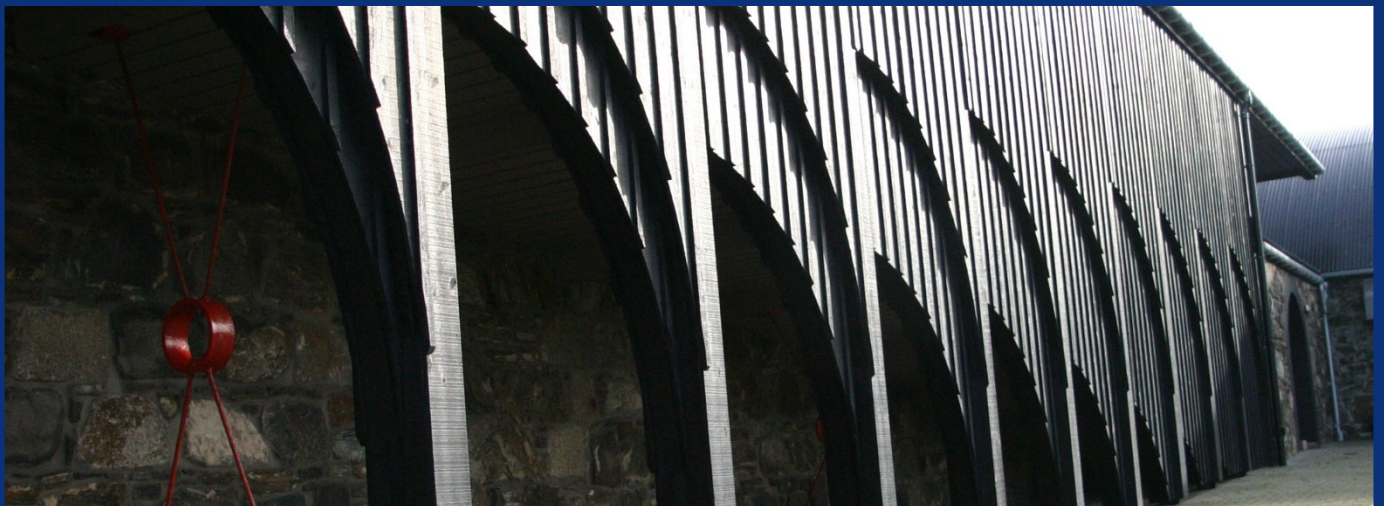




THE MUSEUM OF
SCOTTISH
LIGHTHOUSES

Secondary School Visit Pack





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Introduction

This School Visit Pack has been developed by the Museum of Scottish Lighthouses to support high school teachers who are bringing their class for a visit to the museum.

This resource contains practical information for school visits. This includes a guide to our facilities, the activities that will take place on the day and the learning outcomes that a visit to the museum will provide, in accordance with the Curriculum for Excellence.

At the Museum of Scottish Lighthouses our purpose is to preserve, interpret and make accessible the industrial and maritime heritage of Scotland's lighthouses and the Northern Lighthouse Board. The Northern Lighthouse Board is the organisation that maintains all the marine navigation aids around Scotland and the Isle of Man.

The Museum of Scottish Lighthouses consists of two parts - our museum and our lighthouse.

Our purpose built museum contains several galleries housing a variety of lighthouse related objects that make up part of our accredited collection. On display are several artefacts that show what lighthouse keepers did and how lighthouses work.

Kinnaird Head Lighthouse is the first lighthouse in Scotland built by the Northern Lighthouse Board and was built into the structure of a 16th century castle. The lighthouse was first lit in 1787 and decommissioned in 1991, at which point the lighthouse keepers left. Visitors can climb right to the top of the lighthouse and see a demonstration of the lens mechanism inside. It is also possible to view the keeper's cottages where they lived with their families.

The cost for school groups is £2 per child and free for the accompanying teachers/ helpers. There is a travel subsidy available for the cost of getting here. For details of this look online at www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/travel-subsidy

We are open 10am - 5pm on Monday to Sunday during the summer (April to September) and Tuesday to Sunday during the winter (October to March). However we will do our best to be flexible with times for school visits. This is something we can discuss when you make your booking.

To book a visit, or for further information, please call 01346 511022 and ask for Michael Strachan, our Collections Manager & Learning Officer, or email learning@lighthousemuseum.org.uk

Practical Information for Your Visit

Numbers

We can accommodate groups of up to 30 pupils per school visit. Numbers have to be limited due to space in the lens room on the lighthouse tour (maximum 15 pupils), and space in the education room for other activities.

If your group will be bigger than this, please tell the Learning and Access Officer and we will work out a way to accommodate you.

In addition to this, please let us know if any of your pupils have special requirements. The museum itself is fully accessible but Kinnaird Head Lighthouse is only accessible by a staircase and is therefore unsuitable for wheelchair users.

Risk Assessments

We will do a risk assessment at the museum before your trip takes place. Please let us know in advance if you require a copy of this risk assessment.

Facilities

There are two private Education Rooms on the lighthouse site in the Principal Keeper's cottage for the use of those on school trips. One room can be used as a place for pupils to eat their lunch and/or leave their bags.

There are visitor toilets in the main museum building, but none at the lighthouse site. However the old keeper's bathroom next to the Education Rooms is still in working order so can be used in an emergency.

