

Learning Outside the Classroom Quality Badge training for heritage organisations in Wales

In Wales, Learning Outside the Classroom (LOtC) is central to Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship. LOtC is also advocated in the Welsh Baccalaureate and the new Foundation Phase. Estyn now requires schools to report on LOtC provision in their self-evaluation forms. LOtC is also increasingly a feature of government policy elsewhere in the UK.

As key providers of LOtC experiences, it is important that heritage organisations in Wales constantly evaluate and develop their practice and build meaningful, long term learning partnerships with schools and other groups of young people.

The Quality Badge

The Quality Badge is one way of ensuring that learning provision meets the needs of young people and that those young people get to hear about the excellent services heritage organisations provide.

Although the scheme has been initiated by the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF), any organisation or setting that provides LOtC experiences for young people can apply for the Quality Badge. It is hoped that it will become a mark of good quality, safe learning provision which is recognised and trusted by local authorities and schools.

Organisations in Wales which have already been awarded the Quality Badge include Wylfa Power Station, Elan Valley Estate, National Zoological Society of Wales and Techniquest Cardiff Bay.

The training

In order to help heritage organisations in Wales find out more about the LOtC Quality Badge, GEM and GEM Cymru are delivering a training day:

- Monday 7 December 2009 - St Fagans National History Museum, Cardiff

The programme runs from 10.00 – 16.00. The aim is to improve awareness and understanding of the badge scheme and also improve the chances of making a successful application.

The event will be run by a trained Quality Badge trainer.

Who should attend?

- Representatives from heritage organisations such as museums, libraries, archives, historic houses, industrial heritage sites etc. interested in learning about and/or applying for the Quality Badge
- Learning specialists or those who plan and deliver learning programmes at heritage organisations/sites

Next steps

If you are interested in booking a place at this events, please download the booking form from the GEM website www.gem.org.uk or contact the GEM office: office@gem.org.uk or 01634 853 424.

Please note that there are a maximum of 30 places available at the event. So book early to avoid disappointment.

Further information

- For more information on LOtC, visit www.lotc.org.uk
- For more information on the Quality Badge and to apply, visit www.lotcqualitybadge.org.uk
- For more information on the Real World Learning Cymru Partnership, visit <http://www.rwlcp.org/rwlpe2res.htm>