

A natural progression

An individual has the potential to move from being in and connecting with the natural environment to becoming an active, healthy responsible, ethical citizen able to influence others on the importance of managing our natural resources sustainably now and in the future. When deciding, which intervention should be introduced it is important to understand where an individual is along the Natural Progression.

A NATURAL PROGRESSION . . . DEVELOPING A SUSTAINED KNOWLEDGE, UNDERSTANDING AND INTERACTION WITH NATURE

Emotional Connection

Step 1

Being in the natural environment, enjoying it and feeling comfortable in it

Step 2

Connecting with nature – observing and experiencing

Cognitive Connection

Step 3

Developing knowledge of the natural environment, its resources and multiple benefits

Step 4

Understanding own and others impact on nature and why sustainable management is needed

Step 5

Taking a personal position on managing our natural resources now and in the future – values and beliefs

Step 6

Influencing society as an active, responsible and ethical citizen – part of a resilient and prosperous community

Multiple benefits of developing a sustained knowledge, understanding and interaction with nature

Prosperous

- Environmental employment & volunteering
- Outdoor education & skills
- Attracts investment
- Economic resilience

Resilient

- Adapting to climate change
- Flood management
- Improved air & water quality
- Assists biodiversity

Healthy

- Increased physical activity
- Better mental health
- Prevention of e.g. obesity, Type 2 diabetes
- Community food growing

More Equal

- Accessible spaces & connecting corridors
- Tackles social exclusion
- Deprived communities benefit most

Cohesive Communities

- Involvement in design & maintenance instils local pride
- Places to get to know your neighbours
- Stronger community identity

Vibrant Culture

- Desirable spaces with Welsh culture & identity
- More visits – arts, sports, recreation
- Creative, expressive, fun opportunities

Globally Responsible

- Local & national economic development
- Climate change mitigation
- Meets national & international policies