



Hazard Information for teachers

Threave Castle

Threave Castle is situated on an island in the River Dee, 3 miles west of Castle Douglas. It consists of a massive 14th century ruined tower house.

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 Threave, or to arrange a free pre-visit, please contact the monument manager on **07711 223101**.



Potential hazards at Threave Castle

Pedestrian access to site

- The castle is approached by a 15-minute walk along a well-fenced, well-surfaced path through farm fields. Access to the island is by a small, open ferry boat.

External Hazards

- Care must be taken while waiting for the ferry and while crossing in the ferry.
- Castle is close to the River Dee which is deep and can be fast-flowing after heavy rain.
- All surfaces in the castle and on the island are uneven.
- Wooden stairs to access inner tower can be slippery when wet.
- Ditch around castle can fill with water if river is running high.

Internal Hazards

- No electricity in castle so narrow stairs can be gloomy.
- Model of a prisoner in the unlit dungeon can cause alarm.
- Steep drop from windows; barriers in place where needed.