

# KIDS CAMPS / CLUBS ...how to guide

Kids camps and clubs are designed to inspire and motivate children to learn. Whether it is tech, language, art or science themed, they are important in offering a structured opportunity for children to thrive...allowing kids to become independent and self-confident, while socialising, learning new skills & gaining knowledge.

“The aim was to teach the children about renewable energy, but also how to work in a team and learn new skills. Over the summer months the children at Ysgol Ynni took part in exciting activities to learn more about the science of renewable energy.”

RHIAN HUGHES  
ARLOESI GWYNEDD WLEDIG OFFICER

## \* Our Eco Energy Summer School Project...

The 'Ysgol Ynni' summer school was developed by Arloesi Gwynedd Wledig with the aim of encouraging children aged 8 to 12 to take an interest in renewable energy and the low carbon agenda - with an emphasis on hydro energy. Developing the children's understanding of the historical context of local energy production, and increasing their awareness of the array of projects being developed in Gwynedd currently.

The low carbon agenda is about using less energy (emitting less carbon as a consequence) and generating the energy we do use from renewable or sustainable sources. Enhancing local people's understanding of the low carbon agenda and highlighting our personal roles in addressing the issues is key to positive change on a global scale.

'Ysgol Ynni' piloted the model of running green energy sessions for young children within rural communities, in a small geographical area initially. Aiming to increase children's energy literacy in the context of local energy, show growth in the renewable energy sector and highlight future career opportunities in the sector.



*Different activities were piloted with the children at the summer schools in order to assess their success in creating interest, holding attention and generating ongoing enthusiasm for the subject being taught.*



*The aim of the pilot is to create future summer schools in other areas of Gwynedd - further 'Ysgol Ynni' schools as well as diversifying into new concepts for education themed summer schools.*

10/10

pilot...learn...share





## 1. Back to School

- The 'Ysgol Ynni' summer school was run during the school summer holidays in 2016 and 2017. There were approximately 6 sessions each summer, over a period of 6 weeks, plus a one day pilot in 2018.

*104 children went to Ysgol Ynni in 2016 so this shows huge potential for the future & for other clubs or summer schools...*

- Ysgol Ynni was promoted publicly via social media and through local schools.
- A local young person was employed over the summer to assist with coordinating the sessions, as a way of offering further experience in the community.



Scan to watch our film about the Energy School project



## 2. Set Up Check List...

### SETTING UP YOUR SUMMER SCHOOL...

- Establish the core theme:** This needs to generate interest and demand. Ideally a good name and brand are needed to communicate the offer to potential parents and attendees.
- Structure the business:** Will your camp or club be a charity, a social enterprise, or a business? Organise the correct documents and paperwork accordingly.
- Investigate funding:** Find out if you are eligible for any funding to help you get set up.
- Apply for Ofsted registration:** Establish whether your club need to be registered with Ofsted - if so the application process can take anywhere from 12 to 25 weeks, depending on the register.
- Plan suitable locations:** Consider what you need to run the events and find the best location that delivers this.
- Assign roles:** How many staff are needed, what will their roles be and what qualifications or training are required?



- Equipment:** Source and cost all equipment needed.
- Check the paperwork:** Ensure that all the required policies, procedures and paperwork are in place for your type of summer school or club.
- This website gives more detail on all the requirements listed...  
<https://www.outofschoolalliance.co.uk>

## 3. Future Opportunities...

- There is a huge opportunity for businesses to be connected with a summer school - e.g. tech firms running coding clubs, food producers offering chef summer schools, galleries organising performance art workshops, etc...
- The Ysgol Ynni collateral, including lesson plans and logos, are available for use for setting up an 'Ysgol Ynni'.

for more information on this project please visit

[www.arloesigwyneddwledig.com](http://www.arloesigwyneddwledig.com)

- @ArloesiGwyneddWledig
- @ArloesiGwynedd

- The ambition for 2019 is to organise a 4/5 Day Festival, with an increased emphasis on engineering. Several colleges and organisations such as STEM Wales and EESW have interesting equipment available for this type of use.



**Tip 1:** The sessions were structured with a mix of team building, problem solving and outdoor activities. The outdoor activities were a very popular and memorable part of the summer school. Any outdoor activities need to be suitable for all weather conditions, not reliant on sunshine! Ideally activities that can be done as a whole group were much more successful than activities requiring a queue and 'one at a time'!

**Tip 2:** Teachers had great influence in promoting the summer school to their pupils, so good personal connections with schools can be very effective. If using social media to contact potential participants, then a clear registration process is required to ensure a full summer school.