

Cockermouth School



AN EXCEPTIONAL LEARNING EXPERIENCE FOR ALL
aspire • enjoy • include • respect • community



We place high expectations on
all student interactions, based
around our core principle
of **respect**.



Welcome to Cockermouth School



At Cockermouth School, we are proud to offer all of our students an exceptional learning experience founded on excellent teaching, high expectations and the importance of personal development.

Building on our excellent reputation and success, we embrace the idea of being a 'restless' school; a school that evaluates all that it does to ensure the very best experience for all of our students.

We are rightly proud of the outstanding academic achievements of our students and have high expectations of everyone. We passionately believe that the high quality teaching of a broad curriculum enables all students to flourish.

We understand the need to achieve highly in the core subjects to enable future success and we also understand that school is about more than performance in exams. All students are exposed to a wide range of subjects including arts, languages, sports and technology so that individual passions are catered for.

Complemented by an enormous range of opportunities outside of the classroom and a dedicated pastoral support team, life at Cockermouth School is busy, enjoyable and rewarding and enables our students to achieve in every area of school life.

As a high-performing, truly comprehensive school, our core values of aspire, enjoy, include, respect and community underpin everything that we do. We aim to be the best school we can be, endeavour to make the school experience enjoyable and inspiring, understand that difference and diversity are to be celebrated, respect the right of everyone to learn and work closely with parents, encouraging our students to be ambassadors within our community.

Mr R J King
Headteacher



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Academic Achievement

We work hard to ensure all of our students achieve the very best that they can in their academic studies and we are proud of the results that our students achieve at both GCSE and A level. The progress and attainment of our students consistently shows us to be one of the highest performing schools in the North West.



Our well-qualified, experienced and passionate staff tailor their lessons to the needs of the individual, providing a stimulating environment and challenge for all of our students.

Subject leaders work closely with our local primary schools to ensure that classwork and expectations develop smoothly from a solid foundation.

The school curriculum is then balanced and developed to provide breadth and challenge. This allows our students to be able to study a wide range of subjects and to excel at them, resulting in positive outcomes throughout.

Our educational provision allows many of our students the opportunity to then join our high performing Sixth Form, or provides them with the grades they require to move on to high quality apprenticeships or employment.



We encourage all of our students to **aspire** to be the best that they can be, both inside and outside of the classroom.





#icare

include • community • aspire • respect • enjoy

Pastoral Care

Our aim is for all of our students to enjoy school and to feel cared for and valued. We have a team of staff who specialise in providing high quality pastoral care, to ensure that students are given the best possible advice, support and guidance when it is needed.

We deal with issues sensitively and effectively. As a community school we take a great deal of pride in the contribution of our students and the standards that they aspire to and display on a daily basis.

We work to build positive and effective relationships with our parents and carers. High quality communication is key in ensuring that everyone feels confident in understanding the decisions that are taken and in building the crucial partnership between school and home.

We believe passionately that our success as a school depends on ensuring that each of our students are respected, feel confident, understand and support our core values, and work with us on striving to achieve them every day.

We place high expectations on our students and look for them to demonstrate good manners, excellent levels of behaviour and the attitude that allows them to succeed and develop inside and outside of school.



#weallneedtocare

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Inclusion

We value everyone's contribution to the life of the school and recognise that different students have different strengths. As a result, we support the needs of all students as individuals to allow everyone to fulfil their potential.



We celebrate the wide range of cultural influences that shape our lives, engaging with different cultures and opportunities to develop the skills and attitudes needed for life in a diverse country.

We encourage honesty, integrity and dignity in recognising right and wrong, and by doing so respect the law, accepting responsibility for our actions and their consequences.

Our students develop and demonstrate virtues of care, forgiveness, trustworthiness, helpfulness, courtesy and politeness in their interactions with others. They reflect on experiences and develop character, personal values and beliefs, while exploring and valuing those of others with humility.

