

**PGCE**

**PROSPECTUS**

**2025/26**

# NO.1

UNIVERSITY IN THE NORTH  
OF ENGLAND — AND 6TH IN  
THE UK — FOR PRODUCING  
ENTREPRENEURS<sup>1</sup>

A SILVER RATED  
UNIVERSITY FOR STUDENT  
OUTCOMES<sup>3</sup>

# NO.1



UNIVERSITY IN THE NORTHWEST AND IN THE TOP 10 IN THE  
UK FOR GRADUATES INTO EMPLOYMENT OR FURTHER STUDY  
WITHIN 15 MONTHS (97%)<sup>5</sup>

# 2ND



IN THE NORTH WEST FOR  
QUALITY EDUCATION<sup>2</sup>



RANKED TOP 41% OF  
UNIVERSITIES WORLDWIDE  
FOR SOCIAL AND  
ECONOMIC IMPACT<sup>4</sup>

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Excellence Framework 2023<sup>3</sup>, Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2022<sup>4</sup>, 97% of graduates,  
Graduate Outcomes Survey, HESA 2024<sup>5</sup>

# WELCOME FROM THE VICE CHANCELLOR

**I AM DELIGHTED THAT YOU ARE CONSIDERING A LIFE-CHANGING INVESTMENT INTO YOUR FUTURE. AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CUMBRIA, WE ARE FOCUSED ON TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH LEARNING, APPLIED RESEARCH, AND PRACTICE — BOTH FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS.**

We are committed to delivering quality higher education throughout the county of Cumbria and beyond, empowering students with advanced skills and knowledge that can be effectively applied in the workplace.

Our postgraduate teaching is informed by industry insights and research-active academics. We offer flexible modular learning options, allowing you to manage your studies around work, family, or life commitments.

You will gain knowledge and experience in a safe space through critical exploration, and through interaction with our academic institutes, centres, and networks.

With headquarters in the incredible county of Cumbria, we offer rewarding places for student communities to nurture academic learning and passion through practice-based and applied research methods in fantastic locations.

Choosing a postgraduate course opens new and exciting doors, no matter where you choose to start or continue your career. We want to be part of your journey; we encourage you to explore our postgraduate opportunities and discover how you can develop your career further at the University of Cumbria.

I wish you the best of luck with your studies and hope to meet you at your graduation.

**Professor Julie Mennell, PhD**





HERE FOR YOU

TRANSFORM YOUR FUTURE

Ready for a thrilling adventure? There's a whole new world to be discovered as a postgraduate student! Whether it's unlocking career opportunities, changing direction or studying something that truly inspires you, we are here to support you. Together, we'll transform your future career and help you get the most out of your postgraduate experience.

At the University of Cumbria, you'll become part of a welcoming, vibrant community of like-minded individuals within a dynamic and collaborative environment.

Our expert academics will teach you in smaller groups, providing tailored guidance while connecting you with industry professionals and real-world opportunities. With a focus on employability, you'll gain the skills, knowledge, and practical experience that employers value—preparing you to take the next step in your career with confidence.

You'll be inspired, stretched, and challenged to achieve your professional goals while benefiting from tools and support for your health, well-being, and personal development. Embarking on postgraduate study is a life-changing investment in yourself and your future.

Ready to take the next step?



VISIT US IN PERSON

We offer a range of postgraduate Open Days and events, both on campus and online, to help you make an informed decision about what course is right for you. These provide an opportunity to connect with us, explore your options, and get your questions answered.



FIND OUT ABOUT OUR UPCOMING EVENTS [CLICK HERE](#)



# FUNDING YOUR STUDIES

## Investing in Your Future

Postgraduate study gives you the opportunity to specialise in your field, advance your career, and develop your knowledge to the highest level. It's important to secure your funding ahead of time so you can focus on what matters most – learning.

## Tuition Fees

Postgraduate tuition fees vary depending on the length and intensity of the course. Tuition fees can be found on each course page on our website. Just scan the QR code with your mobile phone camera to find out more. There is also our postgraduate student finance page with information on a range of grants, scholarships, and bursaries to support low-income students, students from partnered organisations, and those who go on to study a PGCE course.

For more information, visit [cumbria.ac.uk/study/student-finance/postgraduate](http://cumbria.ac.uk/study/student-finance/postgraduate).

