

INSIDE LAKES

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 8

WELCOME TO LAKES COLLEGE

I'M Chris Nattress, your principal here at Lakes College, and it's my pleasure to welcome you all to a new college year.

You may be a new student here with us for the first time or a returning student continuing your progress with us.

Either way, I'd like to share some key messages with you as we get under way.

The first is to congratulate you on making an excellent choice.

Our college is a fantastic place to study, learn and spend your time as a student or an apprentice.

We have first-class, industry-standard facilities here, brilliant staff who know their field inside out, and a busy, vibrant atmosphere with all the support you need to be a success.

It's important for you to know that whatever support you need as you settle into college life and progress is readily available to you, whether you need help with finding your way around, getting to know who is who, where to go for any help you may need, financial and careers information, or making sure the chosen course is right for you.

Our expert staff are here to provide you with information, advice and guidance, and to help you with your chosen career.

We have a thriving student community here and one which is inclusive, very supportive and welcoming to all, no matter what

background, characteristics, beliefs or orientations we all have.

In return, there are some things we expect and insist upon from you.

We expect you to be present, on time, each



day for all the sessions you have, ready to learn and fully engage.

We insist that you behave with respect for yourself, all staff and other students, and have respect for the fantastic facilities and equipment we have here for you at our college, and that you work with us to maximise your full potential.

You will be trusted to take responsibility

for your own learning and treated with the respect we expect you to return to our teaching and support staff, as well as your fellow students.

With that trust comes a responsibility for you to behave properly, appropriately and make a positive contribution to our college life and community.

We aim to provide you with the highest quality training to set you up with skills for life and a great career.

You need to do your bit and always aim for high standards.

We expect you to follow the rules, which include always wearing your badge, if you smoke only smoking in permitted shelters, and no littering.

It's great to have the buzz of students back in our corridors and classrooms.

Lakes College is a great place to learn, but it's also a place for you to grow as a person, make friends and express yourself.

It's also a very important part of your career and employment plans and development as an employee with a really bright future.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Nattress

Principal

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Nattress', written over a white background.

SETTLING IN AT COLLEGE

STUDENTS are due to return to the campus from Wednesday, September 7.

You should be able to access your timetable using the MyLakes app (find out more about downloading the app on the next page of this newsletter) from Monday, September 5. If you haven't, support with downloading and setting up the app will be available.

Members of staff – all wearing red badges displaying their name and picture – will be on hand to point you in the right direction and answer any questions you have.

You will have your picture taken for your own badge, which will be blue or yellow to identify you as a student and will allow you to move around the campus using doors which can only be opened by a pass.

Once you join the college you will complete our induction programme, getting to know your tutors and learning about the content of your course, as well as finding your way around the campus.

You are never on your own at Lakes College and there is a wealth of both pastoral and financial support available.

Each learner is supported by a progress and welfare coach who is responsible for supporting you on your journey, helping you to record your progress, providing advice and signposting you to other support if needed.

Our careers team also supports students by ensuring that you have a pathway to your desired career and receive the help you need to get there effectively.



WELCOME TO LAKES

FINDING YOUR WAY AROUND

THE Lakes College campus is made up of four distinct buildings:

The **main building**, opened in 2001, includes most of our classrooms as well as the ActivZone gym (discounted to students!), canteen, common room and the Learning Resource Centre. Classrooms and workshops beginning with a G can be found on the ground floor and F rooms are on the first floor.

The **Construction Skills Centre** is home to our construction and built environment courses, with a mixture of classrooms and workshops designed to replicate the workplace covering electrical, joinery, brickwork, plumbing, engineering and painting and decorating.

The **National College for Nuclear** hosts our nuclear and science courses, with spaces including nuclear labs, project rooms and a virtual reality suite.

