

## COVID-19 OUTDOOR LEARNING EDUCATION RECOVERY STRATEGY – ACTION PLAN

To support education recovery, the outdoor learning working group have identified key areas as outlined in this action plan, which will assist with both immediate recovery plans and the long term aims of embedding outdoor learning as an integral part of Scottish Education.

“Our vision for Scotland is that our children and young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens. Learning need not take place solely within educational buildings. The outdoor environment has massive potential for learning. We are extremely fortunate to have such rich urban and rural environments on our doorsteps and our children and young people’s learning experiences can be enhanced by maximising the potential of the outdoors.” (Curriculum for excellence through outdoor learning, 2010)

The stakeholders of this action plan are invested partners who support the vision to ensure outdoor learning is a regular, frequent, enjoyable, challenging feature of learning throughout children and young peoples’ education career and beyond.

Strategic Objective	No.	Actions	Justification	Delivery Partner	Timescales	Progress
<b>Influence the content of high-level education recovery guidance and support</b>	1.1	Scottish Government outdoor learning policy team to contact all CERG workstream leads alerting them to the support the OL sector can provide in respect of the development of guidance or the delivery of other relevant work.	This will help to ensure that outdoor learning is more fully reflected in education recovery work.	Scottish Government	May 2020	Complete – email sent to CERG workstream leads on 26 May 2020
	1.2	Scottish Government outdoor learning policy team to consult with the OL sector when they have the opportunity to feed into recovery guidance.	This will ensure that relevant education recovery guidance is well informed which will ultimately individuals putting the guidance into practice.	Scottish Government	May – August 2020	OL stakeholders have had some opportunity to feed into non-statutory guidance on the reopening of schools and guidance on the continuation of learning. The SG to continue to look for appropriate opportunities for the OL sector to be involved.
	1.3	Scottish Government and SAPOE to liaise with ADES to determine if they can use their networks to influence the content of local phasing delivery plans.	The inclusion of strong references to outdoor learning in local phasing delivery plans will increase the chances of outdoor learning being delivered more frequently during the education recovery phase. Working collaboratively ensures local contexts (through SAPOE reps) are consistent with national guidance.	Scottish Government SAPOE AHOEC	June 2020	The SG have asked ADES if they would be able raise the potential of outdoor learning at an appropriate ADES network. SG awaiting response. SG will liaise periodically with ADES giving focus to case studies and good practice in LAs/schools/partner organisations.
	1.4	Education Scotland staff to continue to promote outdoor learning opportunities in the context of their work and help support national coordination.	This will ensure that a consistent and coherent approach to outdoor learning is embedded in Scottish Curriculum at all levels.	Education Scotland	Ongoing	Education Scotland has now launched two outdoor learning Wakelets, embedded outdoor learning activities in Scotland Learns materials, delivered an OL webinar to over 150 practitioners. A further programme of OL webinars are planned for August and ES Professional Learning and Leadership Team is liaising with SAPOE to make their CLPL module widely available.
	1.5	The Scottish Government outdoor learning policy team to look for opportunities for government or ministerial statements promoting the role of outdoor learning in education recovery.	A strong and consistent message from the Scottish Government is likely to increase the chances of outdoor learning being utilised to aid education recovery.	Scottish Government	June – October 2020	The Scottish Government outdoor learning policy team will liaise with the SG communications team to identify appropriate opportunities for SG OL messaging.
	1.6	The Scottish Government outdoor learning policy team to work with OL stakeholders to help ensure appropriate content is added to the Covid professional learning and support newsletter.	Ensuring that outdoor learning is referenced in the CLPL newsletter will increase the chances of education practitioners utilising OL in the recovery phase.	Scottish Government SAPOE NNOL	June 2020	Complete – outdoor learning content added to the June 2020 newsletter.