## Your Living Expenses

Whether you choose to live on campus, in local accommodation or commute from home, the cost of living can vary greatly depending on your needs and personal lifestyle choices. Generally speaking, living expenses in the North West, where most of our campuses are based, tends to be lower than other places in the UK.



## ALUMNI DISCOUNT

20% OFF FEES ON TAUGHT COURSES OR 10% OFF RESEARCH DEGREES FOR ALUMNI RETURNING TO STUDY AT POSTGRADUATE LEVEL.\*

FIND OUT MORE

\*This is for awards of up to a maximum of 180 credits and does not apply to PGCE students.

# OUR PARTNERSHIPS

We collaborate with a wide range of partners to share resources and knowledge that will further enrich your experience.

We believe that close partner collaborations positively impact both our students and the wider region. We are working with the National Trust on the development and delivery of new courses, shaping the direction of the Northern Powerhouse campaign, and raising the profile of Carlisle to make it a better place to live, work, invest and visit.

## OUR PARTNERS INCLUDE

- Northern Powerhouse
- Cumbria Tourism
- Lancaster & District Chamber of Commerce
- National Trust
- Carlisle Ambassadors
- Britain Energy Coast Business Cluster
- NHS





# WHY CUMBRIA?

Join a dynamic academic community where you can conduct groundbreaking research, make a meaningful impact, and drive global change.

We offer a range of postgraduate options, including full-time and part-time programmes, research degrees, master's qualifications, and diplomas, allowing you to tailor your studies to your ambitions.

## GREAT REASONS TO CHOOSE CUMBRIA

### Industry Recognised Courses

Our courses are designed and delivered by industry experts and many are accredited or approved by academic and industry professional bodies. You can therefore be confident that our courses are highly regarded and will increase your employability.

### Flexible Course Options

Our flexible courses enable you to study at your own pace alongside work and other life commitments. You will gain the critical skills, knowledge and qualifications to succeed and progress in your chosen career.

### Industry Networking

We have strong partnerships with widely known associations, governing bodies and major businesses on a local, national and global scale. Examples include BAE Systems, the BBC, Rolls Royce, and the NHS. These partnerships provide opportunities to build your professional network.

### Impactful Research & Innovation

Built upon 150 years of higher education, our research delivers real positive change on an international scale. We are making a global impact, driving positive change and innovation to help transform people's lives.

### Taught by World-Class Academics

Our teaching is guided by practice, industry expertise, and research-informed academics. With real-world experience, strong industry connections, and engagement in pioneering research, our academics are renowned experts in their fields.

### Gain Experience While You Study

Our courses offer work-integrated learning, such as placements, live-briefs and project based work, providing you with further hands-on experience that will give you an edge in your career.

### Personalised Learning Experience

We have the advantages of a large academic institution, but in more intimate and specialised settings, encouraging confidence and personal growth. Our academics get to know you as an individual and offer personalised guidance.

Ready to apply? Click below to learn how you can start the application process for your postgraduate course.

[CLICK HERE](#)





# INVESTING IN YOUR FUTURE

We are constantly developing our campuses and enhancing the environment in which you learn, study and ultimately achieve.

## RECENT INVESTMENTS INTO NEW, LEADING-EDGE FACILITIES INCLUDE:

- **Research facilities**  
State-of-the-art scientific teaching and research laboratories at our Fusehill Street campus in Carlisle.
- **Sustainable development**  
An environmentally sustainable teaching block at our Lancaster campus.
- **Accommodation modernisation**  
Redevelopment of our Ambleside campus with purpose-built, modern accommodation.

## SHAPING THE FUTURE OF BARROW

Our new University of Cumbria Barrow campus opens in 2025. The first courses to be delivered from the site—Mechanical Engineering, Computer Science and Adult Nursing—have been designed to meet the needs of local employers, with more to come.

Our new campus is a collaborative initiative developed in partnership with BAE Systems, Furness College, Westmorland & Furness Council, Lancaster University, local businesses, and others. The campus is also part of the Barrow Learning Quarter, which is the largest among a series of government-backed Brilliant Barrow projects driving investment in the area's future.

**BAE SYSTEMS**

## THE PEARS CUMBRIA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

In partnership with Imperial College London, the University of Cumbria has opened The Pears Cumbria School of Medicine, uniting our expertise in the education of nurses, midwives, and allied health professionals with Imperial's reputation as one of the world's best medical schools. The development and launch of the medical school has been supported by a £5 million donation from Pears Foundation.

