



Learning Beyond



Developing Your LOtC



Council for Learning Outside the Classroom

www.lotc.org.uk



Who are Council for Learning Outside the Classroom?

A UK wide charity that champions all learning taking place beyond the classroom. Our work supports educators, schools and organisations to ensure more young people have opportunities for life-changing learning experiences beyond the classroom.

We offer:

- LOtC Quality Badge – to help schools find LOtC providers accredited for the quality of their learning and their risk management. One Badge across all sectors - arts to science, farms to foreign travel endorsed by DfE.
- Learning Beyond – 3 pathways of support to help schools plan, deliver and celebrate their own progress in LOtC.

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Learning Beyond – 3 pathways

What support we can offer -



Gives you free access to the CPD mentioned in this presentation



Aim of this session

Consider:

- which sectors/types of LOtC you currently offer
- whether you evaluate your LOtC for its impact on learning/achievement, and risk management
- how to develop your LOtC so it is strategic not incidental



What is Learning Outside the Classroom (LOtC)?

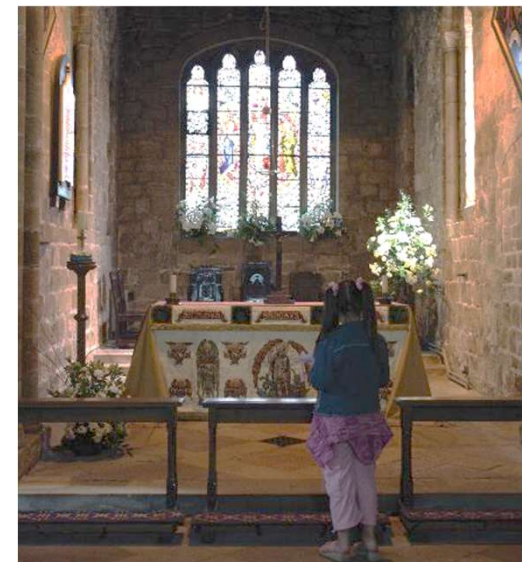
Learning Outside the Classroom (LOtC) is using places other than the classroom for teaching and learning - indoors and outside, on-site or further afield. For example:

- School grounds
- Your local learning area - religious buildings, shops, natural spaces
- Places further afield - on day visits to museums, heritage sites, theatres, field and adventure centres
- Residentials
- Visitors, events and interactive virtual sessions.



Why take learning beyond the classroom?

- Expands life experiences
- Understand the world around them and how they fit into it
- Authentic learning outcomes
- Purposeful
- Inspiring and memorable
- Promotes problem solving
- Enhances health and well-being
- Real responsibilities
- Student led – they learn how to?
- Socio-emotional skills
- Develops self – esteem
- Risk taking
- Develop character skills



What LOtC do you offer?

Write down all the different LOtC experiences you offer under these sectors.

- Heritage
- Arts and Culture
- Sacred Spaces
- STEM
- Natural Environment/Farming
- Sports and Leisure
- Adventurous Activities
- Overseas study, sports and cultural tours
- Expeditions



Local Area

- Parks or woodland
- Streets
- Shops, cafes, restaurants & post office
- City farms
- Community garden/allotment
- Places of worship & other sacred spaces
- Garden centre
- Local museums
- Library
- Historic & contemporary buildings
- Art venues - theatres, galleries
- Local schools

A journey away

- Cities
- Archaeological sites & battlefields
- Regional/national museums
- Science & discovery centres
- Cathedrals
- Zoos & aquaria
- Rural farms or country estates
- Field study & outdoor education centres
- Adventure activity & leisure centres
- Nature reserves & national parks
- Botanical gardens
- Coastline
- Workplace attractions

Overnight stays

- Sleep over in school hall
- Camp over in school grounds
- Sleep over in museums & galleries
- Camping in farms & other outdoor venues
- Field study & adventure centres (UK & abroad)
- Study, cultural, language & sports tours (UK & abroad)
- Language exchanges
- Expeditions

Where does
LoTc take
place?



School Grounds

- Habitats
- Growing spaces
- Reflection gardens
- Outdoor classrooms
- Amphitheatre
- Story telling area
- Heritage zone - WWI trenches, Saxon villages, Roman roads
- Active play areas & climbing walls
- Orienteering course
- Fire pit/Woodland craft area
- Den building space
- Loose parts/Scrapstore

Visitors & Interactive virtual visits

- Religious leaders
- Cultural & heritage experiences
- Theatre groups
- Sports personalities
- Authors
- Local businesses
- Planetariums & other immersive experiences
- Careers advice
- Science companies

Incidental LOtC or Strategic?

[Complete this simple audit](#)

Your Commitment	Yes	A little	No	Not sure
Does our mission statement and key policies/documents demonstrate our commitment to offering all LOtC?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is our LOtC mentioned on our school website and other publicity?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there a named person(s) responsible for developing/co-ordinating all areas of LOtC? (see description of LOtC above)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1 Your commitment to providing and developing LOtC experiences for all students



LEARNING BEYOND

- Starting your LOtC journey



Supported by:



Version 1

Your commitment

Does our mission statement and key policies/documents demonstrate our commitment to offering all LOtC?

Is our LOtC mentioned on our school website and other publicity?

Is there a named person(s) responsible for developing/co-ordinating all areas of LOtC?
([see description of LOtC above](#))

Are our staff supported to develop and deliver all types of LOtC?

