

Thu 13/03/2025 08:54

Dear Colleagues,

Call for Evidence: Has the Love of Learning been lost?

The All Party Parliamentary Group for Education has [launched an inquiry](#). APPGs are cross party groups of MPs and Lords. Although they don't necessarily have the same kind of official clout as a select committee or a government inquiry, they none the less can wield influence. They are also a good way to identify parliamentarians with a particular interest in education.

This inquiry will focus on the impact of a number of societal and structural issues that could impact on the love of learning from Key Stage1 -5 and Post-16 FE. We will be putting in a response and what often sets our responses apart from the slightly more theoretical (and makes them more interesting to read) is that we can provide actual examples from our customers on the impact that outdoor learning has had so if you have any quotes or examples please to email them into Joy.

Field Studies Council in Politics

Government is famous for its silo thinking, and often it is outside organisations that have to point out that they could perhaps bring a number of threads together. This [article in Politics Home](#) is aimed at Parliamentarians at a time when so many of the concerns that is occupy the in tray in several departments could be alleviated with better and consistent outdoor learning.

The Curriculum Review, the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill, the Youth Strategy and possibly even an Access to Nature Strategy sit in three separate government departments and all could possibly include more outdoor learning and even residential as part of their plans. The Access Unlimited partners (of which we are one) delivered Generation Green but are now also looking at pooling some political / lobbying resources too at what could be a critical time in embedding outdoor learning more fully.

New Biodiversity Literacy Courses

The Biodiversity Training Programme team have been working closely with Marketing on a national campaign to attract a new audience to Field Studies Council. The campaign is evidencing the need for biodiversity literacy amongst those non-specialists working in local, national and international biodiversity legislative frameworks. These frameworks work towards the overarching target of protecting 30% of the land and sea for nature by 2030.

The campaign included a feature in 'The Planner', the official magazine of the Royal Town Planning Institute. From this, we attracted over 180 subscribers through a well-received free promotional webinar on 'Biodiversity Literacy for Business' delivered by the Biodiversity team covering the concept of biodiversity, factors influencing its loss and simple management strategies for businesses to promote nature recovery. Government organisations, landscape architects and developers were amongst the attendees and now subscribers.

The next steps are some associated blogging, PR and the promotion of new relevant training course products to grow this market.

Our first eBooks

The Publications Team have created a series of eBooks which [you can see here](#). It's been an opportunity to give a new lease of life to some of our most popular titles both old and new.

Special Mention

Darren Collin, cook at Slapton will celebrate 20 years with the charity on Friday. His colleagues nominated him for a special mention because of his incredible commitment to the centre, his rapport with long standing visiting customers and staff and his delicious flapjacks. Thank you Darren for your many years of hard work.

Welcome to Field Studies Council

Noah Stamp has joined the team at Dale Fort and Vicky Avery has joined the team at Nettlecombe Court as Casual Hospitality and Catering Assistants.

Alex Woodland has joined the team at London Beckenham Place Park as Senior Tutor.

Caroline Clarke and Paul Hodson have both joined the team at Castle Head as Casual Hospitality and Catering Assistants.

Brian Ward has also joined Castle Head as Casual General Assistant.

Previous catch ups can be found [here](#).

Best regards

Mark