



Ein cyf/Our ref WQ82430

Siân Gwenllïan AS/MS

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10 June 2021

Dear Siân

Thank you for your Written Question tabled on 19 May 2021 regarding the issuing of Welsh Government guidance on re-opening outdoor education centres for residential courses for school pupils.

I want to assure you that we understand the important role that educational visits play in enriching teaching and learning as well as supporting learner wellbeing. However, keeping the people of Wales safe and minimising the transmission of the Covid-19 virus remains our absolute priority.

The move to Alert Level 2 in our Coronavirus Control Plan enabled all holiday accommodation, including outdoor education centres, to reopen from 17 May providing accommodation for members of the same or extended household (or anyone who is a carer of a member of the household).

In line with the First Minister's [written statement on 4 June](#), shared accommodation by multiple households will not be permitted in Wales until we move to Alert Level 1, when six people from six different households (excluding children under the age of 11 and carers) will be allowed to share holiday accommodation. This applies to all holiday accommodation, including outdoor education centres. The advice to schools in relation to educational trips is that they must comply with the regulations in place in Wales at the time. Residential education trips requiring accommodation to be shared by multiple households will therefore not be permitted in Wales until we move to Alert Level 1.

As a government we continue to review the scientific and public health advice available and discussion is ongoing around when we will move to Alert Level 1.

Furthermore we have established a fund to support the residential outdoor education sector in Wales during these difficult times with an initial allocation of £2m. This fund will provide eligible centres across Wales with support to cover essential operating costs during the period June to September 2021. Full details in relation to eligibility for the Fund, including an online Expression of Interest Form, were published on the Business Wales webpages on 14 May - <https://businesswales.gov.wales/coronavirus-advice/>.

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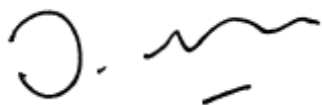
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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

I hope the information I have provided gives clarity on the current situation and next steps.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large 'J' followed by a series of loops and a horizontal stroke.

Jeremy Miles AS/MS

Gweinidog y Gymraeg ac Addysg

Minister for Education and Welsh Language