Starting in Autumn 2025 will be a four-year medical degree, co-created with regional NHS partners, to train compassionate, adaptable, and innovative doctors who meet the needs of residents in Cumbria and the North West.

Visit [cumbriamed.ac.uk](https://cumbriamed.ac.uk) for more information.

**The Pears Cumbria School of Medicine**

A partnership between

Imperial College  
London



## IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BAE SYSTEMS



**“BARROW-IN-FURNESS HAS AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE NATION'S DEFENCE AND ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE, AND WE WILL WORK WITH PARTNERS INCLUDING BAE SYSTEMS, TO SUPPORT BARROW'S SKILLS, PRODUCTIVITY, AND ECONOMIC LANDSCAPE. WE WILL CREATE OPPORTUNITIES BY PROVIDING INCLUSIVE AND ACCESSIBLE PROGRAMMES OF STUDY AND PROGRESSION ROUTES THROUGH TO HIGHER EDUCATION.”**

Professor Brian Webster-Henderson OBE,  
Deputy Vice Chancellor





## Careers & Development

We know how important your career is to you. That's why we are committed to boosting your job prospects and ensuring that your postgraduate journey is as smooth as possible.

At every campus, we offer a range of support services, including: careers and employability events, workshops, drop-ins and advice on career management, skills development, and how to find work opportunities.

You can access our services via our careers hub *My Career Enriched*, the Student Enquiry Point, or via phone and email.

If you are an aspiring entrepreneur looking to chase your dream whilst studying, our Careers and Employability Service can help. From start-up advice and funding opportunities to marketing strategies and pricing considerations, we provide expert guidance at every stage. Whether launching a new venture or expanding an existing one, we offer the resources and support to help you achieve your business and career goals.



## Student Services

### Finance

Our confidential advisory service is free for applicants and students.

With expert advisers across the university, we can provide help and information on a wide range of issues, such as funding eligibility and student loans. If you need any support in managing your money whilst you're studying, we can also help you to plan your finances.

### Disability

We recognise that every student has a unique learning style, and we are committed to fostering a supportive environment where everyone can flourish.

We actively encourage applications from disabled students and provide tailored support to ensure you can excel in your studies. This includes individualised Specific Learning Difficulty (SpLD) action plans and a range of services designed to help students with disabilities or specific learning difficulties succeed in their chosen course.

### Health & Wellbeing

We all go through times where we need a helping hand or someone to listen to our problems. Personal, emotional, and psychological issues can impact your ability to study.

Your wellbeing is very important to us, which is why our Mental Health and Wellbeing team are on hand to help and support you.





# STUDENT LIFE

## OUR COMMUNITY

Choosing to undertake a postgraduate course can feel like a big step, especially if it's been some time since you last studied. At the University of Cumbria, we know that having a supportive and welcoming community matters, whether you're on campus or learning remotely. We are excited for you to be part of our wonderful community while we guide you on your path to success.

Whatever your interests, you'll find a group, society or network to immerse yourself in and meet like-minded people.

### Supporting Local Communities

We are dedicated to helping our local communities thrive. Through hosting charity fundraisers, supporting local festivals, and running our Young Care Leavers programme, we continuously foster the development of the communities to which we belong.

Our communities, which are surrounded by inspiring and innovative businesses, offer valuable opportunities for you to get involved.

### Equality, Diversity & Inclusion

At the University of Cumbria, we believe that every individual deserves equal opportunities. We celebrate diversity in all its forms and strive to create inclusive environments where every student can thrive and achieve their ambitions.

From ensuring diverse and representative reading lists, to participating in community events such as Pride, and providing free training on a wide range of equality topics, we are committed to continuously reviewing and improving the spaces where our students live, learn, and work.



### University of Cumbria Students' Union

Once you become a student at the University of Cumbria, you become a member of our vibrant and active University of Cumbria Students' Union (UCSU).

Led by students for students, the UCSU's mission is to represent and support you in every way possible.

Whether you need study advice, are looking to meet new people, or want to get involved and make a difference to the university, the UCSU is here for you. Visit: [ucsu.me](https://ucsu.me) to find out more.

### Groups & Societies

Continue a hobby you love or explore a new interest. Our wide range of student-led societies and groups range from mountaineering to badminton to midwifery.

### Events

From workshops to training courses to volunteering fairs, we aim to provide events and opportunities that all students can enjoy.

