



Further and adult education

Housed on a purpose built campus, Lakes College West Cumbria is located at Lillyhall, Workington. Lakes College is a medium-sized general further education college where students are taught everything from basic skills through to postgraduate level subjects on a full or part-time basis, either in college, at centres near to where they live, in their workplace or even at home.

The college offers work-based learning programmes in health, public services and care, engineering, construction, retail and commercial enterprise, catering and business administration.

The college has high success rates for adult learners. In fact adult success rates at Lakes College put it in the top 10% for the whole country.

In August 2007 St Martin's College, Cumbria Institute of the Arts and the University of Central Lancashire's sites in Carlisle and Penrith will amalgamate to create the UK's newest university, the University of Cumbria. Initially, the new university will offer the same courses as those currently run by the three institutions. The course portfolio will be expanded over time, diversifying



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into new areas like law and engineering while strengthening the provision of business and science.

The new university will work closely with a wide variety of stakeholders to ensure that employers' skills needs are met in each area.

There are also plans for a Nuclear Institute and a Nuclear Skills Academy in West Cumbria, to equip both the present workforce in the nuclear industry and generations to follow with the right mix of skills to grow and sustain an industrial base capable of being a world leader in the field of nuclear decommissioning at home and abroad.

A Nuclear Institute based at the West Lakes Science and Technology Park in Whitehaven will bring world-class scientific research to West Cumbria and link to a technology centre at Sellafield. This new technology research facility will complement the well-established work of Westlakes Research Institute in environmental science, health and epidemiology.

The Nuclear Skills Academy will be a world-class centre of excellence and innovation for nuclear skills development and will work with schools and provide NVQs, apprenticeships and

foundation degrees. Work to build the £19million Nuclear Academy at Lillyhall, near Workington, began in March 2007. The Academy, which is being developed in a partnership between the Northwest Regional Development Agency, the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority, West Lakes Renaissance and British Nuclear Group, will have space for around 250 students, the first of whom are expected to enrol in September 2008.

The Cumbria Learning and Skills Council is responsible for planning and funding high-quality vocational education and training in Allerdale. Cumbria's Learning and Skills Council has made progress delivering its priorities over the last 12

months with more adults achieving Skills for Life and vocational qualifications relevant to their chosen careers and more employers being engaged in training their staff through, for example, Train to Gain.

Through its adult education centres and partner organisations, Cumbria Adult Education Service delivers learning opportunities to around 20,000 adults in the county. There are several adult education and community development centres in Allerdale that can provide further information. For those who are unsure about which course to take, 'nextstep' is a local service for adults provided by Connexions Cumbria.

Useful websites

Lakes College West Cumbria

www.lcwc.ac.uk

University of Cumbria

www.university4cumbria.co.uk

Nuclear Academy

www.nuclearacademy.com

Cumbria Learning and Skills Council

www.lsc.gov.uk/cumbria

Cumbria Adult Education Service

www.cumbria.gov.uk/childrensservices/adulteducation

Connexions Cumbria

www.connexionscumbria.co.uk

Nextstep

www.nextstepcumbria.org.uk



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