



WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOLS PROGRAMME 2026

The rich blend of natural and historical resources at Culzean Castle and Country Park provide excellent learning opportunities for pupils.

Culzean is a major heritage site, situated on the Ayrshire coast, 50 miles south of Glasgow and can provide unique experiences which cannot be replicated in class— from outdoor learning in the woodlands, ponds, gardens and on the seashore to the immersive architectural work by Robert Adam, artworks and Artefacts and life within the Castle itself.

Our comprehensive range of curriculum linked workshops have been created to support and complement classroom work.

The sessions are designed to stimulate pupils' curiosity and facilitate connections between the natural world, history and their lives today and to best meet the needs of the learners.

The school programme offers many opportunities for cross- curricular work and engaging with the Curriculum for Excellence from nursery to tertiary levels.

Culzean Castle and Country Park

Maybole

KA19 8LE

Email: Culzean@nts.org.uk

Educational Visit Information

Availability

While we will do our best to accommodate your request, we cannot guarantee your chosen time(s) will be available.

Castle-led activities are available Monday to Friday, from April through October.

Ranger-led activities are only offered on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays, with a maximum capacity of 60 pupils per day. All shore-based activities are subject to suitable tide times

For self-led and castle-led activities, group size limits may apply depending on availability.

Pricing and How to book

Please note prices are shown per pupil

Entry costs		1 NTS Led Activity	2 NTS Led Activities
Entry to the Country Park ONLY	£3.50	£3.00	£5.00
Entry to the Castle and Country Park	£5.00	£3.00	£5.00

All visits must be booked in advance, including self-led visits to the country park.

To make an enquiry, please use the link below to access our booking enquiry form

[**Booking Enquiry Form Link**](#)

Bookings must be made at least 21 days in advance, Final numbers may be updated up to 7 days prior to your visit, an invoice for payment will be issued to your school 7 days prior to your visit.

Assisted Needs and Mixed Age Groups

Most of our activities can be adapted to fit the needs of any class and any ability. They can also be adapted for school groups with a mixed age range

Find out more in our accessibility guide, which includes images and more detailed information, at nts.org.uk/accessibility

Teacher-led visit

Create Your Own Adventure at Culzean!

Culzean Castle and Country Park is a fantastic setting for a fun and educational school visit. With our historic Castle, stunning gardens, woodland trails, and a playpark full of adventure, there's something for every young explorer to enjoy.

Whether your pupils are learning about history, exploring nature, or just making the most of the outdoors, Culzean is full of exciting opportunities to see, do, and discover. This is a cross-curricular learning experience you can adapt to suit your own class .

On a self-led visit, your class can explore the Castle, gardens, woodland, and beach at your own pace. Discover the history of the castle, spot wildlife in the park, and enjoy the adventure play area. It's a great way to support learning in a relaxed, outdoor setting.

If you'd like to include a visit inside the castle, please note that timed entry slots are required. Inside, pupils can discover the history of the Castle and its former residents.



Castle Learning

Animal Antics

Duration: 45 min

During this tour the children will learn about the castle and the Kennedy family who once lived in the castle. The tour will concentrate on finding animals through the castle. The animals are featured in patterns, furniture, ceilings, etc.

Curriculum for Excellence:

SOC 0-04a

EXA 0-12a

Outdoor Learning

Wee Explorers (Pond, Shore or Wood)

Duration: Nursery; 45 min, P1; 90 min

Have a fun adventure and learn about animals and their habitats on the shore, in the wood or in the pond. Let us know which area you would like to explore with your class.

Curriculum for Excellence:

SCN 0-01a

SOC 0-07a

HWB 0-19a

Please note Wee Explorers – Shore does not include rock pooling and consists of shoreline activities.

Senses Walk

Duration: Nursery; 45 min, P1; 90 min

This action-packed walk will help your class discover the outdoors using all their senses, from creating a smelly cup to a natural rainbow palette.

Curriculum for Excellence:

SCN 0-012a

SCN 1-12b

SOC 0-07a



Castle Learning

Life in the Past.... was it a hard life?

Duration: 45 min

During this tour the children will discover what it was like to live and work in the castle over 200 years ago.

