Keswick School

Careers Bulletin (Years 10–13) **17th November 2026**

1. Exciting Opportunities & Competitions:

- **Cambridge University Veterinary Medicine Residential Programme (Years 11 & 12):** 23rd–25th March 2027 – https://onlinesales.admin.cam.ac.uk/conferences-and-events/veterinarymedicine/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
- **Positive Enterprise Competition – Centre for Leadership Performance (Ages 14–25):** Win up to £1,000 start-up funding and mentoring to launch your own business idea – https://cforlp.org.uk/positive-enterprise/
- **Big Christmas Challenge 2026:** Match-funding campaign and enterprise opportunity – https://biggive.org/christmas-challenge/
- **Gingerbread House Festival Design Competition:** National competition showcasing baking, design, and artistic creativity – https://www.thegingerbreadhousefestival.com/

2. Apprenticeships:

- **BBC Apprenticeship Opportunities (Years 10-13):** Explore Level 3 to Degree-level apprenticeships across journalism, production, engineering, digital, and business – https://www.bbc.co.uk/careers/earlycareers/
- **Lake District Hospitality & Outdoor Pathways (Years 10–13):** Regional employers including **Centre Parcs (Whinfell Forest)**, **Lake District Hotels**, **HF Holidays**, and **The Outward Bound Trust** are opening 2027 apprenticeship and seasonal vacancies across hospitality management, outdoor instruction, marketing and business admin.
- **Sellafield Ltd Apprenticeships 2027 (Years 11–13):** Over 20+ apprenticeship schemes from Level 2 to Degree level across engineering, cyber security, project management, science, and business – https://careers.sellafieldsite.co.uk/launch-your-career-with-one-of-englands-leading-apprenticeship-employers/
- **AtkinsRéalis Whitehaven Apprenticeship Programme (Years 12 & 13):** Level 3 to Level 6 Degree Apprenticeships in Nuclear Engineering, Project Management, Quantity Surveying, Electrical Engineering, and Digital/Tech – https://careers.atkinsrealis.com/en/jobs/whitehaven-apprenticeship-programme-ap-333
- **Jacobs Engineering & Project Management Apprenticeships (Years 11–13):** Entry-level to Degree Apprenticeships in Civil Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Engineering Design, and Project Controls across Cumbria and the North West – https://www.vercida.com/uk/features/apprenticeships-at-jacobs
- **System People Cumbria Apprenticeships (Years 11–13):** Local Cumbrian vacancies across Schools (Teaching Assistants), Early Years/Nurseries, Business Administration, and Customer Service in Keswick, Cockermouth, Penrith, and Carlisle – https://apprenticeships.system-people.co.uk/vacancies/

- **NHS – North Cumbria Integrated Care (NCIC) Apprenticeships (Years 11–13):** Earn while you learn in Business Administration, Customer Service, Estates, Pharmacy, and Healthcare Support roles across local Cumbrian hospitals – https://www.ncic.nhs.uk/careers/apprenticeships
- **Howden Group Apprenticeships 2027 (Years 12 & 13):** Explore careers beyond traditional insurance (risk management, business, technology) with a global business – https://hyperiongrp.wd3.myworkdayjobs.com/hyperion_external?q=ECApprentice27&source=Amazing_Apprenticeships
- **Heidelberg Materials Craft Apprenticeships 2027 (Years 12 & 13):** Now live for applications across technical and operational roles – https://www.careers.heidelbergmaterials.co.uk/en/apprenticeships/craft-apprenticeships
- **BAE Systems Submarines Early Careers:** Trade and Degree Apprenticeships in engineering, project management, and cyber security – https://careers.baesystems.com/locations/uk/apprentices
- **Great Western Railway Apprenticeships (Years 11+):** https://www.gwr.com/aboutgwr/careers/apprenticeships
- **Essential Guide to Degree Apprenticeships:** Read the Sixth Formers' Guide – https://degreeapprenticeships.guide/

3. College & Regional Open Days:

- **Keswick School Sixth Form Information Evening:** Thursday 21st January 2027
- **Sellafield Ltd Apprenticeship Event 2027:** Saturday 28th November 2026 (9:30am–2:00pm at Energus, Workington)
- **Lakes College West Cumbria (Lillyhall) Open Evenings (5:00pm–7:30pm):** Explore A-Levels at Lillyhall Sixth Form, T-Levels, Apprenticeships, and vocational courses – https://www.lcwc.ac.uk/courses/open-days/
    - Wednesday 18th November 2026
    - Wednesday 2nd December 2026
    - Wednesday 21st April 2027
- **Furness College (Barrow):** Thursday 19th November 2026 – https://www.furness.ac.uk/furnesscollege-open-evening/
- **Myerscough College Open Day:** Saturday 21st November 2026 – https://www.ucmyerscough.ac.uk/college-liaison/open-mornings-and-events-202627/
- **Carlisle College Open Day:** Thursday 26th November 2026 (4:45pm–6:30pm) – https://www.carlisle.ac.uk/opendays-events/
- **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
- **Kendal College Autumn Open Evening (4:30pm–7:00pm across 3 main campuses):**
    - Monday 7th December 2026 – https://kendal.ac.uk/visit

4. Work Experience Opportunities:

- **NEW: Sellafield Ltd Work Experience (Years 10–13):** Applications are open for Sellafield work experience placements across engineering, ICT, project management, and scientific disciplines (**Application deadline: 31st December 2026**):
    - **Apply & Details:** https://careers.sellafieldsite.co.uk/early-careers/work-experience/
    - **Watch Overview Video:** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UAscwnI113s&feature=youtu.be

