



List of available Guidance Notes:

- No.2 Outdoor Learning Training Network - Aims and Membership
Describes the purposes of the Network, criteria for membership and how to become a member
- No.2a Network Membership - Details of current membership
- No.2b Network Application Process
- No.3 Overview of Units and Student Entry Criteria
Summarises the Network's current Agored Cymru units and provides suggested entry criteria for students.
- No.4 History of the Forest School/ Outdoor Learning Training Network
Summarises the history of the network from delivery in Wales in 2003 to the current OLTN
- No.5 Agored Cymru Outdoor Learning Qualification Structure

AVAILABLE AFTER JOINING THE NETWORK

- No.6 Level 3 Forest/Coastal School Observation Assessments
Gives advice on carrying out a Level 3 observation assessment

Guidance Note 2

Outdoor Learning Training Network – Aims and Membership

Aims and Objectives

The Outdoor Learning Training Network- Wales, enables and gives trainers the opportunity to work together to continue to develop a qualification framework and to improve the quality and consistency of Outdoor Learning training in Wales by:

- sharing good practice through standardisation of assessment practice and guidance notes
- helping build training capacity through agreed channels – such as CPD and training programmes

Benefits of joining the Network

- Sharing good practice and assessment procedures and standards
- Sharing CPD ideas/training
- Receipt and development of Agored Cymru qualification and restricted units

Delivering the Level 3 Qualification and joining the Network

The Network recognises that several routes exist to become a Forest/Coastal School trainer and has agreed good practice guidelines for delivering the Level 3 Qualification and joining the Network.

Coastal School Level 3 – members delivering this training must offer the complete 13 credit qualification to new students who have not previously completed Forest School Level 3 or any other outdoor learning training.

Students who have completed Forest School Level 3 within the past five years, need the wide range of options open to them to be available, and an appraisal can be made by the tutor to determine a suggested pathway / completion of chosen Outdoor Learning Units. This will depend on factors such as current and

ongoing Forest School practice, job role / experience and CPD undertaken by student since gaining the Level 3.

The training organisation application process could reflect the opportunity for the student to give this information, and the tutor would need to speak to the applicant and see proof of claims etc.

NB: Agored Centre registration normally lasts for two years only, so if the above scenario occurs the training organisation may want to re-register the student for the additional training/credits they require.

Students who have completed the new Agored Cymru Forest/Coastal School qualification at Level 3 within the past two years would only need to complete the Level 3 Forest/Coastal School Leader Unit. This would then allow them to attain an extended certificate in Forest/Coastal School Leadership.

Good practice requisites for a trainer delivering the Level 3 Forest/Coastal School Qualification:

- A recognised Level 3 Forest/Coastal School Qualification (BTec, OCN or Agored Cymru)
- Minimum of two years' experience of setting up and running a range of Forest/Coastal School programmes to client groups from across the age range, since qualification. It is recommended that trainers strive to deliver a year-long Forest School programme
- A recognised qualification in teaching and assessing Level 3/adults e.g. PGCE or BEd, or a recognised/current adult teaching qualification (see assessment requirements below) OR
- Proven experience of L3 Forest School training and assessing or completion of the Agored Cymru Level 4 – Trainers Qualification offered by Cambium Sustainable Training.
- Minimum 1 years training experience with a range of client groups
- Relevant First Aid qualification
- Sufficient public liability insurance to cover client group and activities undertaken
- Be a registered Agored Cymru Centre or be working through a registered Agored Cymru Centre

Assessors must:

have an assessment qualification and/or a minimum of 2 years relevant experience in assessing
have good knowledge and understanding of Agored Cymru assessment requirements.
have undertaken relevant training, if new to assessing (see website for Agored Cymru Introduction to Assessment course)

Delivering the Level 3 Qualification to become an Outdoor Learning Co-Ordinator

Good practice requisites for a trainer delivering the Level 3 Outdoor Learning Qualification:

Having undergone mentoring from a more experienced OL trainer including CPD and / or shadowing of Outdoor Learning Practitioner / Play Practitioner and the same for Curriculum Coordinator

- A recognised qualification in teaching and assessing Level 3/adults e.g. PGCE or B Ed, or a recognised/current adult teaching qualification **OR**
- Proven experience of L3 Outdoor Learning training and assessing or completion of the Agored Cymru Level 4 – Trainers Qualification offered by Cambium Sustainable Training.
- Minimum 1 years training experience with a range of client groups
- Relevant First Aid qualification
- Sufficient public liability insurance to cover client group and activities undertaken
- Be a registered Agored Cymru Centre or be working through a registered Agored Cymru Centre

Delivering the Level 1 and Level 2 Units

The Network recognises that the current Level 1 and Level 2 units serve a range of learners and can be delivered by all the current Network members.