Our Student Support Centre provides emotional and practical support so students feel safe, supported and listened to.



A photograph of three young students in school uniforms sitting at a desk. The student on the right is a boy with blonde hair, smiling broadly. The student in the middle is a girl with brown hair, smiling gently. The student on the left is a boy with dark hair, also smiling. They are all wearing dark blue V-neck sweaters over light blue collared shirts and striped ties. The boy on the right has a small crest on his sweater. They are sitting at a grey desk with a blue pencil case and a ruler visible. The background is a classroom with a blue bulletin board and wooden shelves.

We are a fully inclusive school,
determined to ensure that all
members of our community
are involved and that we
actively **include** and value
each individual.



We want all of our students to **enjoy** coming to school each day, engaged by lessons which inspire and motivated by opportunity.

Transition

We pride ourselves on the priority that we give to the transition from primary to secondary school.



We work closely with a wide range of primary schools, and we truly value this relationship as we work together to develop students who are ready and resilient for the next step on their educational journey.

All the students that join us are equally welcome and we work hard to ensure that we meet them all in advance of them joining the school.

At the start of July, we invite all Year 6 students who will be joining us to Cockermouth School for two intake days. These are very important and enjoyable days, where the students will learn a great deal and will gain a huge amount of confidence ahead of the summer break.

In September, we ensure that the Year 7 students are made to feel part of our school community. We quickly establish routines and ensure that they are familiarised with

our facilities, know how to effectively find their way around our school site and understand and grow through our school values. We believe that it is vital that students have a successful transition, as this means that they have the opportunity to enjoy school and excel from the day that they join us.

In October, we meet with all Year 7 families to discuss the transition process and the first half term at secondary school. The feedback from these meetings is always exceptional, which provides us with confidence and reassurance that this is a process that we do very well.

We offer a broad academic curriculum, with students focusing on specific pathways following the preferences process at the end of Year 9. Many students continue their learning journey with us for seven years and join our exceptional Sixth Form, where our dedicated staff inspire through challenging and stimulating teaching.

Mr I G Routledge

Assistant Headteacher
Transitions, Careers and Engagement



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Extra-curricular

We offer a wide variety of extra-curricular activities to enrich the learning experience of all our students. Our extensive programme provides students with valuable opportunities to develop skills outside the classroom.

All our students are encouraged to get involved in groups and clubs that support and develop their interests through a range of activities. These opportunities enhance their personal growth, whilst fostering a sense of community and teamwork.

Through these experiences, students can build lifelong friendships and develop skills that will support them in the future such as; teamwork, leadership, time management and effective communication.

Whether it be through sport, drama, music, dance or one of our lunchtime or after-school clubs, there is something for everyone at our school to get involved with and excel in.





We are proud to represent our
community at a local and national level.
We celebrate our successes
and grow together.

Providing opportunities
to access new experiences
and interests



Questions and answers

Will I get lots of homework?

You won't get much in the first few weeks, then it will slowly build up. My advice is to keep on top of it.

Jack



Are there any clubs or activities that I can join?

Yes, there are so many different activities that you can do at lunchtime and after school this includes sports clubs, dance, music and games clubs with things like Dungeons and Dragons.

James



Will I get lost in such a big school?

When you first start, you will line up in the Year 7 area before and after every lesson where your teachers will come and collect you. You will soon know your way around.

Martha



What do you enjoy most about Cockermouth School?

Firstly, the food is amazing. But more importantly, I have been impressed by the variety of subjects and activities along with the number of opportunities in and out of the classroom.

Kitty



Is there support there if I'm feeling worried or upset?

Staff are there to take care of you and I'm sure your friends will help you too. There's also student support and pastoral staff to help if you need them.

George



What was your first day at Cockermouth School like?

I have to admit that my first day was a bit scary, but it was also exciting too! I made lots of new friends and after meeting everyone in my form and all of the teachers, I knew there was nothing to worry about.

Stella



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