Our museum shop has items suitable for pupils to purchase.

There is a car park outside the museum with space for coaches.

Teachers should be aware that Museum of Scottish Lighthouses will still remain open to members of the public on school trip days.

Historic Environment Scotland can help with the cost of the transport needed to visit us. Check out their website

www.historicenvironment.scot/learn/schools/school-visits-travel-subsidy/ for further details.

Activities at the Museum

Lighthouse Tour

For the lighthouse tour the pupils will be shown the lighthouse by a member of staff and hear about its history.

There are 69 steps and a ladder to the lens room at the top, although the tour stops in other rooms on the way up. These rooms include the Paraffin Store, the Occasional Keeper's Quarters and the castle roof (weather permitting).

The class then has to climb a ladder to reach the Light Room at the top of the lighthouse. Here the guide will rotate the lens to show how the clockwork mechanism underneath works. The pupils will also be allowed to go outside on to the balcony to see the view.

There will be lots of opportunities during the tour for the pupils to ask and answer different questions.

Object Handling / Learning from Photographs Session

Pupils will have the opportunity to look at and touch museum objects and photographs from our collection. These are related to the life of a lighthouse keeper.

The member of museum staff who is leading the session will give a brief introduction outlining what a museum does, how we look after different types of objects and how to handle objects correctly. This can be linked to a slightly longer talk on careers opportunities within museums too. The session leader will also talk about the questions we have to ask ourselves when we look at an object or a photograph to work out its purpose.

The class will then be split up into groups and each group will have a different object or photograph to look at. They will discuss in their groups what they think each object is and what it was used for. They will then present their ideas

to the rest of the class.



Activities at the Museum continued

Museum Quiz

We have a question sheet for your class. They can go round the museum themselves either individually or in groups to discover the answers to the questions and understand further the items we have on display.

Activity related to a Specific Subject

We are very flexible with the activities we can offer to your pupils. If you have a specific project or subject that you would like to do with your class then let us know and we can discuss it. There are lots of ways in which our museum can be used.

For example:

Pupils studying tourism could undertake visitor surveys or interview our staff members

Art classes could photograph or sketch the items from our collection (our lenses are particularly spectacular in the way the lighthouse bounces off them) or the magnificent views from our lighthouse.

There are many interesting stories related to lighthouses and lighthouse keepers (such as the Flannan Isles mystery where three keepers mysteriously disappeared) which could be used to inspire creative writing.

The workings of our lenses is useful for demonstrating and experimenting with the properties of light.

Learning Outcomes

A visit to our museum is a memorable learning experience and can help teachers to deliver the Curriculum for Excellence by meeting the four capacities that it sets out.

Successful learners

At our museum pupils are given the chance to build upon the knowledge and skills they have learned in the classroom and adapt these for use in a different context. They also have the chance to learn independently and as part of a group, as well as making reasoned evaluations.

Confident individuals

Pupils will gain an understanding of their local history and cultural heritage helping them to relate and feel connected to people from the past. By encouraging them to respond to our collection in different ways, we are helping them to feel confident in themselves and their ability to communicate.

Responsible citizens

Our museum will help pupils to develop their knowledge and understanding of the world and Scotland's place in it. The story of Scotland's lighthouses is an important part of this as it showcases Scottish engineering ingenuity and highlights a way of life (that of the keepers) that has now died out. Furthermore by giving pupils an understanding of our local heritage we encourage them to take care of it in the future.

Effective contributors

Pupils work in teams in activities around the museum, apply critical thinking in new contexts and communicate their findings in a different setting.

While the specific learning outcomes will vary depending on what activities are chosen, a visit to the museum will link to the experiences and outcomes of the curriculum in the following ways.

Literacy across Learning

When I engage with others, I can make a relevant contribution, encourage others to contribute and acknowledge that they have the right to hold a different opinion. I can respond in ways appropriate to my role and use contributions to reflect on, clarify or adapt thinking.
LIT 3-02a

Learning Outcomes continued

Literacy across Learning continued

I am developing confidence when engaging with others within and beyond my place of learning. I can communicate in a clear, expressive way and I am learning to select and organise resources independently. LIT 2-10a / LIT 3-10a

Health and Wellbeing across Learning

I make full use of and value the opportunities I am given to improve and manage my learning and, in turn, I can help to encourage learning and confidence in others. HWB 0-11a / HWB 1-11a / HWB 2-11a / HWB 3-11a / HWB 4-11a

I value the opportunities I am given to make friends and be part of a group in a range of situations. HWB 0-14a / HWB 1-14a / HWB 2-14a / HWB 3-14a / HWB 4-14a

I am investigating different careers/occupations, ways of working, and learning and training paths. I am gaining experience that helps me recognise the relevance of my learning, skills and interests to my future life. HWB 2-20a / HWB 3-20a / HWB 4-20a

Social Studies

Through a visit to the museum, pupils will be able to:

develop their understanding of the history, heritage and culture of Scotland, and an appreciation of their local and national heritage within the world

broaden their understanding of the world by learning about human activities and achievements in the past and present

learn how to locate, explore and link periods, people and events in time and place

I can make links between my current and previous studies, and show my understanding of how people and events have contributed to the development of the Scottish nation. SOC 3-02a

For further information on learning outcomes or any other aspect of your visit, you can call us on 01346 511022 or email learning@lighthousemuseum.org.uk

