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# Careers & Opportunities

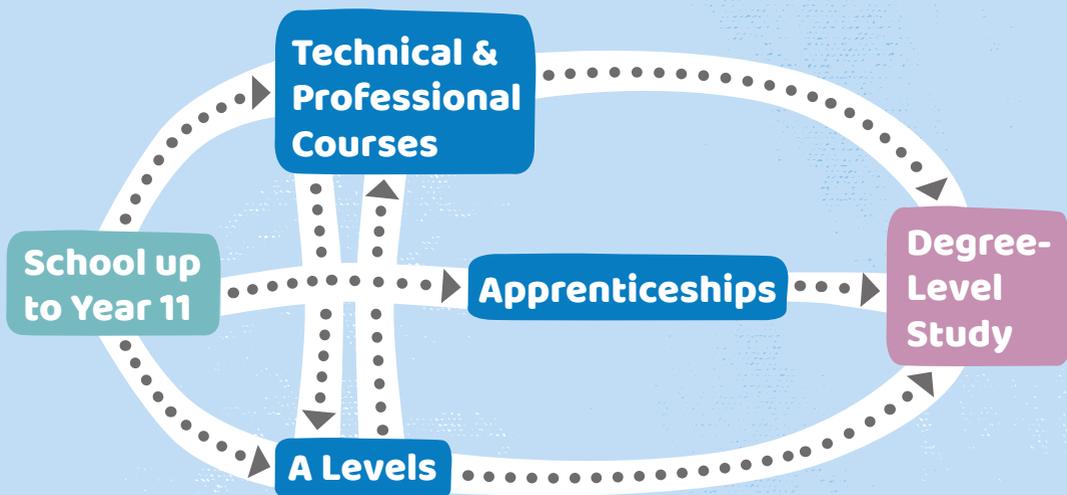
*for school leavers*

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A booklet offering you information, guidance and support to assist you in making choices about your next steps and Degree-Level study.



# Routes to Degree-Level Study



## Did you know?

- After Year 11, students can get at least 3 years of free full-time training
- Apprenticeships are free to all ages – many apprentices are in their 20s & 30s
- It may be possible to combine a technical course with an A Level
- Some employers pay the tuition costs of degree-level study for their apprentices
- There are a variety of options to study at Degree-Level e.g. full-time, part-time, distance learning and through an apprenticeship

## The Opportunities Explained

### A Levels

- Academic study
- Study three or more individual subjects

### Technical & Professional Courses

- Career related courses e.g. Sport, Business, Hospitality, Engineering, Music, Applied Science etc
- Study relevant academic subjects and combine with practical learning
- Many of the Level 3 courses carry the same UCAS points as 3 A Levels

### Apprenticeships

- A full-time paid job with training
- Level 2 to Degree-Level qualifications

### Degree-Level Study

Includes:

- Professional Courses
- HNC/HNDs
- Higher-Level & Degree Apprenticeships
- BA/BSc Degrees

# ..... Case Studies .....

## Technical & Professional Courses

### **Jess Pezet** Film Production at Kendal College



I'm a Digital Imaging Technician, working in the camera departments for The BBC, Netflix and Channel 4. I studied Film Production at Kendal College and was offered a place at The Royal Conservatoire Of Scotland (ranked in the global top 10 of universities.) After graduating, I threw myself into work and got involved in as many projects as possible, a lot of them for free. From getting my name around and working extremely hard, I found jobs on amazing projects such as The Windsors S3 (CH4), Get Even (Netflix) and Hobbs and Shaw (Universal).

*Be ambitious, passionate and strongly motivated. It will carry you to where you want to be.*

### **Andrew White**

Nurse Cadet at Lakes College



I'm a Nurse Cadet, so I study Health & Social Care at college, and I also get experience working at the hospital in the different wards. Having experience in a hospital is really good as it helps you to see which department you want to work in. At the start, I wanted to be a nurse, but after working in the hospital, I now want to study sports therapy at university.

*At college, it's different, there is a freedom, and they treat you like an adult.*

Your work is your responsibility, the classes are different start times, so it splits the week up and prepares you for university. It's brought me out of my shell of being a kid and becoming an adult.

