Cadw

History Explorers

Cadw Cymru

Castell Conwy Practitioner Guide



Cadw MINECRAFT EDUCATION Hwb®

Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Table of Contents

Castell Conwy Practitioner Support Guide: 3

Virtual Tour: NPC Custodians 3

Welcome Custodian NPC 5

Portcullis Custodian NPC 5

West Barbican Custodian NPC 5

Main Gate Custodian NPC 5

Outer Ward Custodian NPC 6

North-West Tower Custodian NPC 6

South-West Tower Custodian NPC 6

Chapel & Great Hall Custodian NPC 6

Prison Tower Custodian NPC 7

Kitchen and Kitchen Tower Custodian NPC 7

The Well Custodian NPC 7

Middle Gate Custodian NPC 7

Inner Ward Custodian NPC 8

Kings Great Chamber Custodian NPC 8

Chapel Tower Custodian NPC 8

Inside Chapel Tower Custodian NPC 8

Watching Chamber Custodian NPC 9

Kings Tower Custodian NPC 9

King's Kitchen and Chamber Custodian NPC 9

Queens Chamber Custodian NPC 9

Bake House Tower Custodian NPC 10

Stock House Tower Custodian NPC 10

East Barbican Custodian NPC 10

Wall-Walk Custodian NPC 10
Town Wall Custodian NPC 11
Taliesin NPC 11
Quests 11

Castell Conwy Practitioner Support Guide:

Welcome to the **Cadw Cymru** immersive virtual tour of **Castell Conwy**, a stunning replica of one of Wales's most iconic castles, created entirely within the Minecraft Education platform. This tour aims to take you and your learners through the rich history, architectural brilliance, and cultural significance of **Castell Conwy**, all while engaging with the dynamic environment that Minecraft offers.

As you explore the castle's intricacies, you'll discover its impressive structures and the stories of those who once inhabited its walls. From its strategic importance to the artistic details of its design, **Castell Conwy** stands as a testament to medieval engineering and craftsmanship.

Throughout this virtual journey, you will be able to engage with the interactive elements of the **NPC Custodian**, who are placed around the castle waiting to share vital information about the castle, allowing you to deepen your understanding and appreciation of the castle's features.

As you embark on this journey through the virtual world of Minecraft Education, prepare to immerse yourself in the fascinating blend of history, creativity, and education. Explore **Castell Conwy** and uncover its secrets while embracing the spirit of adventure and learning that Minecraft fosters!

Virtual Tour: NPC Custodians



Castell Conwy has NPC Custodians around it. They are eager to share their knowledge as they take you into every nook and cranny of the site.

Most NPC Custodians will link to additional resources, like videos, to bring the virtual tour alive. Throughout the various resources, a pictorial timeline has been used, thus allowing learners to place 'time periods' chronologically, from Prehistoric Wales to Industrial Wales.



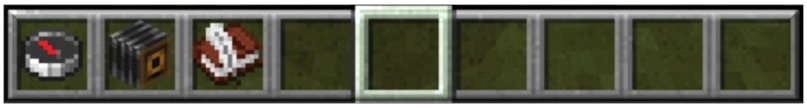
The Virtual Tour is the starting point of the learner's interaction with **Castell Conwy**. The Virtual Tour provides insights into past events, cultures, and significant figures, offering a more immersive way to explore history. Furthermore, providing contextual understanding as the Virtual Tours will often include explanations about the site's significance, connecting it to the broader historical narratives of Wales and the world.

The Virtual Tour will help develop each learner's ***cynefin***, as exploring **Castell Conwy** deepens appreciation for different cultures and their contributions to the world. It can also foster respect for cultural traditions and inspire a desire to help preserve them.

Below are the details of each of the NPC Custodians. You are encouraged to develop curriculum and topic links from the information each NPC provides independently. By exploring connections between various subjects and interests, as a practitioner, you can tailor your approaches to better meet the needs of your learners. This enhances engagement and promotes critical thinking and real-world application of knowledge. Independent development of curriculum links can lead to innovative teaching strategies and a

more dynamic learning environment that encourages learners to make meaningful connections across AoLEs.

When learners enter **Castell Conwy**, they will automatically be supplied with a **Camera** and a **Book & Quill** in their Hotbar.



Explain to learners that these tools are virtual "field journals" where they can document their thoughts, observations, and reflections while on the virtual tour.

The Hotbar also holds a compass, allowing the learners to teleport back to the Galeri at any time. Additionally, learners can speak to the first NPC Custodian they meet at a site to return to the Galeri.

To aid with orientation around **Castell Conwy**, as learners navigate through the virtual tour, Minecraft will display pop-up text signs indicating the name of their location in **Castell Conwy**.



Hidden in **Castell Conwy** is **'Lleu the Dragon'**. Encourage learners to seek out where this little Dragon is hiding. This activity boosts observation skills and attention to detail as learners shift through visual information. It also promotes patience and perseverance, as learners might need to spend some time searching.



