



CUMBRIAN AWARD

BElong, BElieve, BEcome

LATEST NEWS



Cumbrian Award Summer Term Newsletter: July 2026

END OF YEAR MESSAGE FROM BETH:



2025–26 has been another fantastic year of Cumbrian Award experiences, skills development and exploration of what it means to belong in Cumbria.

Congratulations to the 378 pupils from 14 schools graduating this year.

The reflections collected this summer highlight just how much pupils have learned about and connected with their local area through the award.

From Cumbrian farming and fell pony poetry to local cuisine and world-class art, the creativity, curiosity and innovation on display have been truly inspiring.

A huge well done to all pupils and teachers involved – here's to even more success in 2026–27.

Beth Loughran-Layton - Cumbrian Award Development Officer

AWARD ENDORSEMENT MESSAGE

It is inspiring to see so many young people across Cumbria engaging with the Cumbrian Award and developing a deeper connection to their communities, heritage and environment.

The award provides valuable opportunities for children to **build confidence, develop new skills** and **raise their aspirations**, while fostering a **strong sense of belonging**.

We are proud that the University of Cumbria's endorsement continues to support this important work, helping young people recognise their potential and their role in shaping Cumbria's future.

Ruth Harrison-Palmer - Dean of Education, Arts and Society
University of Cumbria



SCHOOL ENROLMENT FORM 2026-27



Please complete the **2026/27 Award Enrolment Form** by **25 September 2026** to confirm your school's **continued participation in the Cumbrian Award**.

This includes booklet and passport ordering for us to get a sense of quantity to print and provide as soon as possible in the new academic year.

[Cumbrian Award School & Pupil Enrolment Form 2026-27 – Fill out form](#)

ST GREGORY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY

Case Study

As part of the **Culture strand**, pupils at St Gregory's Catholic Primary engaged in Cumbrian themed **creative writing, producing poems** themed around **Cumbrian fell ponies**, with children's author Helen Haraldsen. Children learned so much about creative practice and expressing themselves through poetry and even got the chance to have **their work published in Helen's new book**.

This work fed into **Adventure and Enterprise strands**, where pupils ventured out to the fells to meet the fell ponies in real life. Such a bond was formed between the ponies and pupils, that the **Enterprise strand** build towards generating money to donate to the **Fell Pony Heritage Trust**.

What an amazing job of drawing attention to this amazing Cumbrian phenomenon through this incredible work!



ST BENEDICTS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Case Study

As part of a **cultural heritage focus**, St Benedict's Catholic High School has taken part in the **Sellafield Volunteer Scheme Pilot**, arranging an experience that combines a visit to **The Beacon in Whitehaven** with an **industrial heritage talk** from the Sellafield Visits Team.

Year 7 pupils will explore their local heritage and gain a deeper understanding of **community, history and identity**, while being inspired by **skills-based role models** and connecting their learning to the **Skills Builder UK framework**.

This is a great example of a school working collaboratively with the Cumbrian Award and its partners to deliver high-quality, meaningful learning experiences.



SEThera (YEARS 5–6) STRAND BOOKLETS: NEW EDITIONS



Thank you for the fantastic feedback on the **new Setheria strand booklet editions**. It has been wonderful to see how pupils have engaged with them during our school visits.

Schools are also welcome to create and use their own versions of the Cumbrian Award booklets to support award completion. The booklets **do not need** to be completed in full for pupils to achieve the award; they are intended as a flexible resource to support reflection, skills development and evidence gathering.

DOVERA (YEARS 7-9) ENTERPRISE BOOKLET: NEW EDITION

We are pleased to launch the **new Dovera Enterprise booklet**.

A great deal of time and thought has gone into developing this resource to ensure it is as engaging and high quality as possible for pupils and schools.

The Dovera **Culture** and **Dovera Adventure** booklet editions are **currently in development and are expected later this year**.

In the meantime, please continue to use the existing Open Level Culture and Adventure booklets with your Dovera pupils.

Thank you for your patience. We hope you enjoy using the new Enterprise booklet, and we would love to hear your feedback at Cumbrian.Award@cumberland.gov.uk.



CUMBRIAN AWARD PARTNERS & DIRECTORY

Award Resource Links

Throughout the year, we have connected with a range of inspiring people, organisations and opportunities that offer cost-free, high-quality experiences for pupils. In many cases, experiences can be tailored to meet the specific needs and interests of your school.

For full details, case studies and ideas, please visit the [Cumbrian Award Ideas Padlet](#) (password: [Ace2025](#)).

A summary of the fully funded and cost-free opportunities currently available is provided below.

Resources Quick Summary

- Ernest Cook Trust** (Schools offer available and grants)
- Primary Business Partnership, Centre for Leadership and Performance** contact rebecca.day@cforlp.org.uk (Fully funded access to six in-school sessions with volunteers and logistics management, year 6 careers events and transition support and MORE!)
- LEVELS Whitehaven** (low to no cost education offer available)
- Cumbria Arts and Culture Network** (Funded [See It to Be It project](#) , contact director kate@cacn.co.uk)
- Outdoor Partnership, Coastal Cumbria** (contact : molly.campion@outdoorpartnership.co.uk)
- Cumbria Wildlife Trust Educational Visits** (plus [free nature activity resources](#))
- Helen Haraldsen Books** plus [free resources](#))
- Sellafield Volunteer Programme** (contact: Cumbrian.Award@cumberland.gov.uk)

Thank you for all you do, have a lovely summer.

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