

Benefits of Outdoor Learning

The main partners of the Outdoor Learning with National Parks project have composed a set of key messages to highlight the benefits of outdoor learning, and the relevance and impacts it has across all learning opportunities. These can be useful for training events, publications, resources, public events, presentations, workshops, or press releases.

Also developed were a set of brief summary messages which may be more appropriate for social media, presentation headlines or straplines.

Please feel free to use them.

Key Messages

- National Parks, wilderness areas and local wild spaces provide inspiration and opportunities for all, enabling schools and education authorities across Scotland to embed Curriculum for Excellence through Outdoor Learning and providing invaluable partnership opportunities. Attainment and achievement is improved through developing rich memorable learning processes in the outdoors.
- Through challenging and fun opportunities planned around a school's curriculum, campus, culture and community, children and young people love learning and experience success. In this way over time healthy and prosperous communities are built whose members love life and work in the outdoors.
- Partnerships within the outdoor learning community –schools, authorities, partner providers, national organisations, international links, and community groups - regularly exemplify great practice which develops children and young people as thoughtful, effective global citizens with regular opportunities and experiences connecting them to wild places. This enables learners to develop knowledgeable attitudes and opinions around sustainability and active citizenship in their local community.

Summary messages

- National Parks and designated areas provide inspirational spaces to deliver Curriculum for Excellence through Outdoor Learning.
- Pupils should experience quality, regular outdoor learning, from school grounds to local communities, residential & international visits.
- Outdoor learning has many benefits including providing opportunities to develop skills for learning, life and work.
- Through daily contact with nature, outdoor learning can help pupils with literacy and numeracy.
- By sharing expertise, the OL community supports and provides planned collaborative opportunities that enhance achievement and attainment.