Once the learners have completed their virtual tour, Taliesin appears again and provides an overview of the initial six quest(s) associated with Castell Conwy; learners are encouraged to revisit Castell Conwy to seek out the Quest NPCs, who are dressed in crimson, to understand the quest(s) in more detail.

Each Quest has its own **Practitioner Guide** that provides a wealth of information:

- Learning Objectives
- Areas of Learning and Experience
- Cross-curricular skills
- Integral Skills
- Guiding Ideas /
- Possible questions to ask
- Learning Activity Overview
- Introduction
- Steps through the Quest
- Plenary / Reflection
- Key Vocabulary
- Details of Resources / Supporting Files

Welcome Custodian NPC



"Welcome, curious explorer, to your virtual tour of Conwy Castle! Come embark on an adventure filled with wonders and excitement. So, pack your imagination, and let's go on an unforgettable journey! Walk past the Outer Gate and up the ramp or click the 'Portcullis' Button below to be teleported there."

Portcullis Custodian NPC



" Welcome to the original entrance of Conwy Castle. As you approach this ancient fortress, step back in time to an era of knights and kings, where the walls of this castle hold tales of adventure. First, click the 'Find Out More' Button below. Then walk onto the Barbican or click the 'Barbican' button to teleport."

Link to video Find Out More, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World.

West Barbican Custodian NPC



" As you step into the Barbican, you are surrounded by formidable defences designed to withstand the fiercest assaults. Along the walls, you'll notice small openings called "murder holes." To learn more, click the 'Find Out More' button. Then, proceed to the Main Gate or click 'Main Gate' button to teleport."

Link to video Find Out More, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

Main Gate Custodian NPC



" You enter the historic fortress here, giving you a glimpse of a bygone era. Towering walls and imposing architecture beckon you to immerse yourself in the rich tapestry of medieval life. Click the 'Find Out More' button. Then, walk through the gateway into the Outer Ward or click the 'Outer Ward' button to be teleported."

Link to video Find Out More, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

Outer Ward Custodian NPC



" You now enter the Outer Ward. A hive of activity, bustling with soldiers and townspeople going about their daily lives. It is home to individuals who maintain the fortress and support its inhabitants. Click the 'Find Out More' button. Then explore the North-West Tower or click the 'North-West Tower' button to be teleported."

Link to video Find Out More, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

North-West Tower Custodian NPC



"The North-West Tower, with its unique blend of practicality and comfort, is a remarkable example of medieval architecture. You can delve into the features of the North-West Tower by clicking the 'Find out More' button. Then go to the South-West Tower. You can walk or click the 'South-West Tower' button to be teleported."

Link to video Find Out More, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

South-West Tower Custodian NPC



" Click the' Find Out More' button to learn more about the South-West Tower and its role within the castle's bustling community. Then you should walk along the castle's south-west side and investigate the Chapel and Great Hall. Walk over or be teleported by clicking the 'Chapel' button."

Link to video Find Out More, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

Chapel & Great Hall Custodian NPC



" You can discover details of the range of stone buildings along the southern side of the outer ward by clicking the 'Find Out More' button. You will have a glimpse into their various functions. The prison tower is located behind the Great Hall. You can walk there or teleport by clicking the 'Prison Tower' button."

Link to video Find Out More, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

Prison Tower Custodian NPC



" This tower has a chilling history and unique architectural design! Discover the intriguing secrets by clicking on the ''Find Out More' button.

Once you have looked around the Prison Tower, walk over to the Kitchen or click the Kitchen button to be teleported."

Link to video Find Out More, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

Kitchen and Kitchen Tower Custodian NPC



" You are now opposite the great hall range on the north side of the outer ward, where you will find the remnants of a series of buildings that once played vital roles in the daily operations of the fortress. You can investigate further by clicking the 'Find Out More' button, then click on 'The Well' button to be teleported."

Link to video Find Out More, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

The Well Custodian NPC



" The well at Conwy Castle is impressive! You should click the 'Find Out More' button to investigate this feature further. Then, you should walk on to the Middle Gate to continue our virtual tour."

Link to video Find Out More, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

Middle Gate Custodian NPC



" You will discover that the division between the Outer and Inner Wards are a pivotal point in the fortress's layout, providing both strategic defence and functional separation between different areas of the castle. 'Find Out More' about this by clicking on the button. Then, walk from this vital gateway into the Inner Ward."

Link to video Find Out More, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

Inner Ward Custodian NPC



" The Middle Gate ushers you into the eastern part of Conwy Castle, known as the Inner Ward. You should click the 'Find Out More' button to explore this important area more. Then, you will explore the Royal Apartments, starting with the King's Great Chamber. Walk over or click the 'King's Great Chamber' button to be teleported."

Link to video Find Out More, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

Kings Great Chamber Custodian NPC



" Welcome to the Royal Apartments. You can visit the King's Great Chamber and start your tour by first clicking the 'Find Out More' button. Next, you will move on to the Chapel. You can either walk there or click the 'Chapel Tower' button to be teleported there."