Using the new qualifications, it has been agreed that the Level 1 Award in Outdoor Learning and Level 2 Outdoor Learning/Play Practitioner Award will be open to all on the Agored Cymru Library.

Level 2 Forest/Coastal School will only be available to members of the OLTN.

Continued Membership

To continue membership of the Outdoor Learning Training Network - Wales, members should aim to attend the one general/standardisation meeting each year or be able to provide evidence of attendance at a local

event. Where members are not able to attend the meeting, communication through the e mail network and comment where required will be encouraged.

Getting involved with the Network

The Network meets once a year in a location as central as possible to all in Wales. Network business is discussed and standardisation of assessment is shared. When required CPD opportunities will be offered. If you would like to come to a meeting as an observer or wish to use the current Agored Cymru Outdoor Learning units according to current good practice please obtain an application form from:
education@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

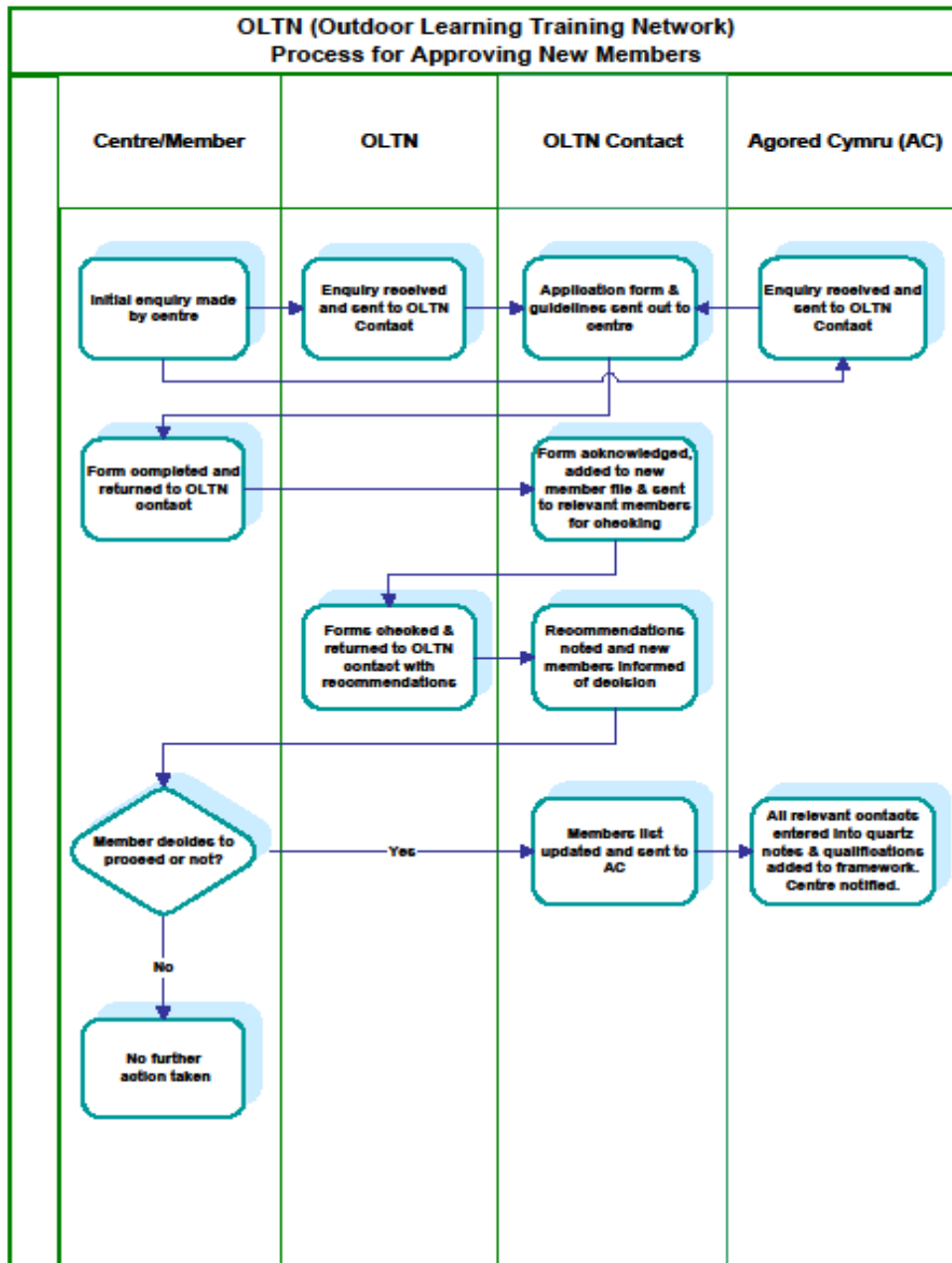
An application form will be sent requesting information about which units you are hoping to use, the registered Agored Centre you will be using and details of your relevant experience according to the appropriate requisites (see requisites outlined above).