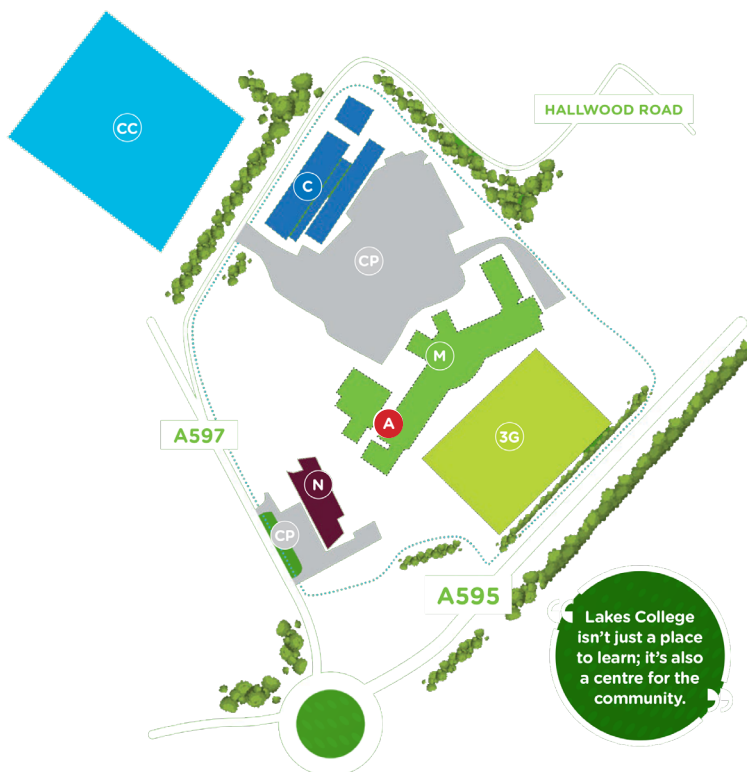
The **Civil Engineering Training Centre** provides a modern space to learn the skills and knowledge required for many roles in the nuclear and civil engineering supply chain.

If you are a cyclist, you are free to use our bike racks and there are cycle paths from both Workington and Whitehaven.

The campus has an extensive free car park which can be used by staff or students, and is on the major number 30 bus routes from Whitehaven, Maryport and Workington.

If you are eligible for a Stagecoach bus pass, the pass will be available to collect from the student services office next to reception in the main building.

A range of food and drinks are available in our canteen, which also offers free breakfast for every student.



MAP KEY:



OPPORTUNITIES AT LAKES COLLEGE

AT LAKES College we are always keen to embrace ways to enrich our students' learning.

That could mean arranging valuable work placements which add to your skills and knowledge while bolstering your CV.

Or it could be getting involved with a project in the community, engaging with local people with benefits for you and the area.

Throughout the academic year we have a wide range of activities which we encourage our students to take part in.

In the past academic year, we raised hundreds of pounds to support the people of Ukraine by selling handmade goods and cakes and hosting a charity football match between staff and students.

A group of policing students joined the Civil Nuclear Constabulary to get an up-close look at what life in the CNC is really like.

We organised our first Employer and Careers Fair with an opportunity for learners and members of the public to meet and make an impression on dozens of local and national employers.

Sellafield Ltd visited our National College for Nuclear



EXPERIENCE: Students visited the Civil Nuclear Constabulary's Griffin Park base as part of a placement which gave them hands-on experience of what a career in the industry would be like

building to play their innovative asset management board game with our civil engineering apprentices.

A group of learners worked together to relaunch a regular collection on campus for North Lakes Foodbank.

Our construction department received a donation of 10,000 bricks from Persimmon Homes to help students and apprentices to practice and complete their assessments.

Learners planted trees around campus as part of the Queen's Green Canopy initiative to

mark the Platinum Jubilee.

Number-crunching students took part in the local and regional Mathematics Education Innovation challenge at Lakes College then Kendal College.

Construction students learned how to cook appetising dishes from around the world as their plumbing tutor swapped pipes for pans to show them around a kitchen.

Transitions learners produced artwork for signage promoting Workington Hall Parklands and encouraging people to learn

more about local nature and history.

British Army staff tasked catering students with producing tasty meals from basic ration packs.

And we sent two talented apprentices to compete to be named the best in the North West in plumbing and electrical.

