

# Association of Teachers and Lecturers

## Press Release

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FOR EDUCATION CORRESPONDENTS/ NEWS

### **Young people's outdoor experiences must not be restricted because of fear**

A report published by the Education and Skills Select Committee has called on the DfES to promote school trips by creating a Manifesto for Outdoor Learning, funded by £30 million of government money, which will give all pupils the right to trips outside school.

Commenting on the Education and Skills Select Committee's report, Dr Mary Bousted, general secretary of the Association of Teachers and Lecturers (ATL) said:

"School trips are an important part of all young people's educational and personal development. Many ATL members devote a great deal of effort, energy and their own leisure time to providing outdoor school experiences for their pupils.

"We know there are anxieties about the compensation culture. We need to ensure that the fear that something may go wrong, and it sometimes might, does not restrict what teachers are prepared to do, and therefore limit opportunities for young people."

The issue of outdoor school experiences will be highlighted in a resolution to ATL's forthcoming annual conference.