The form should be completed in as much detail as possible and returned with any supporting evidence. Your information will then be circulated to members of the Network who have experience of delivering those units.

This sub-group will look at the application and then contact the applicant to let them know the outcome of the exchange.

If you fulfil all the requirements, you will be invited to join the Network. If there are requirements that need to be met and there is a discussion to be had on your suggested path, then a recommendation will be made to you directly. You will either be approved or given advice and information on how you can reach the agreed requisites.

Guidance Note 2b
Application for Membership



Guidance Note 3

Overview of Qualification Units and Student Entry Criteria

Level 1 Qualification

Award in Outdoor Learning - Level 1- Code - 601/7019/0

Level 1 is equivalent to D – G grades at GCSE and generally requires up to 90% contact time with the learner.

This qualification comprises three units which in total are worth 5 credits. If all units are completed this will require at least 40 guided learning hours. The learning outcomes in the learning, play and development unit look at the outdoor learning approach, the impact of outdoor learning on the site, and risks and hazards associated with outdoor learning.

Also, on offer are an introduction to practical skills and health and safety in the outdoors.

Student Entry criteria for Level 1 (for those who may help/volunteer at an outdoor learning setting)

- Aged 14 and over

Unit references and titles:

Outdoor Practical Skills – 2 Credits

Learning, Play and Development in the Outdoors - 2 Credits

PL11CY012 - Health and Safety for Working Outdoors - 1 Credit

Level 2 Qualifications

Award in Assisting Forest School – Level 2 - 601/7022/0

Award in Assisting Coastal School – Level 2 - 601/7023/2

Award in Outdoor Learning Practice Level 2 – 601/7020/7

Award in Outdoor Play Practice – Level 2 - 601/7021/9

Level 2 is equivalent to A* - C grades at GCSE and generally requires at least 50% contact time. This qualification is designed for those who want to assist at Forest/Coastal School or those wanting to become a Play/Outdoor Learning Practitioner.

This qualification comprises mandatory units for each award that the student needs to complete to become an assistant or practitioner. Each award has a different number of credits available depending on the pathway chosen. This would comprise of between 25 and 40 guided learning hours.

Student Entry criteria for Level 2

- Have a relevant qualification equivalent to a level 1 or some experience of working with children/young people
- Aged 16 and over

Unit references and titles:

Outdoor Practical Skills – 2 Credits

Supporting Learning, Play and Development in the Outdoors – 2 Credits

Sustainable use of Natural Resources – 2 Credits

Assist at Forest School – 2 Credits

Assist at Coastal School – 2 Credits

Outdoor Play Practitioner – 3 Credits

Outdoor Learning Practitioner - 3 Credits

Level 1 and Level 2 Course Requirements

- Minimum contact time relevant for learners and level - usually within 50 – 90%
- Staffing ratios for practical elements of course at not less than 1:8 (all accompanying staff should be trained to L2 as minimum or equivalent)

Level 3 Qualifications

Certificate in Leading Forest School – Level 3 - 601/7024/4

Certificate in Leading Coastal School - Level 3 - 601/7025/6

Certificate in Leading Forest and Coastal School – level 3 - 601/7027/X

Award in Co-ordinating an Outdoor Curriculum – Level 3 - 601/7026/8

Level 3 is equivalent to A Level and can be delivered with approx. 35% contact time. There are four pathways at Level 3 where students must complete all units worth between 10 and 17 credits amounting to an average of between 36 and 61 guided learning hours.

The Level 3 qualification comprises of mandatory units for each pathway that will lead to a certificate in Forest/Coastal School leadership, which enables the student to set up and run a Forest/Coastal School programmes.

There is also a pathway leading to a student gaining a certificate that will qualify the student to become a Curriculum Co-Ordinator within their own setting.

