas Policy created, then reviewed and delivered.</p> <p>Next steps: include direct consultation with young people and new resources including an audit tool to measure the effectiveness of progress with key considerations. OLEAG membership group to be reviewed. Explore EVOLVE.</p> |

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| <p>1.4 Buildings, equipment and resources are well managed, renewed and shared across the Sports and Outdoor Learning Unit to support the development of OL</p> | <p>Significant improvement work completed, and new capital works programme planned or started at Benmore and Lagganlia. Surplus funds have been reinvested to support priorities.</p> <p>Bangholm site to be redeveloped from August 2020 onwards. OL Team fully consulted. Proposed improvements include outdoor learning spaces, including a potential camping zone bike trail; and improved community and training facilities.</p> <p>Friends of the Award (FOTA) moved to The Risk Factory.</p> <p>New Community Rowing project proposed for the Wester Hailes area.</p> <p>Some Watersports equipment loaned to Bridge8 to support delivery in the Wester Hailes.</p> |
| <p>1.5 Outdoor Learning is delivered in school grounds, in the local area and on residential and international excursions</p> | <p>Significant development work completed as detailed in Committee report.</p> <p>Examples of OL Team support and development include the new website; whole-school training; Outdoor Learning Challenge Days at Holyrood Park; Edinburgh Schools Adventure Race; 50 Ways to Experience Outdoors project; and the new digital Outdoor Learning Map; and Head Teacher Briefing workshops.</p> <p>Next steps: at the heart of the new OL strategy; developed in consultation with stakeholders.</p> |
| <p>1.6 Lead Teachers in OL are trained and supported to develop OL in their own schools and in partnership with clusters and neighbourhoods</p> | <p>Significant work completed. 2017/18 programme redesigned. Continued into 2018/19. See Committee Report.</p> <p>Next steps: review and develop programme. Consider a method for keeping Lead teachers within a network.</p> |
| <p>1.7 Forest Education is developed and expanded.</p> | <p>Developed via the Early Years Team and Additional Support for Learning Service.</p> <p>A new project examining the potential of an inhouse provision linked to Wellbeing Hubs in partnership with the Additional Support for Learning Service and Locality Teams.</p> |

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| | Next steps: further exploration of the inhouse project and consider primary support. |
| 1.8 A comprehensive programme of CPD and CLPL supports staff from across the city in confidently and safely delivering OL | Significant development work completed – see Committee Report. A new CLPL offer is being designed for 2020. Next steps: launch new offer. |
| Wider Participation | |
| 2.1 Extracurricular programmes are delivered in the city through Bangholm and key partners. | Examples include the Syrian Resettlement Programme; Discover! support; and planned signposting information for families via the new digital Outdoor Learning Map. |
| 2.2 Residential extracurricular programmes are delivered at Benmore and Lagganlia | DofE residential programmes firmly established. Also, direct delivery via the Bangholm Outdoor Centre. Ski School at Lagganlia will be developed via the new Snowsports Centre. Benmore offers extracurricular programmes. Next steps: support community/locality group use of the Bernice Farmhouse (Benmore) and Lagganlia Snowsports Centre. |
| 2.3 Pathways for progressive and competitive engagement in OL are identified, supported by Active Schools; CSH, CLD and the wider community. New clubs are developed to meet demand. | Continued development in partnership within the Active Schools programme. Next steps: continued development. |
| 2.4 An annual calendar of Primary, Secondary and special school events offer opportunities for both participation and competition | Events well established, combined with the Sports Team. OL examples include the Edinburgh Schools Adventure race (Secondary) and the Outdoor Learning Challenge Days at Holyrood (Primary). Next steps: develop existing events and signpost events via the calendar. New orienteering TRAILO events planned for 2020 onwards (inclusion). |
| 2.5 In partnership with Active Schools, cycling is developed as a key skill for life and all pupils have the opportunity to learn and progress | Significant work completed – see Committee Report. Includes training instructors to build capacity and direct delivery. Next steps: training part of the new CLPL offer and consider bike maintenance support. Cycling highlighted in the |