The opportunities to top up your course learning with personal and professional development are endless and encouraged so don't hesitate to sign up!



GAMES: Civil engineering apprentices play the Sellafield Ltd asset management board game as a group with support from the company



TRIBUTE: Trees were planted by learners as part of the Queen's Green Canopy initiative, marking the Platinum Jubilee across the campus

MYLAKES APP

THE MyLakes smartphone app can be at your side throughout your time at Lakes College.

Allowing you to view your timetable, communicate with tutors and friends and find useful resources to help with your studies, the app is free to download.

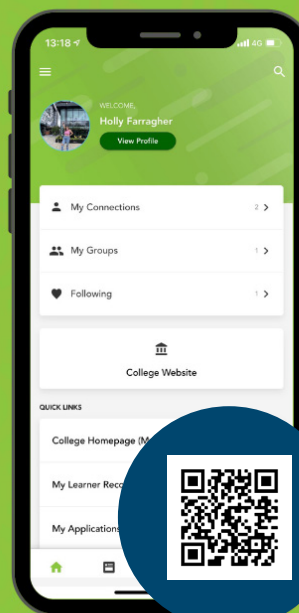
The app can also be used to keep up with college news and find out benefits and offers which are available to staff and students so that you don't miss out on an opportunity.

You can download the app from the Google Play Store or the App Store to your device - and the app can also be accessed using a

web browser.

You can do a variety of exciting things within our new app such as:

- Connect with your tutors and friends
- Access your timetable
- Report your own absences
- One click takes you to a variety of applications
- Chat with tutors and classmates and post messages in course group chats



STUDENT CASE STUDIES

OUR students come to Lakes College from a wide variety of backgrounds and go on to enjoy success in a range of careers - and we always enjoy hearing how they have appreciated the support received during their time on campus. We asked some of our learners to share how they felt about learning at Lakes.

AIDAN MCFARLAND **LEVEL 3 PLUMBING APPRENTICE**

FROM leaving secondary school with no qualifications to finding a trade for life, Lakes College has been life-changing for Aidan McFarland.

The Broughton Moor 18-year-old impressed so much on a work placement with R Stamper Plumbing & Heating Limited that the firm took him on as an apprentice in September.

He now studies a Level 3 apprenticeship, working four days a week in the industry and spending a day each week in college, earning a wage while completing his qualification.

It is an impressive achievement for someone who joined the college in 2019 after leaving school with no qualifications.

"I've really enjoyed the teaching at the college and the change from secondary education to college further education really helped me," he said.



AARON GROGGINS **HND ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING APPRENTICE**

THE opportunity to stay, learn and work on his doorstep made a HND apprenticeship at Lakes College the perfect way into work for Aaron Groggins.

As an HND Electrical and Electronic Engineering apprentice with Sellafield Ltd, one day Aaron is learning the theory behind his role, and the next he is putting it into practice by collaborating with stakeholders to design and deliver solutions in the workplace.

Aaron, 19, said: "It's fantastic to be an apprentice. I like every aspect of it because you get the experience of learning while you've got a real job.

"I really love my job and the training that is provided which is relevant and crucial to my future as an engineer."

MARTYNE SIMPSON **NUCLEAR WASTE ENGINEER AT ATKINS AND FORMER APPRENTICE**

MARTYNE Simpson ran her own salon in Cumbria until she decided to leave behind nine years of waxing and nail extensions to swap them for a hard hat and goggles in pursuit of her dream career in science and engineering.

After trying a variety of ways to get into the industry but making little progress, Martyne found that it was Lakes College and the National College for Nuclear which finally got her to achieve her vision, completing the journey from beauty therapist to nuclear waste engineer in a combined total of six years.

"Lakes College and the National College for Nuclear offer fantastic courses, they've got a great support network and I definitely would not have the career that I have today without them."



FOR MORE HELP WITH SETTLING IN AT LAKES COLLEGE, VISIT OUR SEPTEMBER STARTERS PAGE AT WWW.LCWC.AC.UK - OR SCAN THE QR CODE TO THE RIGHT USING YOUR PHONE.