Link to video Find Out More, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

Chapel Tower Custodian NPC



" Welcome to the Chapel Tower. You should click the 'Find Out More' button to investigate this tower. Take your time to wander through the passageways, and then when you are ready to delve deeper into the castle's history, click the 'Inside Chapel Tower' button to be teleported inside the Chapel Tower. I will meet you there."

Link to video Find Out More, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

Inside Chapel Tower Custodian NPC



" Now that you are inside the Chapel Tower, you have reached one of the most exciting features in any surviving medieval castle chapel complex! Click the 'Find Out More' button to examine its unique features. You can also access the Watching Chamber by clicking the 'Watching Chamber' button below to be teleported."

Link to video Find Out More, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

Watching Chamber Custodian NPC



" The "watching chamber" above the chapel adds an exciting twist to the architectural layout and functionality of the medieval chapel. You can discover more about this fascinating feature by clicking the 'Find Out More' button. Then, walk down to the east-gate passage and cross to the King's Tower or click the 'Kings Tower' button."

Link to video Find Out More, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

Kings Tower Custodian NPC



" Welcome to Kings Tower. Behind me, you will see a stone staircase mirroring the Chapel Tower. This passage leads into the King's Tower and the royal apartments. It would be best to investigate by clicking the 'Find Out More' button. Then, return to the passage at the bottom of the tower or click on the 'King's Kitchen' button to be teleported."

Link to video Find Out More, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

King's Kitchen and Chamber Custodian NPC



" You are now in the King's Kitchen, and above is the King's Chamber. You can access this room from the great chamber and the queen's chamber to the west. You can investigate further by clicking the 'Find Out More' button. If you want to visit the Queens Chamber, you can enter from the courtyard or click the 'Queens Chamber' button to be teleported."

Link to video Find Out More, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

Queens Chamber Custodian NPC



" You are on the first floor in the chamber intended for Queen Eleanor of Castile. Like the other main rooms, it had a fireplace and garderobe. This room has changed over time; click the 'Find Out More' button. Then, you have two more towers to investigate. Click on the 'Bakehouse Tower' button below to be teleported there."

Link to video Find Out More, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

Bake House Tower Custodian NPC



" Welcome to Bakehouse Tower. Many exciting things have happened to this tower over the years! Click the "Find Out More" button for details. Then, you must take a look around Stockhouse Tower by clicking on the button to be teleported. "

Link to video Find Out More, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

Stock House Tower Custodian NPC



" Welcome to the Stockhouse Tower. Its name may have come from the "stocks" or foot restraints used to detain criminals! However, it is believed that the tower was initially built for storage or living quarters for the castle's garrison. You must visit the 'East Barbican'; you can walk there or be teleported."

East Barbican Custodian NPC



" Welcome to the East Barbican, where you can take in the view across the river and imagine the garden that once grew here! A tale you can uncover by clicking the 'Find Out More' button. You can walk down the steps to see where the Water Gate once entered the East Barbican. Then, walk along the 'Wall-Walk', click to be teleported there. "

Link to video Find Out More, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

Wall-Walk Custodian NPC



" You are about to embark on a walk of the Conwy Castle Wall Walk! Before you head out, make sure to click the 'Find Out More' button. This will give you all the information you need to make the most of your walk! Once you've seen the land and the town below, click the 'Town Wall' button to teleport."

Link to video Find Out More, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

Town Wall Custodian NPC



" Imagine a fortress that doesn't just stand alone but embraces an entire town within its protective encirclement; this is Conwy town wall. Click the buttons below to learn more about the wall and the town within. After you have walked around the town wall, head back to the visitor centre by clicking on Taliesin. "

Link to video The Town, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

Link to video The Town, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

Link to video The Medieval Town, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

Taliesin NPC



" You have completed your virtual tour. I am sure you have been amazed by the incredible skill and dedication that went into constructing this magnificent castle. I now have a series of quests for you to consider. Click the "Quest" button to reveal the exciting quests waiting for you within Conwy Castle."

Link to video Quests, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

"These are just some of the quests that await you in Castell Conwy! Whichever quests you undertake, you will deepen your connection to Conwy Castle and the land of Wales, forging memories that will last a lifetime. So, choose your quest and embark on a journey of discovery within the walls of Conwy Castle."

Link to video Quest 1, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

Link to video Quest 2, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

Link to video Quest 3, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

Link to video Quest 4, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

Link to video Quest 5, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

Link to video Quest 6, which is embedded in the Cadw Cymru Minecraft World

Quests

You can choose from six stand-alone quests associated with Castell Conwy. As the practitioner, it is yours to determine which quest or quests you undertake with your learners. Please feel free to undertake the quests in any order; they are not dependent on each other.

For further guidance, please see the Practitioner Guide for each individual quest.