

Connecting Young People with the Galloway environment

Feedback to Rachael Williams from GNPA re School visits undertaken during Nov 2023:

“It is striking how much covid has reduced the opportunities of students to explore the local area. Few had heard of the Merrick and almost none had been up onto the high hills.”

And in response:

“ I note your observations about the experiences our young people have of the local environment, and I think this is a challenge that we haven't yet begun to tackle (which is why we are working so hard to get a partnership approach to Learning for Sustainability). There are many factors – busy working families, lack of public transport and the cost of fuel (schools can't afford transport and neither can families), the cost of walking kit, fewer young people attending clubs such as scouts and cadets (including fewer adults to volunteer), the closure of many outdoor education services, and then Covid. It's hard for people to be passionate about a place or environment they've never experienced, and I think that finding a way around some of these challenges will be important moving forward.

Kind regards,
Rachael

Rachael Williams (she/her) | Quality Improvement Officer | Education and Learning Directorate

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