

Drum Castle for schools

Drum Castle is one of the most beautiful castles of Royal Deeside. As a castle it is special because it combines a medieval keep, a Jacobean mansion house and a Victorian extension. Its great, square tower is one of the three oldest tower houses in Scotland.

It was the work of Richard Cementarius, first Provost of Aberdeen and King's Master Mason, in the late 13th century. Additions were made in 1619 and during the reign of Queen Victoria. In 1323 King Robert the Bruce gave a charter of the Royal Forest of Drum to William de Irwyn and his family, the Irvines of Drum, lived there for the next 650 years. There is family memorabilia in the Irvine Room. The house contains a collection of portraits and good Georgian furniture.

The 400 acre-estate includes gardens with a human sundial and The Old Wood of Drum, an ancient oak woodland which is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest.

● education programme

Drum Castle is an important primary resource that offers cross-curricular learning opportunities for key areas of the 5-14 Curriculum

a site visit offers

- a lead tour of the castle (allow 1 hour)
- Ranger Service (01330 844651)
- the 100-acre Old Wood of Drum - a semi-natural ancient oakwood

classroom resources

- illustrated guidebook (available on request)

● practical information

planning your visit

- pre-booking is essential
- maximum class size: 30 with a ratio of 1 teacher/adult to 10 children
- cost for school parties: children £1 – up to 6 accompanying adults admitted free of charge
- Educational Membership of the National Trust for Scotland allows free entry to all NTS properties
- preparation: we welcome a free preparatory visit by the teacher
- more information from www.drum-castle.org.uk

during your visit

- please note: visiting teachers are responsible for discipline
- on arrival: please report to the Property Manager
- picnic facilities: lunches may be eaten in the picnic area by the playground or, by prior arrangement, in the Education Room
- shop: open during the property's opening hours - please visit in small numbers to avoid overcrowding
- toilets: available at the property

● for more information contact

Custodian • Jackie Fisher

Ranger/Naturalist (based at Crathes Castle) • Fiona Mathieson

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