Keswick School

Careers Bulletin (Years 10–13) **3rd November 2026**

Exciting Opportunities & Work Experience

- **NEW: Get Into Medicine Virtual Conferences (Years 10–13):** Sunday 8th Nov, Saturday 21st Nov, OR Saturday 28th Nov- Register for FREE Here
- **Cambridge University Veterinary Medicine Residential Programme (Years 11 & 12):** 23rd–25th March 2027- https://onlinesales.admin.cam.ac.uk/conferences-and-events/veterinary-medicine/vetcam/vetcam-23-25-march-2027
- **Step into Pharmacy Event – Teesside University (Years 12 & 13):** — 16th June 2027 https://www.tees.ac.uk/sections/whats_on/events_page.cfm?event_id=15229
- **React Engineering Futures Programme (Year 12):** Local Cumbrian engineering placement and support programme- https://www.react-engineering.co.uk/join-us/react-futures/
- **STEM SMART Programme – Cambridge University (Years 12 & 13):** Free 16-month support programme for A-Level STEM students- https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/find-out-more/widening-participation/stem-smart
- **UK CanSat Competition – Space Engineering Project (Ages 14+):** Design, build, and launch a mini-satellite in a can- https://www.stem.org.uk/esero/cansat
- **Positive Enterprise (Ages 14–25):** Win up to £1,000 start-up funding for business ideas- https://www.cumbriafoundation.org/2026/02/13/young-entrepreneur-programme-launches-in-furness/
- **Big Christmas Challenge 2026:** Match-funding campaign and enterprise opportunity. — Explore Big Give Christmas Challenge
- **Gingerbread House Festival Design Competition:** National competition showcasing baking, design, and artistic creativity- https://www.thegingerbreadhousefestival.com/

Apprenticeship & WEX Opportunities

- **Howden Group Apprenticeships 2027 (Years 12 & 13):** Explore careers beyond traditional insurance (risk management, business, technology) with a global business- Explore Howden 2027 Apprenticeships
- **Heidelberg Materials Craft Apprenticeships 2027 (Years 12 & 13):** Now live for applications across technical and operational roles- Apply for Heidelberg Apprenticeships
- **Sellafield Ltd Early Careers & Work Experience (Years 11–13):** 2027 intake notifications across engineering, ICT, project management and scientific disciplines, plus work experience placements- Work Experience Opportunities
- **BAE Systems Submarines Early Careers:** Trade and Degree Apprenticeships in engineering, project management and cyber security- Explore: BAE Systems Open Days & Events
- **North Cumbria Integrated Care (NCIC) NHS Work Experience (Years 11–13):** In-person and virtual placements across local hospitals and healthcare settings- https://www.ncic.nhs.uk/careers/work-experience
- **Great Western Railway Apprenticeships (Years 11+):** https://www.gwr.com/about-gwr/careers/apprenticeships
- **Essential Guide to Degree Apprenticeships:** — Read Sixth Formers' Guide

University Spotlights, Regional Access & Scholarships

- **NEW: Oxford & Cambridge Cumbrian Regional Access Initiatives (Years 12 & 13):** Queen's College Oxford and Lucy Cavendish College Cambridge run dedicated application support and residential visits specifically for Cumbrian state school students. *(See Miss Mills for details)*
- **Bangor University Entrance Scholarships up to £5,000 (Year 13):** Around 10 scholarships available for eligible students taking their next steps into HE. — View Bangor Scholarship Criteria
- **Bangor University Free Subject Taster Sessions (Years 12 & 13):** Virtual lectures in Philosophy, Ethics & Religion (*Minds, Machines & Morality*) and Politics (*Is Democracy in Danger?*). — Book Bangor Taster Sessions
- **UK University & Apprenticeship Search Fairs (Spring 2027):**
    - **Manchester Old Trafford Stadium:** Thursday 25th February 2027
    - **Lancaster University:** Friday 16th April 2027

Funding, Grants & Competitions

- **NEW: Cumbrian Student Transport & Interview Grants:** Micro-grants available through **The Hadfield Trust** and **Francis C Scott Trust** to assist Cumbrian young people with travel costs to university/job interviews, audition fees, or specialist equipment. *(See Miss Mills for details)*
- **Cumbria Horticultural Education Grants (2027–2028 Academic Year):** Individual grants up to £1,000 to assist Cumbrian residents/students with horticultural course fees, travel/commuting, tools/clothing, or study tours. **Closing date: 1st May 2027.** *(See Miss Mills if interested)*