## A Levels

### **Jade Chelton** Barrow Sixth Form, Furness College



I left school at 16 and my GCSE exam results weren't quite what I wanted. I had a child and was a full-time mum for two years until she had left nursery.

I wanted to get back into education and applied to Barrow Sixth Form after an informal, helpful chat with my tutor.

Studying at Barrow Sixth Form has certainly built up my confidence and I've made new friends.

*I've always wanted to go to university and that could now be a possibility.*

### **Andrew Fletcher**

Kendal College



I studied A Level Mathematics, Further Mathematics and Physics. There wasn't any doubt in my mind, from my first year, that I was going to apply to a top university to study Physics, and it meant that from that get-go my tutors were all homed in on what I was trying to do and helping me to achieve that. They helped me with the application process and I found a course I'm excited about.

*I'm now studying Physics at Oxford University - it's my absolute dream, and I couldn't have asked for anything more!*

# Case Studies

## Apprenticeships

### Laura Dent

Higher-Level Accounting  
Apprentice at Dodd & Co  
Accountants



We are taught by accredited AAT tutors, so you know you are learning from the best people, who understand the job role you are doing.

*“I’m working full-time and earning money.”*

I’m learning something new every week, I’m able to have a social life, I get the qualifications to back up my job - enabling me to progress in my career, and I’ve got no debt! I hope to become a Chartered Accountant in the future.

### Lauren Carradus

Public Protection Apprentice  
at South Lakeland District Council



I come to college every Tuesday for my business apprenticeship. We learn about business in general, the different sectors, communication & body language – it is quite far ranging. I don’t know what I want to do in the future - business is very open and you can go onto lots of things. I don’t think I have to decide now, we’re only young and we’re going to be working for a long time, so you’re never always in one job!

*“Apprenticeships teach you how to be in a workplace with people and how to balance work & social life.”*

## Traineeships

### Catalina Dragu

Administration Assistant at  
Lancaster & Morecambe  
College



The best thing about my traineeship was the hands-on work experience which was really beneficial when applying for jobs. I enjoyed the responsibility of working in a professional environment, completing tasks as part of a wider team and seeing the direct results of my efforts. I now work in high street retail, whilst studying on the pre-access Health and Social Care course with the aim of going to university later.

Although a traineeship isn’t formally paid, the experience you will get is worth much more!

### Chris Cork

Joinery Apprentice at  
Cubby Construction



After school I started college full-time to develop the skills required for a joinery role, to make me a stronger candidate for interview.

My tutor was my reference and helped me to apply for an Apprenticeship with Cubby Construction who I hope to continue working for and complete my foreman training’.

*“Some advice I would give to young people would be to show enthusiasm and be willing to volunteer in any job or work you do.”*

# Case Studies

## Degree-Level Courses

### Emily Manson

Mechanical Design Apprentice at BA Systems and studying the HNC at Furness College



We design the piping and ventilation systems, the things that go inside the boats. One day a week the company pays for us to come to Furness College to complete the HNC, a Degree-Level course.

The course is based on what I'm doing specifically – I study mechanical science and engineering maths – the subjects that are crucial to the job.

*“The course enables me to live close to home, work normal hours and get paid.”*

We get hands-on knowledge and use brand new equipment, like the CAD machines, so you get to see things, rather than imagining it.

### Kristen Hardy

PGCE General Primary (5-11) with SEND and Inclusion at the University of Cumbria



I will be the first person in my family to get a degree. In 10 years, I hope to see myself teaching a KS1 class in a special needs school and having the most amazing time with the children, being as creative as possible and still living my inner child and still learning, you can never stop learning as a teacher. Every child and person you meet will teach you something completely different.

*“My advice to others would be to be persistent, follow your dream, and make sure you get other people to read your personal statement.”*

Different people will know how to big you up better than yourself, and they will notice spelling or grammar mistakes.

### Ross Melville

Foundation Degree in Computing at Furness College incorporating Barrow Sixth Form



Studying is the best opportunity for me to expand on my computing skills, as well as learning new skills in a more professional environment. Before starting my course, I finished my Level 3 Extended Diploma in IT and moved onto the Foundation Degree. I hadn't had any computer-related jobs and joined college straight after school.

