



Joint Statement to Schools from the Council for Learning Outside the Classroom, the Outdoor Education Advisers' Panel and the School Travel Forum

The Council for Learning Outside the Classroom, the Outdoor Education Advisers' Panel and the School Travel Forum continue to work together with other partners including the Expedition Providers Association, the Department for Education and the National Association of Head Teachers.

In working collaboratively, we hope to represent the interests both of schools and providers of educational experiences. It is vitally important that we all work together in the best interests of young people in education in the UK.

Schools, employers, providers and parents are all under extreme financial pressure at this time when schools and parents may have committed sums of money to providers for educational activities and experiences which cannot now take place because of the current public health emergency and consequent government action to try to keep us all safe. In some cases, providers will have already paid third parties in support of delivery of those contracts, and potentially there are a very complex range of financial transactions in place.

It is in all of our interests, but most importantly the interests of our young people, that we arrive at a solution to this which is fair to all parties, rather than one or other of the parties bearing the entire brunt burden of the financial loss caused by these unprecedented circumstances, which are beyond all of our control.

We ask that all parties recognise the pressures and constraints being faced and work constructively, collaboratively and creatively whilst we try to identify and establish agreed ways forward which will protect our educational travel sector as far as possible and for everyone's future benefit.