Concentrating on items and lifestyles throughout time and servant and family interactions.

Curriculum of Excellence:

SOC 1-02a

SOC 0-03a

Outdoor Learning

Junior Explorers (Pond, wood or shore)

Duration: 90 minutes

This workshop will introduce pupils to the habitats and diversity of life in the wood, pond or shore.

Will your class pond dip, go rock pooling or learn about lifecycles? Let us know which area you would like to cover.

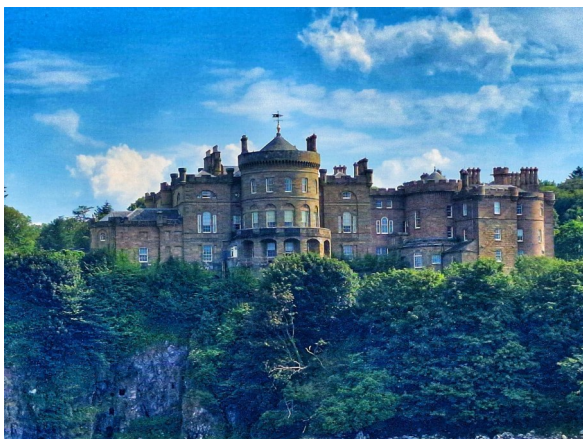
Curriculum for Excellence:

SCN 1-01a

SCN 1-02a

HWB 1-19a

Please note Junior Explorers – Shore (P2) does not include rock pooling and consists of shoreline activities.



Castle Learning

Amazing Artifacts

Duration: 45 min

A look through time by focusing on a particular item in each of the rooms visited. Also, an understanding of how the Kennedy family lived in the castle by looking at customs, life-styles, servants, etc.

Curriculum of Excellence:

SOC 2-02a

SOC 2-04a

HWB 2-11a



Outdoor Learning

Advanced Explorers (Pond, Wood or Shore)

Duration: 90 minutes

Pupils will explore and observe the habitats and diversity of life in the wood, pond or shore.

Will your class pond dip, go rock pooling or learn about life cycles? Let us know what area you would like to cover.

Curriculum for Excellence:

SCN 2-01a

HWB 2-19a

Power of Our Planet

Duration: 90 minutes

Explore Culzean's coastline and discover different rock types, their characteristics and how coastal features were formed. Make a coastal map, search for pebbles and build a volcano!

Curriculum for Excellence:

SNC 2-17a

SOC 2-07a

HWB 2-19a

Weather Watchers

Duration: 90 minutes

How are weather forecasts made? Pupils will observe the weather using traditional and modern methods and present their findings as a weather forecast.

Curriculum for Excellence:

SOC 2-12a

Using Maps

Duration: 90 minutes

An introduction to maps and their uses. Learn all about grid square references, scales and symbols, then put it all into practice by building a giant map.

Curriculum for Excellence:

SOC 1-14a

SOC 2-14a

Castle Learning

Horrible Times... gruesome tales

Duration 45 min

A look at life in the castle through the ages and hearing about some of the more gruesome/ghostly stories of Culzean and the area.

Curriculum of Excellence:

SOC 3-01a

SOC 3-16a

Outdoor Learning

Ecology at Culzean (Pond or Shore)

Duration: 90 minutes

Find out about the diverse ecology of Culzean by studying the shoreline or pond. Activities include focusing on adaptation and zonation in the rockpools or in the pond. Which habitat will your class explore?

Curriculum for Excellence:

SCN 4-01a

SCN 4-12a

SCN3-01a

Coastal Geography

Duration: 90 minutes

Pupils will explore Culzean's coastline, studying the formation of coastal landforms and the processes which continue to shape them. Learning about these landforms will give pupils the opportunity to develop their field sketching.

Curriculum for Excellence:

SOC 4-07a

SOC 3-07a

NTS-led visit

ALL AGES

Outdoor Learning

Plastic Not Fantastic

Duration: 90 mins

A shoreline scavenger hunt investigating the effects of marine litter of a coastal habitat. Pupils will explore ways of reducing marine plastics and will be encouraged to adopt a respectful and caring attitude towards the natural world.