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| | reviewed Communities and Families Excursions Policy. |
| 2.6 Orienteering and climbing are developed through training and support as a core part of school PE provision and has clear progression to existing and new club links. | New orienteering TRAILO events planned for 2020 onwards (inclusion). Updated Climbing Wall Assistant Instructor course introduced. Next steps: develop climbing and orienteering provision in partnership with Active Schools. Include training part of the new CLPL offer. |
| 2.7 Snow sports, sailing and canoeing are developed at the residential outdoor centres to provide tailored term time and holiday programmes | Snowsports School at Lagganlia. Ski weeks available via Lagganlia. Watersport weeks available via Benmore. Support provided for the Discover! excursions including Foxlake (Watersports). Significant focus on cycling – schools and Discover! programme. This supports active travel and allows families to explore their local community safely. Next steps: signposting information of providers and events for families and staff via the digital Outdoor Learning Map. Support development of the Discover! programme, including widening provision – clear focus on local activity first. |
| 2.8 Key partners and the wider voluntary youth sector are engaged and supported in the delivery of community based outdoor learning | Significant work completed. New OL Partner Network meetings throughout the year to share good practice and detail priorities; incorporated into the new digital Outdoor Learning Map; direct involvement in the Outdoor Learning Challenge Days - Holyrood (Primary), including a twilight workshop; regular email contact; detailed partnership working with the Green Team, Bridge8 and the Friends of the Award; and facilitating contact between schools/groups and partners. |
| Accessible to All | |
| 3.1 Financial support is available to support participation in OL courses through CEC and partner charities. New opportunities for charitable support are explored and developed. | OL financial support provided to purchase DofE registration packs. Supported the setup of Friends of Benmore House. Support for the Friends of Lagganlia. |

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| | <p>Signposting information and web support provided.</p> <p>Letter to schools to offer onsite meetings to plan funding.</p> <p>CEC schools priority booking 2 years in advance to allow for substantial forward-planning.</p> <p>1 in 5 Poverty project training and guidance highlighted.</p> <p>OL staff undertaken 1 in 5 Poverty project training.</p> <p>Partnership working the Green Team and Friends of the Award to support vulnerable young people and reduce inequality.</p> |
| <p>3.2 Courses, buildings and equipment are developed to provide opportunities for pupils with additional needs to fully participate in an OL course alongside their peers. Staff members are trained and confident in working with the full range of children and young people who access our service.</p> | <p>Buildings continuously reviewed.</p> <p>Significant liaison work with families connected to young people with additional support needs. Includes family visits to the Centre and OL staff visiting schools to meet with families. Significant advantage of the Council having its own centres.</p> <p>Key Information and Consent (KIC) forms updated to support groups in obtaining accurate and key information.</p> <p>Pilot project completed with Oxgangs Primary School – case study of overcoming access issues.</p> <p>Onsite Excursion training provided to special schools – risk assessment and group Leader. Examples include Woodlands and Pilrig Park Special Schools.</p> |
| <p>3.3 Minority groups are engaged and barriers to participation in residential outdoor courses are explored. Residential and city based solutions are developed. Materials for outdoor learning course are available in variety of languages.</p> | <p>Increasing support with the Discover! programme.</p> <p>Syrian Refugee Resettlement pilot programme, including interpreters.</p> <p>Support and advice provided with a new locality project linked to a SportsScotland bid and girls' participation in sport.</p> <p>Support with BME female group accessing the DofE award.</p> |

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| | Next steps: explore continuation of Syrian refugee support and other priority groups within the new OL strategy. |
| 3.4 Children and young people who are looked after and accommodated have equality of opportunity for outdoor engagement through excursions, city based and residential Outdoor Learning courses. | Significant project underway to renew the current Excursions Policy: guidance; definition of offsite activity; training; and forms. Working party created and met to explore existing resources and guidance. New resources being developed. Next steps: complete project by January 2020. |
| 3.5 The developing potential programme identifies children and young people who have an interest and ability in outdoor sport and provides progressive competitive pathways in climbing, cycling and orienteering. | Currently devolved to schools and groups. To be considered for the new OL Strategy. Potential apprenticeship DofE support re-started in 2019. |
| Recognising Wider Achievement and Attainment | |
| 4.1 The opportunity to start a DofE Award is available to all young people through either a school or community based group. Along with a growth in completion levels all young people are able to progress to the next stage of the award. The outdoor centres provide support through expedition training and residential activities. | Significant work completed – see Committee Report. Includes new provision mapping to target resources based on key information from the schools and groups, and DofE Scotland. Next steps: continued focus on disadvantaged starters and completions. Work with QIOs to increase school evaluation and accountability. |
| 4.2 The John Muir Award is widely available in both schools and community groups. Opportunities for quality conservation tasks are supported through the council, key partners and community groups. Leadership qualifications in award delivery are piloted. | Significant increase in the JM Award, supported by the Wider Achievement Officer. Partnership support with the Green Team. |
| 4.3 The Junior Award Scheme for School continues to be a key partnership between FOTA and the Sports and Outdoor Learning Unit. eJASS is well established and school clusters support progression from bronze to gold level. The award programme has been reviewed to ensure relevance and accessibility. | Award programme reviewed and development steps agreed with Friends of the Award and their Development Officer. There is a need to re-communicate JASS with schools – addressing evaluation feedback form schools. Schools are undertaking different wider achievement awards including the JM and RSPB Awards. Next step: review Partnership Agreement. |

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| <p>4.4 Progressive outdoor skills awards are provided as part of both Outdoor Learning courses, community and club provision.</p> | <p>Limited initial work to date. To be considered for the new OL Strategy. Potential apprenticeship DofE support re-started in 2019.</p> |
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