*“The price is affordable, with the student loan being flexible*

*and easy to get. As well the bonus of having a student card, offering discounts in lots of stores. And not to forget about the financial benefits of a qualification.”*

Looking at jobs without my qualification would lead to a salary of £18,500 annually, however with my qualification, these pay margins increased to £28,500 annually. My later life career goal is to become a software developer – it would be nice to be a game developer – however anything involving code would be good.

# Directory Map



## KEY

- Blue = Training Provider
- Green = Sixth Form
- Pink = University
- Turquoise = College

# Directory

## Training Providers

**Gen 2** Workington, Carlisle, Seascale, Ulverston [gen2.ac.uk](http://gen2.ac.uk)  
Apprenticeships & Degree-Level Study

**PHX Training** Barrow, Carlisle, Cleator Moor, Morecambe, Workington [phxtraining.co.uk](http://phxtraining.co.uk)  
Part-Time Courses & Apprenticeships

## Colleges

**Carlisle College** Carlisle [carlisle.ac.uk](http://carlisle.ac.uk)  
Degree-Level Study, Professional & Technical Full-Time Courses, Apprenticeships, Part-Time Courses

**Furness College** incorporating Barrow Sixth Form Barrow [furness.ac.uk](http://furness.ac.uk)  
Degree-Level Study, Professional & Technical Full-Time Courses, Apprenticeships, Part-Time Courses, A Levels

**Kendal College** Kendal [kendal.ac.uk](http://kendal.ac.uk)  
Degree-Level Study, Professional & Technical Full-Time Courses, Apprenticeships, Part-Time Courses, A Levels

**Lakes College** Workington [lwc.ac.uk](http://lwc.ac.uk)  
Degree-Level Study, Professional & Technical Full-Time Courses, Apprenticeships, Part-Time Courses

**Lancaster & Morecambe College** Lancaster [lmc.ac.uk](http://lmc.ac.uk) Degree-Level Study, Professional & Technical Full-Time Courses, Apprenticeships, Part-Time Courses

**Myerscough College** Bilsborrow, Preston [myerscough.ac.uk](http://myerscough.ac.uk)  
Degree-Level Study, Professional & Technical Full-Time Courses, Apprenticeships, Part-Time Courses

**Newton Rigg College** Penrith [newtonrigg.ac.uk](http://newtonrigg.ac.uk)  
Degree-Level Study, Professional & Technical Full-Time Courses, Apprenticeships, Part-Time Courses

## Universities

**University of Cumbria** Lancaster, Carlisle, Ambleside, Barrow, Workington [cumbria.ac.uk](http://cumbria.ac.uk)

**Lancaster University** Lancaster [lancaster.ac.uk](http://lancaster.ac.uk)

**University of Central Lancashire** Preston [uclan.ac.uk](http://uclan.ac.uk)

**Edge Hill University** Ormskirk [edgehill.ac.uk](http://edgehill.ac.uk)

## Sixth Forms in Cumbria

As well as A Levels, some sixth forms also offer technical courses. Contact them for a full overview.

**Appleby Grammar School** Appleby in Westmorland [appleby.cumbria.sch.uk](http://appleby.cumbria.sch.uk)

**Barrow Sixth Form** part of Furness College Barrow [www.furness.ac.uk](http://www.furness.ac.uk)

**Caldew School** Dalston, Carlisle [caldew.cumbria.sch.uk/students/sixth-form/](http://caldew.cumbria.sch.uk/students/sixth-form/)

**Central Academy** Carlisle [rrca.org.uk/sixth-form](http://rrca.org.uk/sixth-form)

**Chetwynde School** Barrow-in-Furness [chetwynde.co.uk](http://chetwynde.co.uk)

**Cockermouth School** Cockermouth [cockermouthschool.org/6th-form/](http://cockermouthschool.org/6th-form/)

**Dallam School** Milnthorpe [dallam.eu](http://dallam.eu) International Baccalaureate

**Energy Coast UTC** Workington [energycoastutc.co.uk/learning/](http://energycoastutc.co.uk/learning/)

**Keswick School** Keswick [keswicksixthform.weebly.com](http://keswicksixthform.weebly.com)

**Kirkbie Kendal School** Kendal [www.kirkbiekendal.cumbria.sch.uk](http://www.kirkbiekendal.cumbria.sch.uk)

**Kirkby Stephen Grammar School** Kirkby Stephen [ksgs.cumbria.sch.uk](http://ksgs.cumbria.sch.uk)

# Directory

## Sixth Forms in Cumbria

**Lakes School** Windermere  
[thelakesschool.com](http://thelakesschool.com)

**Millom School** Millom  
[millom.cumbria.sch.uk/](http://millom.cumbria.sch.uk/)

**Newman Catholic School** Carlisle  
[newman.cumbria.sch.uk/curriculum/sixth-form](http://newman.cumbria.sch.uk/curriculum/sixth-form)