# YOUR FACILITIES

## Your Library

Supporting your learning with access to thousands of books, journals, and electronic resource collections, our libraries provide a complete range of services and support to enhance your academic and study skills.

Our campus libraries are friendly, welcoming, and safe spaces for you to use and enjoy. Our supportive Skills@Cumbria team offers appointments, workshops, webinars, online resources, and videos on a wide range of topics, including referencing, searching skills, academic writing, and more.

## Flexible Study Spaces

All our campuses have designated study spaces that offer comfortable and productive environments to suit your learning and research needs.

Where possible, this includes social spaces for collaborative work with others, as well as bookable study rooms and silent zones for when you need a distraction-free environment. Plus, we have many great spots around campus that provide perfect places to relax whilst studying or taking a break.

## UoC Active Sports & Fitness

UoC Active is here to help you maintain an active lifestyle. We offer a range of facilities and services including:

- Affordable memberships for university campus and local partner facilities.
- Free activities and events.
- A range of exercise classes.
- Discounted sports hall hire.
- Health & fitness award courses.
- Expert advice and guidance.





## EXPLORE OUR CAMPUSES

### CARLISLE

Our Fusehill Street Campus champions its roots in health and science. The specialist facilities (including an immersive simulation suite, outdoor teaching classroom and mock hospital ward) are helping to train the healthcare professionals, teachers and scientists of tomorrow.

The Brampton Road Campus serves as Cumbria's hub of the arts, where like-minded creative students come together to turn their passions into careers. With its modern workshops, studios and design labs, you'll have all the tools you need to explore your artistic voice.

### AMBLESIDE

As one of the only UK university campuses located in a national park and UNESCO World Heritage Site, our Ambleside Campus is a truly unique place to study.

While you'll spend lots of time outdoors in the Lake District National Park, you'll also have access to a range of specialist facilities on-site, including science labs, a bouldering wall, an equipment hire department, and our very own nature reserve.

### LANCASTER

Our Lancaster Campus, close to the city centre, combines innovation and culture. Filled with advanced practical facilities, including sport performance labs, an X-ray and ultrasound suite, training wards, ambulance simulators, and immersive

teacher training rooms, you'll develop the skills and experience needed to take you to the very top. There are spaces to catch up with friends and stay active, too – grab a bite to eat at The View café or take a yoga, Pilates or cardio class at the Sports Complex.

### LONDON

Our roots may be in Cumbria, but our ambition stretches across the UK. Located just steps away from the iconic Canary Wharf, our East London Campus is the home of opportunity for entrepreneurial leaders, inspiring teachers and world changers.

With its own library, cafeteria, and dedicated study spaces, it has everything you need to thrive in your studies and beyond.