- **North Cumbria Integrated Care (NCIC) NHS Work Experience (Years 10–13):** In-person and virtual placements across local hospitals and healthcare settings – https://www.ncic.nhs.uk/careers/work-experience
- **BAE Systems Work Experience & Engineering Taster Weeks (Ages 14–18):** On-site placements, engineering taster weeks, and virtual programmes released throughout the year – https://careers.baesystems.com/locations/uk/work-experience
- **AtkinsRéalis (West Cumbria – Engineering & Consultancy):** Applications typically close **January–February 2027**. https://careers.atkinsrealis.com/en/early-careers/uk/work-experience
- **British Army Work Experience (Years 10–12):** 1-day and 4-day hands-on insight placements across logistics, engineering, medical, and leadership *(booked via school—see Miss Mills if interested)* – https://jobs.army.mod.uk/base/educators/work-experience/
- **Met Office *Forecasting Your Future* Virtual WEX (Ages 13–18):** Guaranteed-place online programme in climate science, meteorology, and digital communications (completing it also unlocks 2027 in-person placements) – https://careers.metoffice.gov.uk/early-careers/work-experience
- **NHS Virtual Work Experience Opportunities – University Hospitals Birmingham Trust (Years 10–13):** Free, flexible virtual work experience placements ideal for students exploring healthcare careers:
    - **Medicine:** https://medicmentor.org/university-hospitals-birmingham-trust-virtual-work-experience/
    - **Dentistry:** https://dental-mentor.org/university-hospitals-birmingham-trust-virtual-work-experience/
- **Speakers for Schools & Springpod Virtual Work Experience (Years 10–13):** Free, flexible 1-to-5 day virtual insight programmes across Law, Finance, Architecture, Publishing, Journalism, Aerospace, and Civil Service running over February Half-Term and Easter 2027 *(also searchable via Unifrog)*:
    - **Springpod:** https://www.springpod.com/
    - **Speakers for Schools:** https://www.futuresforall.org/about-work-experience
- **Legal Work Experience & Big Four Accountancy Insight Weeks (Year 12):** Free insight schemes with UK law firms and major accountancy firms—applications open across Autumn/Winter for summer placements:
    - **Deloitte:** https://www.deloitte.com/uk/en/careers/early-careers/early-careers-programmes.html
    - **PwC:** https://www.pwc.co.uk/careers/early-careers/entry-level/virtual-insight-programme.html
    - **ICAS Foundation:** https://www.icasfoundation.org.uk/community/current-students/insight-opportunities-spring-2027
    - **KPMG:** https://www.kpmgcareers.co.uk/apprentice/work-experience/

5. University Open Days:

- **Saturday 21st November 2026:**
    - University of Sheffield: https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/undergraduate/visit/open-days
    - Newcastle University: https://www.ncl.ac.uk/study/meet/undergraduate-open-day-2026/
    - Lancaster University: https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/study/open-days/
    - University of Liverpool: https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/undergraduate/open-days-and-visits/
    - University of York: https://www.york.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/visits/open-days/
    - University of Cumbria (Lancaster Campus): https://www.cumbria.ac.uk/study/open-days/
- **Sunday 22nd November 2026:**
    - University of Central Lancashire (UCLan): https://www.uclan.ac.uk/open-days
- **Wednesday 25th November 2026:**
    - University of Sunderland: https://www.sunderland.ac.uk/open-days/
    - Teesside University: https://www.tees.ac.uk/sections/fulltime/opendays.cfm

- **Saturday 28th November 2026:**
    - Northumbria University: https://www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/visit-northumbria/university-open-days
    - University of Leeds: https://www.leeds.ac.uk/open-days
    - Sheffield Hallam University: https://www.shu.ac.uk/visit-us/open-days
    - University of Glasgow: https://www.gla.ac.uk/explore/visit/undergraduate/
- **Saturday 5th December 2026:**
    - Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU): https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/study/undergraduate-students/visit-us/open-days
    - University of Chester: https://www.chester.ac.uk/visit/open-days/
- **Spring 2027 Campus Tours & Offer-Holder / Taster Days (Booking Now for Years 12 & 13):**
    - Durham University (Pre-Application Campus Tours & June Open Days): https://www.durham.ac.uk/study/visit/
    - University of Edinburgh (Student-Led Campus Tours & Spring Events): https://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/open-days-events-visits
    - The University of Manchester (Spring Campus Tours & Offer-Holder Days)**:** https://www.manchester.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/open-days-visits/
    - University of St Andrews (Visiting Days – Wednesdays/Fridays): https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/visiting/
    - UCAS Open Days Search Tool (Filter all UK universities by date & subject): https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/what-and-where-study/open-days-and-events

Quick Tip for Year 12 & 13 Students: Many universities (including Lancaster, Newcastle, Durham, Leeds, and Sheffield) offer **free train/travel reimbursements** for eligible state-school students attending Open Days or Offer-Holder Days—check each university's Open Day booking page before purchasing tickets, or ask **Miss Mills** about local Cumbrian travel micro-grants!

6. Regional Access, Summer Schools & Scholarships:

- **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)*
- **Sutton Trust UK Summer Schools (Year 12):** Applications open in **January 2027** for free, week-long residential university tasters at top UK universities (including Oxford, Cambridge, Durham, Edinburgh, and Imperial) for eligible state-school students – https://summerschools.suttontrust.com/
- **Bangor University Entrance Scholarships up to £5,000 (Year 13):** Around 10 scholarships available for eligible students taking their next steps into HE – https://www.bangor.ac.uk/studentfinance/info/bangorscholarships
- **UK University & Apprenticeship Search Fairs (Spring 2027):**
    - **Manchester Old Trafford Stadium:** Thursday 25th February 2027
    - **Lancaster University:** Friday 16th April 2027

7. Funding, Grants & Bursaries:

- **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)*

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:

- **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 a range of pathways:** Students do not need to apply for one route only. Explore a range of pathways.