Student entry criteria for Level 3

- Have experience of working with young people
- Age 18 for Curriculum Co-Ordinator and 19 years or over for Forest/Coastal School – each applicant to be assessed for suitability at this age
- Have a level 2 or above qualification (NNEB, Teacher, HLTA, Play worker or Youth worker (to level 3 or equivalent) **OR** level 2 with a portfolio of at least 2 years' experience of working with children/young people in a leadership capacity
- Appropriate insurance cover and permissions for delivering Outdoor Learning programmes with your client group

Unit reference and titles

Supporting Learning, Play and Development in the Outdoors – 3 Credits

Sustainable Use of Natural Resources – 2 Credits

Observation and Evaluation of Outdoor Learning – 2 Credits

Teach Outdoor Practical Skills – 3 Credits

Forest School Leader – 4 Credits

Coastal School Leader – 3 Credits

Outdoor Curriculum Co-Ordinator – 3 Credits

Level 3 course requirement

The Trainer ensures:

- A range of between 36 and 61 guided learning hours depending on pathway chosen
- Observation assessment of trainee running Forest/Coastal School

The Learner ensures:

- they complete a learning programme of a minimum of 4 sessions for Coastal School and 6 sessions for Forest School
- passing a trainer-led assessment proving competence when teaching tools and fire for Forest School

All Agored Cymru Units are available in Welsh.

Guidance Note 5

Outdoor Learning Qualification Pathways

Level 1 – 1 qualification

Award in Outdoor Learning (QCF)

Level 2 – 4 qualifications

Award in Outdoor Learning Practice (QCF)

Award in Outdoor Play Practice (QCF)

Award in Assisting Forest School (QCF)

Award in Assisting Coastal School (QCF)

Level 3 – 4 qualifications

Certificate in Leading Forest School (QCF)

Certificate in Leading Coastal School (QCF)

Award in Leading an Outdoor Curriculum (QCF)

Certificate in Leading Forest and Coastal School (QCF)

Outdoor Learning Qualification Structures

Level 1 Award in Outdoor Learning (QCF) – 5 credits

Mandatory Units (5 credits)

Level 1 Learning, Play and Development in the Outdoors – 2 credits

Level 1 Health and Safety for Working Outdoors – 1 credit

Level 1 Outdoor Practical Skills – 2 credits

Level 2 Award in Outdoor Learning Practice (QCF) – 5 credits

Mandatory units (5 credits)

Level 2 Sustainable Use of Natural Resources – 2 credits

Level 2 Outdoor Learning Practitioner – 3 credits

Level 2 Award in Outdoor Play Practice (QCF) – 5 credits

Mandatory units (5 credits)

Level 2 Sustainable Use of Natural Resources – 2 credits

Level 2 Outdoor Play Practitioner - 3 credits

Level 2 Award in Assisting Forest School (QCF) – 8 credits

Mandatory units (8 credits)

Level 2 Supporting Learning, Play and Development in the Outdoors – 2 credits

Level 2 Sustainable Use of Natural Resources – 2 credits

Level 2 Outdoor Practical Skills – 2 credits

Level 2 Assist at Forest School – 2 credits

Level 2 Award in Assisting at Coastal School (QCF) – 8 credits

Mandatory units (8 credits)

Level 2 Supporting Learning, Play and Development in the Outdoors – 2 credits

Level 2 Sustainable Use of Natural Resources – 2 credits

Level 2 Outdoor Practical Skills – 2 credits

Level 2 Assist at Coastal School – 2 credits

Level 3 Certificate in Leading Forest School (QCF) – 14 credits

Mandatory units (14 credits)

Level 3 Supporting Learning, Play and Development in the Outdoors – 3 credits

Level 3 Observation and Evaluation of Outdoor Learning – 2 credits

Level 3 Sustainable Use of Natural Resources – 2 credits

Level 3 Teach Outdoor Practical Skills – 3 credits

Level 3 Forest School Leader – 4 credits

Level 3 Certificate in Leading Coastal School (QCF) – 13 credits

Mandatory units (13 credits)

Level 3 Supporting Learning, Play and Development in the Outdoors – 3 credits

Level 3 Observation and Evaluation of Outdoor Learning – 2 credits

Level 3 Sustainable Use of Natural Resources – 2 credits

Level 3 Teach Outdoor Practical Skills – 3 credits

Level 3 Coastal School Leader – 3 credits

Level 3 Award in Co-ordinating an Outdoor Curriculum (QCF) – 10 credits

Mandatory units (10 credits)

Level 3 Supporting Learning, Play and Development in the Outdoors – 3 credits

Level 3 Observation and Evaluation of Outdoor Learning – 2 credits

Level 3 Sustainable Use of Natural Resources – 2 credits

Level 3 Outdoor Curriculum Co-Ordinator – 3 credits

Level 3 Certificate in Leading Forest and Coastal School (QCF) – 17 credits

Mandatory units (17 credits)

Level 3 Supporting Learning, Play and Development in the Outdoors – 3 credits

Level 3 Observation and Evaluation of Outdoor Learning – 2 credits

Level 3 Sustainable Use of Natural Resources – 2 credits

Level 3 Teach Outdoor Practical Skills – 3 credits

Level 3 Forest School Leader – 4 credits

Level 3 Coastal School Leader – 3 credits