- Do they understand and value the benefits of learning outside the classroom?
- Have we asked them what support they need?
- Is LOtC part of our induction, mentoring, further staff support and CPD?

2 Planning your LOtC

Planning LOtC effectively

Does our SDP/SIP/recovery plan include the development of LOtC - either as a specific target or integrated in several targets?

Do we plan our whole curriculum to include teaching through LOtC – every subject, every year group?

Does our LOtC always have clear learning outcomes and is it embedded in curriculum plans?

Is our LOtC well planned and integrated into the wider curriculum to support social and personal development and well-being as well as improving attainment?

CPD: [Embedding LOtC delivery across your school](#)



3 Making good use of all available resources

Using all available resources in designing and delivering LOtC

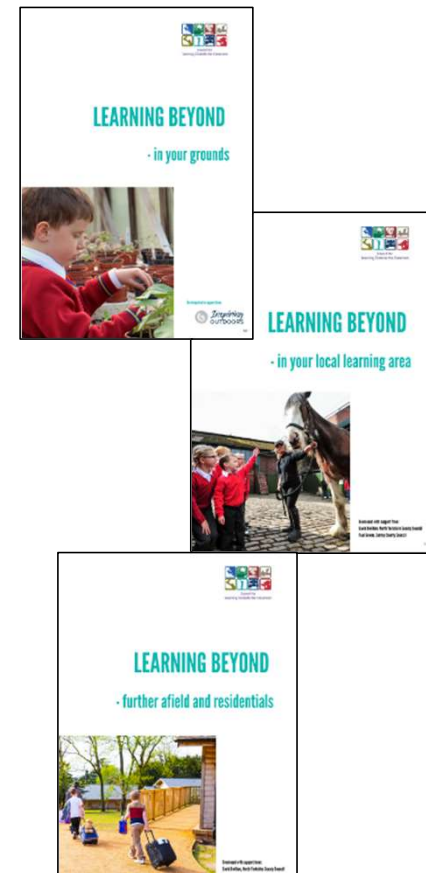
Is our LOtC taking place across the full range of educational sectors – heritage, arts and culture, adventurous, nature environment, sacred spaces etc.

Have we mapped our local learning area and considered all possibilities?

Do we use our school grounds frequently to their full potential or do we need to create new learning zones?

Do we seek support from our local community and businesses – considering financial, labour, curriculum support? Are there others we could approach?

Do we invest financially in our LOtC to ensure it is fully resourced?



4 Monitoring and evaluating the impact of LOtC

Monitoring and evaluating the impact of LOtC

Do we monitor the impact of our LOtC on attainment and the wider curriculum?

Does our evaluation of educational quality & risk management influence future planning?

Do we consider the impact LOtC has on the quality of education?

Do we tell others about the impact of our LOtC?

Do we plan for and recognise how our LOtC might impact on students' daily lives and life choices?

CPD – [Monitoring, evaluating and reviewing your LOtC](#)

5 Risk management

Managing risk and the perception of risk effectively

Are our risk management systems robust; not just focusing on risk assessments?

Do all our staff understand and implement your risk management procedures?

Do we encourage our students to be involved in identifying and managing risk?

Your [local Outdoor Education Adviser](#) can provide training on risk management

[Outdoor Education Advisers' Panel National Guidance](#)

CPD: [Balancing the risks of LOtC](#)

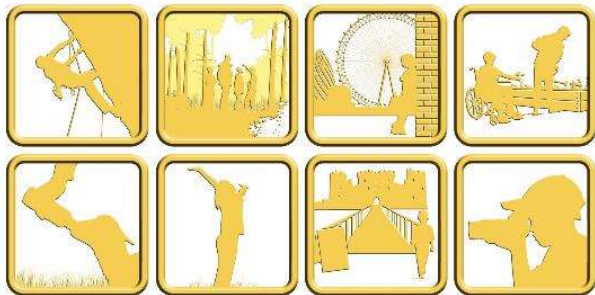


6 Promoting the benefits of LOtC

Promoting the benefits of LOtC

Are our LOtC achievements communicated to our community and beyond?

Are we supporting other settings to embed LOtC?



Gold LOtC Mark



Key Actions:

Survey your staff to find out what LOtC they already offer

Get subject leaders involved in monitoring all types of LOtC – on and off-site; identifying any gaps in your provision

Identify training needs of your staff - mentor and support them

When writing long term plans, consider **‘Where is the best place to teach this?’**

Identify what will make it easier to allow more LOtC to take place – e.g. setting your local learning area, writing standard operating procedures, ensuring your risk management is robust but not paperwork heavy

Use your normal monitoring, evaluation and review systems for your LOtC



Council for Learning Outside the Classroom

CLOtC National Conference 2023 – Thursday 2 March

Achieving quality learning beyond the classroom

Hosted by Paul Rose at West Midlands Safari Park

Find out more and to book your ticket visit <https://www.lotc.org.uk/clotc-national-conference/>



What next?

Remember to ensure your LOtC is:

- Embedded in your curriculum
- Takes place in a wide range of sectors, indoors and out
- Progressive and frequent
- Evaluated and monitored

And ask yourselves – **Where is the best place to teach this?**

For more support, sign up for one of the Learning Beyond pathways:
Membership, LOtC Mark Direct, LOtC Mentoring.





Learning Beyond



Any questions?

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Thanks to National Coal Mining Museum, GEM, Inspiring Outdoors
and other Quality Badge holders for images