

Le Murier School Learning Outside the Classroom Policy



Policy statement

Learning Outside the Classroom promotes spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development, and prepares students for the opportunities and experiences of adult life. Le Murier is committed to providing off-site and residential education for all students in line with the Learning Outside The Classroom Manifesto, The Brilliant Residentials Campaign and Guernsey Education Departments "The big picture".

It is co-ordinated by the "Learning Outside The Classroom Co-ordinator" who is also the schools Educational Visits Co-ordinator.

These opportunities are seen as part of the student's holistic learning.

Le Murier provides as many opportunities as possible for its students to enrich and enhance their learning through use of learning outside the classroom including off-site as well as residential experiences. The value of learning outside the classroom is recognised and fully supported throughout the school.

The group leader for each visit is responsible for ensuring a risk assessment is in place for the visit in accordance with local and national guidance.

This document outlines the specific policies and procedures for Le Murier School.

It supplements and follows the advice and guidance contained within the following significant publications:

- Guernsey Education departments "Regulations and Notes of Guidance for off-site activities, visits and outdoor education".
- The Health and Safety Executive "School trips and outdoor learning activities"
- The DofE document "Advice on legal duties and powers for local authorities, head teachers, staff and governing bodies"
- The supplementary guidance published by the DfES

Outdoor and Off-site Education

Purposes

To

- Enhance curricular and recreational opportunities for our students
- Provide a wider range of experiences for our students than could be provided on the school site alone
- Promote the independence of our students as learners, and enable them to grow and develop in new learning environments.
- Experience different forms of teaching and learning
- Foster personal and social development
- Enable external accreditation (e.g. Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, National Indoor Climbing Achievement Scheme Award, Royal Yacht Association Young Sailor

Award, Royal Yacht Association Powerboat Award, National Navigation Award, Canoe England Paddle Sport Award)

Principles

- The off-site visit should be relevant to the students current learning
- The visit should be as inclusive as practically possible
- The activity should be at the correct level for the group
- The activity should be enjoyable and achievable
- The students' safety and wellbeing should be paramount

Residential Education

Purposes

To

- Practice and develop skills in a different context
- Develop skills that are difficult to deliver in school due to space/ environment restrictions
- Give relevance to work done in school.
- Enhance the school-based curriculum to extend the individual
- Broaden and enrich students' experiences (cultural & activity-based)
- Raise students' aspirations and provide good role models
- enable staff to develop a better knowledge of their students and enhance working relationships

Principles

- Each residential should have a clear purpose and objectives for the visit.
- The most appropriate, cost-effective venue for the residential should be carefully considered. (Initially departmentally, then Coordinator then Headteacher).
- The student groupings should be needs-based, according to the residential's purpose.
- Students should be well prepared to gain maximum benefit from their experience.
- A relevant, alternative programme should be provided in school for students who do not attend any residential.
- After each residential a review of the trip will be undertaken to follow the principle of "plan, implement, review".
- Each residential should, where possible involve the students in the planning.
- Each residential should include a student review (see appendix A)
- No student is denied a place on a trip due to financial difficulties. Parents are asked to make contribution of as much as they can afford. The school fundraises through it Everest Challenge to support parents and cover staff costs.

Signed:

..... (Head Teacher)

..... (Learning Outside the Classroom coordinator)