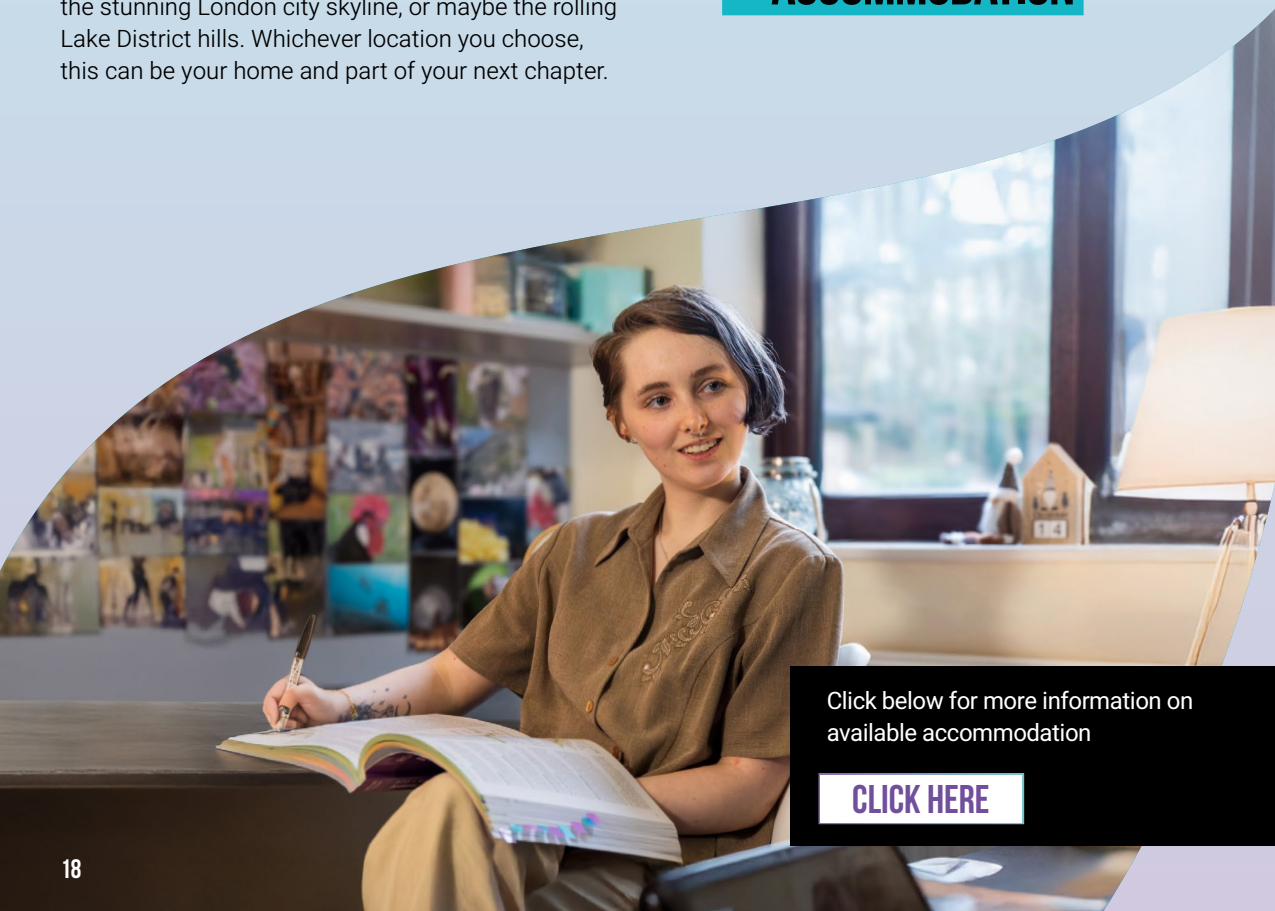
## ACCOMMODATION

For many postgraduate students, living in halls is still an option depending on your work/home life environment. If you are thinking of living away from home, our halls provide a safe environment for you to live, study, and socialise.

We have a range of campus accommodation to cater for all budgets, offering excellent value for money across a range of room type options, so we're sure you'll find your home-from-home at Cumbria.

Imagine waking up to the smell of coffee brewing and the sound of flatmates chatting. Leave the comfort of your warm, cosy bed and open your curtains to a view of one of our green campuses and historic cities, or the stunning London city skyline, or maybe the rolling Lake District hills. Whichever location you choose, this can be your home and part of your next chapter.

- AFFORDABLE LIVING
- ENSUITE
- SHARED FACILITIES
- GREAT LOCATIONS
- CLOSE TO CAMPUS
- SAFE AND GOOD QUALITY ACCOMMODATION



Click below for more information on available accommodation

[CLICK HERE](#)

## ENHANCE YOUR RESEARCH SKILLS

Our specialist areas range from health, science and environment to business, leadership and education, with a variety of flexible, multidisciplinary courses to choose from. Each department is home to expert research academics who not only have a wealth of professional experience but are committed to helping you achieve your dream career.

Develop your knowledge and advance your specialist research skills where 42% of our research was classified as 'world leading' or 'internationally excellent' in the last Research Excellence Framework (REF), 2021.







Whether you're starting your teacher training or advancing your career in education, our PGCE courses provide the skills, confidence, and accreditation to help you succeed. With expert-led training, strong school partnerships, and flexible study options, you'll be well-prepared for a rewarding career.

For those seeking Qualified Teacher Status (QTS), our courses provide school-based placements, ensuring you graduate classroom-ready. Our non-QTS pathway also offers alternative routes into education settings and supports career progression.

If you want to stand out even further, there is also the option to study a specialised SEND/Inclusion pathway within our PGCE General Primary with QTS (5-11 years). This will equip you with the highly sought after skills and expertise schools require to support diverse learning needs in the classroom.



**Location:** Carlisle, Lancaster, London. Some courses may not run at all locations. Check our website for up-to-date information.

WHAT IS QUALIFIED TEACHER STATUS (QTS)?

Qualified Teacher Status, also referred to as QTS, is a legal requirement for teaching in many schools across England and Northern Ireland and is widely regarded as a valuable qualification for teachers in most English schools.

