



The City of Edinburgh Council

Outdoor Learning & Adventure Education Team Summary Information

| Version control: | 4 (24/07/25) |
|------------------|----------------------------------|
| Key contact: | Andrew.Bradshaw@edinburgh.gov.uk |

Thank you for your interest in the Council's Outdoor Learning and Adventure Education (OL&AE) Team.

The Team comprises the Bangholm, Benmore and Lagganlia Outdoor Centres, plus the Risk Factory.

We are a motivated team committed to inspirational and accessible outdoor learning (OL) and adventure education (AE). Our purpose is to **champion**, **empower** and **deliver** quality OL and AE.

The Team's brand name is Experience Outdoors. Our Empowered Outdoor Learning project seeks to develop Edinburgh's OL across Education in collaboration with the Early Years Team and Additional Support for Learning Service.

The OL&AE Team outputs include targeted and universal day and residential delivery; career-long professional learning; Council's excursions policy, guidance, procedures and reviews / approvals; coordinating the Council's Duke of Edinburgh's Award licence; and supporting learning and teaching.

More information is available via; Who we are,
Outdoor Learning in NUMBERS, Experience Outdoors
website, Outdoor Learning Map, and key contacts.

Thanks,

Andrew

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Our Approach



OUR MISSION

To...

CHAMPION EMPOWER

DELIVER

...safe, meaningful and accessible high-quality outdoor learning and adventure education experiences and outcomes.



OUR VISION

All learners routinely undertake safe, meaningful, progressive and impactful outdoor learning & adventure education.

This will involve:

Access to appropriate breadth, depth and intensity of complementary experiences, delivering significant outcomes.

Significant contribution to Learning for Sustainability, and Health and Wellbeing.

Residential experiences integral to curricula and attendance maximised.

Delivered via a confident and competent Council workforce (employees, workers and approved volunteers) and partners.

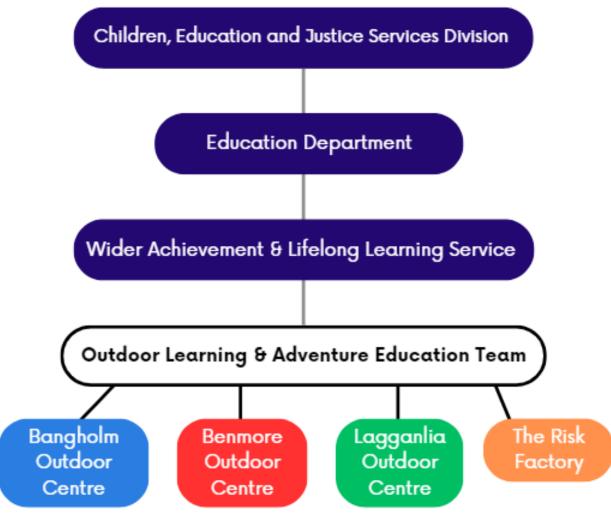
Embedded awards and accredited pathways.

Appropriate, accessible and impactful guidance, resources and training; incorporating Council priorities including achieving Net-Zero.



Our Structure

The OL&AE Team is part of the Council's Wider Achievement and Lifelong Learning Service, which sits within the Education Department.





Page 3 of 6



What we do



Bangholm Outdoor Centre

Benmore Outdoor Centre

Lagganlia Outdoor Centre

The Risk Factory

DELIVER relevant, inspirational OL&AE activity

Targeted Adventures:

Enhanced Support Bases Care Experienced Additional Support Needs

DofE Expedition Adventures

Epic Adventures:

Preparing for AE residential series Transitions & targeted learning Community support & learning

Adventure Education (AE) residential series...

Core bridged to school curricula Expedition wild camp Field environmental fieldwork Focus one activity in-depth Activity range of activities Design bespoke and unique

Risk Education Scenarios

CHAMPION & EMPOWER via policy, guidance, training & resources

Transforming Learning for Sustainability (LfS) via OL&AE:

- Whole-school evaluation & improvement toolkit
- OLEAE mapped to Edinburgh's curriculum pathways / developing metaskills
- Edinburgh's in-house 3-18 LfS Award
- Understanding our climate / nature emergencies & taking action
- Spaces to learn, including our Wilding Wee Spaces project
 Online OL Map & good practice register (school to school support)