College & Regional Open Days

- **Keswick School Sixth Form Information Evening:** Thursday 21st January 2027
- **NEW: Sellafield Ltd Apprenticeship Event 2027:** Saturday 28th November 2026 (9:30am–2:00pm at Energus, Workington)
- **Kendal College Autumn Open Evenings (4:30pm–7:00pm across 3 main campuses):**
    - Wednesday 11th November 2026
    - Monday 7th December 2026
    - https://kendal.ac.uk/visit
- **NEW: Furness College (Barrow):** 19th November 2026 — https://www.furness.ac.uk/furness-college-open-evening/
- **Gen2 Open Evenings (Drop-in 4:30pm–6:30pm):**https://www.gen2.ac.uk/about/open-evenings
    - **Lillyhall:** Wed 18th Nov 2026 & Tue 2nd Feb 2027
    - **Carlisle:** Tue 24th Nov 2026 & Wed 3rd Feb 2027
    - **Furness (Ulverston):** Thu 26th Nov 2026 & Thu 4th Feb 2027
- **Myerscough College Open Day:** Saturday 21st November- https://www.ucmyerscough.ac.uk/college-liaison/open-mornings-and-events-202627/
- **Carlisle College Open Day:** Thursday 26th Nov (4:45pm–6:30pm)- https://www.carlisle.ac.uk/open-days-events/

University Open Days

- **Saturday 7th November 2026:**
    - **University of Cumbria:** Carlisle Fusehill Street Campus & Ambleside Campus- https://www.carlisle.ac.uk/open-days-events/
    - **Teesside University:** https://www.tees.ac.uk/sections/fulltime/opendays.cfm
    - **London Metropolitan University:** https://www.londonmet.ac.uk/events/undergraduate-open-days/

- **Saturday 14th November 2026:**
    - **University of Cumbria:** Barrow-in-Furness Campus & Carlisle Brampton Road Campus- https://www.carlisle.ac.uk/open-days-events/
    - **The University of Manchester:** https://www.manchester.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/open-days-visits/open-days/
    - **University of Birmingham:** https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/open-days
    - **Loughborough University:** https://www.lboro.ac.uk/study/open-events/open-days/
- **Saturday 21st November 2026:**
    - **University of Sheffield:** https://sheffield.ac.uk/undergraduate/visit/open-days
    - **Newcastle University:** https://www.ncl.ac.uk/study/meet/undergraduate-open-day-2026/
    - **Lancaster University:** https://www.lancashire.ac.uk/open-days
    - **University of Liverpool:** https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/undergraduate/open-days-and-visits/
    - **Manchester Metropolitan University:** https://www.mmu.ac.uk/study/open-days/undergraduate
- **NEW: Sunday 22nd November 2026:**
    - **University of Central Lancashire (UCLan):** https://www.lancashire.ac.uk/open-days
    - **NEW: Saturday 28th November 2026:**
    - **Northumbria University:** https://www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/visit-northumbria/university-open-days

Key UCAS Deadlines for Year 13

- **6th November 2026 (THIS FRIDAY):** School Internal Deadline for all UCAS applications *(allows essential time for referee checks, references, and processing)*.

Key Cumbrian LMI Highlights:

- **Nuclear & Sustainable Energy Transition:** West Cumbria remains one of Europe's largest hubs for nuclear decommissioning, clean energy and environmental engineering (Sellafield, Supply Chain partners and emerging SMR projects). High demand exists for degree apprentices in project management, cyber security and mechanical/electrical engineering.
- **Advanced Manufacturing & Defence:** BAE Systems in Barrow and regional supply chain firms continue to expand, creating long-term, high-value career pathways in technical engineering, logistics and digital systems.
- **Health & Social Care Growth:** NHS North Cumbria Integrated Care is actively recruiting across clinical (nursing, medicine, allied health) and non-clinical roles (data analysis, IT, estates management).
- **Visitor Economy & Agritech Transformation:** Beyond traditional tourism, Cumbria's hospitality and land-based sectors are increasingly integrating digital marketing, commercial management, sustainable agriculture and eco-tourism management.

How Parents Can Use LMI & Career Tools at Home:

- **Army Careers Parent Newsletter:** Stay updated on technical, apprenticeship, and officer pathways. — Sign Up for Army Parent Newsletter
- **Explore Unifrog:** Encourage your child to use the LMI tool on Unifrog to compare average starting salaries, weekly working hours and projected career growth for specific roles.
- **Focus on Transferable Skills:** Technical knowledge matters, but local employers consistently highlight communication, problem-solving, digital literacy and resilience as key entry requirements.
- **Consider Alternative Pathways:** Degree Apprenticeships now allow students to earn a full university degree paid for by an employer without incurring tuition debt, particularly in engineering, IT and finance.