



ENGLISH HERITAGE

# Conisbrough Castle

## Discovering Castles. Key Stage 1

There has been a castle at Conisbrough for over 900 years, a relic of a time long gone; many large settlements in England and Europe would have been dominated by such buildings in the past. Yet today, the only experience that most pupils this age have of such buildings comes from stories and television. By introducing young children to a real castle, it is hoped that they will begin to develop a better understanding that there was a time before now, that life was very different to the life that they know today. Yet by making simple comparisons between their home/school environment and the castle they will be better able to imagine living in the past.

### Learning Outcomes

Students will:

- Through means of a guided tour be introduced to new ways of finding out about the distant past.
- Be encouraged to imagine the first castle built at Conisbrough, a wooden “Motte and Bailey” castle and why that was replaced by a castle made of stone.
- Be encouraged to imagine what Conisbrough Castle would have looked like when it was complete by visualising the missing parts of the gateway to the castle.
- Be able to place the wooden castle, the stone castle and the ruined castle in to a chronological order in order to better understand how the remains that they can see relate to castles that they know from stories.
- Be introduced to new words that relate to castles and the distant past, and to how some of these words are still used today.
- Use their own experience of home and school to help them better understand what living in a castle was like.
- Experience a new environment, and learn that castles are fun and interesting places to visit.
- Be given the opportunity to ask questions about castles and life in the past relating to their new experience.

## **Curriculum links**

The content of the session mainly focuses on the History areas of study:

### **History**

Students will develop their skills in all five main areas:

- Chronological understanding
- Knowledge and understanding of events, people and changes in the past
- Historical interpretation
- Historical enquiry
- Organisation and communication.

### **Duration**

60 Minutes