Deliver the Council's Excursions Policy, resources & approval framework

OL&AE career long professional learning

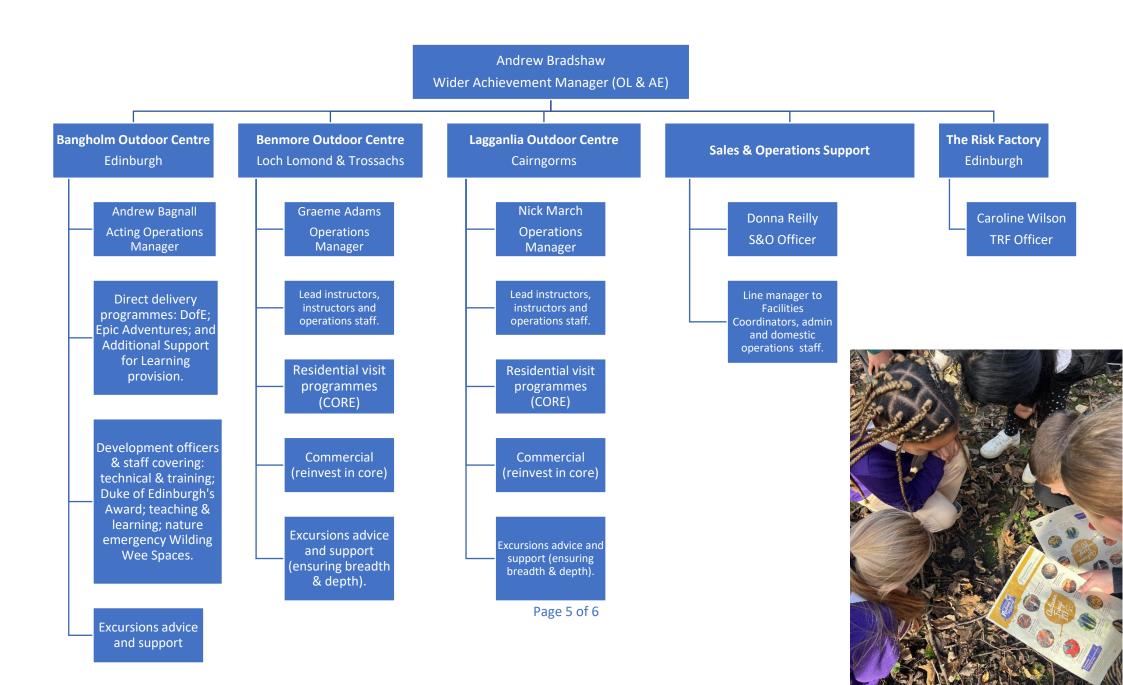
National representation & resource development

OL&AE Awards Coordination - DofE Award

Kit & equipment hire, & maintenance packages



Our Team



Outdoor Learning and Adventure Education Team Improvement Priorities & Outcomes

These four priorities are interlinked, interdependent and overlap. Sustainable development and the 4 capacities cut across all four.

| Cross-cut | Cross-cutting strands | | Priority themes | Improvement priorities | Outcomes |
|--------------------------|--|---|--|---|--|
| Sustainable Development* | Successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors & responsible citizens. | 1 | Regular, relevant and progressive OL&AE. | Contribute to transforming Learning for Sustainability through regular, relevant, progressive and complementary high-quality OL&AE across the 3-18 curriculum. All learners benefit, with a particular focus on health and wellbeing, disadvantaged learners and those with additional support needs. | Learners benefit from regular, relevant, progressive and complementary high-quality OL&AE across the curriculum. |
| | | 2 | Attending high quality OL&AE residentials. | Maintain a high attendance rate for quality residentials at Benmore and Lagganlia, ensuring those facing the greatest disadvantage benefit from impactful experiences. | Learners from schools visiting Benmore and Lagganlia access impactful residential experiences, which are integral to all schools' curricula. |
| | | 3 | Achieving OL&AE awards and accreditation. | Increase the number of learners achieving OL&AE awards and accreditation, with a particular focus on the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, quality and impactful expereinces, disadvantaged learners and those with additional support needs. | Learners achieve relevant OL&AE awards and accreditation via high quality experiences; supporting their passion for the outdoors and contributing to their personal learning pathways. |
| | | 4 | Up to date excursions policy, guidance and training. | Update excursions guidance, training / workforce planning and resources; further embedding equity, equality & environmental sustainability. Delivers an increasingly more confident and competent workforce, contributes to Edinburgh's net zero 2030 and ensures impactful visits are accessible. | Learners benefit from safe, accessible and relevant excursions; aligned to Council priorities. |

*Sustainable Development defined as the 17 Sustainability Development Goals:





















