



Hazard Information for teachers

Tormiston Mill and Maes Howe

Tormiston Mill and Maes Howe are situated close together nine miles west of Kirkwall on the A965. Tormiston Mill is a late example of a Scottish watermill, built around the 1880s with the waterwheel and most of the machinery surviving. It also forms a reception area with visitor centre for Maes Howe. Maes Howe is a chambered tomb dating back 5000 years. Access to Maes Howe is via a timed guided tour only.

It is the responsibility of teachers and group leaders to complete a risk assessment prior to any site visit with a group. This is a requirement of most education authorities. The following information is intended as a preparatory tool and does not replace a teacher's or group leader's own risk assessment.

Please be aware that changes in weather may affect the risks inherent in an outdoor site. Pupils should dress for outdoors.

For more information about hazards at either site, or to arrange a free pre-visit, please contact the monument manager on **01856 761606**.



Potential hazards at Tormiston Mill and Maes Howe

Pedestrian access to site

- Risk from other moving traffic in the car park.
- Access is via a footpath through a rural area by a farm entrance. The path is fenced in by barbed wire.
- Animals may be wandering in this area.
- Take care when crossing the road to gain access to Maes Howe.

External Hazards

- Some uneven surfaces underfoot – trip risk.
- Maes Howe is surrounded by a ditch and a mound.

Internal Hazards

- Access to the central burial chamber of Maes Howe is via a passageway 10m long and around a metre high.
- Low light levels within Maes Howe.
- Keep well away from all mill machinery.