**Netherhall School** Maryport  
[netherhall.cumbria.sch.uk/](http://netherhall.cumbria.sch.uk/)

**Queen Elizabeth Grammar School**  
Penrith [qegs.cumbria.sch.uk/sixthform](http://qegs.cumbria.sch.uk/sixthform)

**Queen Elizabeth School**  
Kirkby Lonsdale  
[moodle.queenelizabeth.cumbria.sch.uk](http://moodle.queenelizabeth.cumbria.sch.uk)

**Richard Rose Central Academy**  
Carlisle [rrca.org.uk](http://rrca.org.uk)

**The Nelson Thomlinson School**  
Wigton [nts.cumbria.sch.uk](http://nts.cumbria.sch.uk)

**The Queen Katherine School**  
Kendal [qks.org.uk/6th-form](http://qks.org.uk/6th-form)

**St Benedict's Catholic High School**  
Whitehaven [st-benedicts.cumbria.sch.uk](http://st-benedicts.cumbria.sch.uk)

**Trinity School** Carlisle  
[trinity.cumbria.sch.uk/sixth-form/](http://trinity.cumbria.sch.uk/sixth-form/)

**Ullswater Community College**  
Penrith [ullswatercc.co.uk/](http://ullswatercc.co.uk/)

**Ulverston Victoria High School**  
Ulverston [uvhs.uk](http://uvhs.uk)

**West Lakes Academy** Egremont  
[westlakesacademy.org.uk/post-16/](http://westlakesacademy.org.uk/post-16/)

**Whitehaven Academy** Whitehaven  
[whitehavenacademy.org.uk/sixth-form/](http://whitehavenacademy.org.uk/sixth-form/)

**William Howard School** Brampton  
[williamhoward.cumbria.sch.uk/sixth-form/](http://williamhoward.cumbria.sch.uk/sixth-form/)

**Workington Academy** Workington  
[workingtonacademy.org/sixthform/](http://workingtonacademy.org/sixthform/)

## Volunteering

[do-it.org](http://do-it.org) for national volunteering  
[cumbriacvs.org.uk](http://cumbriacvs.org.uk) for Cumbria volunteering

## Gap Years

[careerpilot.org.uk](http://careerpilot.org.uk) (general advice)  
[etrust.org.uk/the-year-in-industry](http://etrust.org.uk/the-year-in-industry)  
(paid industry placements)  
[yearoutgroup.org](http://yearoutgroup.org)  
(voluntary & course opportunities abroad)  
[gapwork.com](http://gapwork.com) (jobs & volunteering)

## Self Employment

[prospects.ac.uk](http://prospects.ac.uk) (general advice)  
[greatbusiness.gov.uk](http://greatbusiness.gov.uk) (national website)  
[gov.uk/starting-up-a-business](http://gov.uk/starting-up-a-business) (national website)  
[fsb.org.uk](http://fsb.org.uk) (Federation of Small Businesses)  
[cumbriachamber.co.uk](http://cumbriachamber.co.uk) (Cumbria)

## Online Courses

[open.ac.uk](http://open.ac.uk)      [edx.org](http://edx.org)  
[coursera.org](http://coursera.org)      [futurelearn.com](http://futurelearn.com)

## Other

[wearencs.com](http://wearencs.com) (National Citizen Service)  
[inspira.org.uk](http://inspira.org.uk) (careers support in Cumbria)

## Money

[thepiggybank.org.uk](http://thepiggybank.org.uk)      [moneyadvice.service.org.uk](http://moneyadvice.service.org.uk)  
[gov.uk/student-finance](http://gov.uk/student-finance)      [citizensadvice.org.uk](http://citizensadvice.org.uk)