<b>Influence the implementation of education recovery measures at a regional and local level</b>	2.1	Education Scotland to develop an outdoor learning 'Wakelet' which brings together relevant outdoor learning advice and resources for practitioners.	This offers a consistent point of reference for education establishments to access the latest and most relevant quality outdoor learning resources.	Education Scotland	June 2020	Complete
	2.2	Organisations that support outdoor learning refocus their offerings, in the short term, to align with education recovery priorities.	A collective approach from key stakeholders in outdoor learning in Scottish Education can offer quality support which may have a lasting impact on longer term relationships between schools, and partners, including youth work organisations.	NNOL and YLS OL Group	May – Sept 2020	In progress – <a href="#">Youthlink document</a> shared across all LA's. NNOL gathering information and details. Some LA's operating a partnership model between OL providers and schools.
	2.3	SAPOE to adapt and develop training including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adapt and develop the online training modules - Supporting Learning Outdoors and Taking Learning Outdoors</li> <li>Webinars</li> <li>Resources for SAPOE reps to deliver at local level</li> </ul>	A global offer of high quality training based on evidence and expertise which will support professional development of workforce both within schools and partners, including youth work organisations, will increase quality of learning experiences for children and young people. As schools and partner organisations seek to further embed OL in their practice these modules will help to share a consistent message in an easily accessible format.	SAPOE	May – Oct 2020	3 webinars delivered to over 400 teachers (June/July 2020) On-line courses in development scheduled for August launch for Teacher module and SLO by end Sept. Resource lists on SAPOE website, key messages circulated to all authorities via reps. SAPOE to recirculate key information to members 2/7/20.
	2.4	SAPOE to produce national guidance to highlight key outdoor learning messages and safe working protocols	Consistent messages made accessible to all levels of leadership and learning within Scottish education.	SAPOE	Aug 2020	In progress
	2.5	SAPOE to write to local authorities to confirm their SAPOE representative to ensure LA's are engaging directly with an outdoor learning advisor.	Improved lines of communication to ensure that support is readily available to the most appropriate colleagues.	SAPOE	June 2020	Completed – Email sent 10/6/20
	2.6	SAPOE to continue to highlight and promote progression of learning through high quality adventurous, off-site and residential experiences.	Exemplification of key policy messages from CfEtOL will assist in the delivery of breadth and depth of outdoor learning experiences CfE aspired to, for all children and young people.	SAPOE	June – Dec 2020	In progress – model of practice included in current training offer and highlighted in key guidance documents.
	2.7	Key stakeholders to create a database of practitioners able to work in partnership with educational establishments. SAPOE members from local authorities to promote the database with local authority colleagues.	Opportunity to engage, build and support good quality partnerships between schools and organisations.	NNOL SAPOE YLS OL Group	June – Sept 2020	Initial discussion taken place with Youthlink and NNOL (July 2020) around database
	2.8	Where appropriate YouthLink Scotland Outdoor Learning Group & AHEOC members to repurpose their centres and staff teams to provide additional educational estate and workforce capacity to geographically local schools.	As staff will not be fully utilised delivering residential, OL organisations can help support schools and LAs to meet the social and emotional needs of young people, particularly post lockdown.	Relevant members of YLS OL Group and AHOEC	June – Dec 2020	A number of organisations are pursuing this locally. Initial discussion with ADES about a more strategic approach.
<b>Outdoor learning continues to be readily utilised as education recovery phase ends.</b>	3.1	YLS OL Group and AHOEC considers measures that can secure the long- term prominence of outdoor education and residential outdoor experiences as part of outdoor learning in Scotland.	Exemplification of key policy messages from CfEtOL will assist in the delivery of breadth and depth of outdoor learning experiences CfE aspired to. for all children and young people this includes the residential experiences.	YLS OL Group AHOEC SAPOE NNOL	Sept – Dec 2020	Paper and guidance to be released in line with Government guidance before 11 <sup>th</sup> August. This is then used to help progress development for future work
	3.2	SAPOE to update and refresh guidance within Going Out There (GOT)	To ensure continued safe practice and reflect current changes and support any off-site visits.	SAPOE	Dec 2020	In progress

	3.3	Guidance to be developed to support visits to outdoor education centres.	Awareness raising in local authorities of the value of OE and ROL. Guidance will offer the support required to ensure a sustainable model of provision is available for ROL centres.	SAPOE AHOEC YLS OL Group Scottish Government Education Scotland	Aug 2020	Initial meeting July 2020
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