PGCE COURSES WITH QTS\*

**General Primary with QTS (5-11 years)** – Specialisms in: Mathematics, PE, Environmental & Outdoor Learning, Inclusion/SEND.

**Primary Education with QTS (Lower Primary 3-7 years)**

**Secondary with QTS** – Specialisms include: Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, English, Geography, History, Religious Education, Modern Foreign Languages, Art & Design, Music, Computer Science & ICT, Physical Education.

Accreditation for the award of QTS is through the University of Warwick.\*

PGCE COURSES WITHOUT QTS\*

Our **PGCE (non-QTS) online** programme is delivered as a distance learning provision. It is a part-time programme which can be taken flexibly, on its own, or alongside part-time employment. The course is ideal for individuals who already work in an educational setting and are looking to progress in their career.

**Course duration:** PGCE with QTS, full time: 1 year; PGCE non-QTS, part time: 1 year.

**Award:** PGCE

IS IT CAMPUS-BASED OR SCHOOL-BASED?

We offer both campus-based and school-based PGCE courses, each leading to the same qualification but catering to different learning preferences.

In the campus-based programme, you'll learn on one of our university campuses, with two-thirds of your time spent in schools for practical placements.

In the school-based programme, your training takes place on-site at a partner school, supported by both experienced teachers and University of Cumbria tutors, ensuring you're guided to success from day one.

Please note that some school-based programmes require occasional attendance at campus sessions. Scan the QR code for more details.

WHY CHOOSE CUMBRIA FOR YOUR PGCE?

- Learn from expert tutors with extensive experience in education.
- Gain hands-on experience through strong school partnerships and real-world teaching placements.
- Customise your studies to align with your professional context and interests.
- Benefit from personalised support and tailored mentoring throughout your journey.
- Stand out by studying our specialised SEND/Inclusion primary pathway to develop expertise in supporting diverse learning needs.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Minimum Second Class Honours degree (for Secondary courses your undergraduate degree will need to be in a related subject to your chosen specialism).
- GCSE at grade 4/C in English Language or Literature and Mathematics.
- For the PGCE non-QTS programme, applicants must currently be working in, or have access to, an educational setting for the duration of the course.
- If English is not your first language, please read our English Language requirements at [cumbria.ac.uk/study/international-students/entry-requirements/](https://cumbria.ac.uk/study/international-students/entry-requirements/).



\*Accreditation may revert to the University of Cumbria for students commencing course from September 2025 onwards.

**Recruiting to:** UK/Rol/Settled in UK/ EU/EEA/International

**Start date:** January, April, September. Start date will vary depending on your training provider. Check our website for up-to-date information.

FIND OUT MORE



## DISCLAIMER

This prospectus aims to answer your questions about life at the University of Cumbria and the postgraduate academic provision on offer. We have made every effort to ensure the prospectus is accurate at the time of printing.

In exceptional circumstances, it can be necessary to make changes; for example, to courses, facilities, or fees. Changes to courses may, for example, consist of variations to the content and the method of delivery of our programmes and other services; the discontinuation of programmes or other services; or the merging and combining of programmes.

If a programme change or closure is proposed, we will take all reasonable steps to minimise disruption to students. This will include informing applicants and students of the changes in advance.

For a complete list of courses currently on offer from the University of Cumbria, please visit our website [cumbria.ac.uk](http://cumbria.ac.uk).

## CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions about Cumbria, our courses, campuses, or facilities, please contact us.

**Phone:** **01228 588 588**

**Email:** [enquirycentre@cumbria.ac.uk](mailto:enquirycentre@cumbria.ac.uk)

## CAMPUS DETAILS

### **Ambleside Campus**

University of Cumbria, The Barn, Rydal Road, Ambleside, Cumbria, LA22 9BB.

### **Carlisle Brampton Road Campus**

University of Cumbria, Brampton Road, Carlisle, Cumbria, CA3 9AW.

### **Carlisle Fusehill Street Campus**

University of Cumbria, Fusehill Street, Carlisle, Cumbria, CA1 2HH.

### **Lancaster Campus**

University of Cumbria, Bowerham Road, Lancaster, Lancashire, LA1 3JD.

### **London Campus**

University of Cumbria, 58 E India Dock Road, London, E14 6JE.



CARLISLE. AMBLESIDE. LANCASTER. LONDON. BARROW.

