



Department
for Education

Cumbria Academy for Autism Statement of Provision

Introductory statement

Cumbria Academy for Autism (CAA) is a Special Free School which specialises in providing for children with a primary diagnosis of autism. Our aim is 'To create life changing opportunities' to enable our students to be able to live and work in our modern society. The school will provide a suitable environment with a high level of therapeutic support and excellent teaching to allow children and young people, particularly with autism, to achieve their full potential and to make the most of their intelligence, focus and skills.

The curriculum at CAA follows the National Curriculum and places a strong emphasis on the development of life skills to help our students develop self-help skills and to make sense of the world around them. Using the surrounding area we will nurture a love of the outdoors for physical and recreational purposes. Links with cutting edge technological industries enable us to have the very best STEM support for our students. We aim for each pupil to make above expected levels of progress in each Key Stage and to leave the school with GCSEs or equivalent qualifications. CAA will help each pupil leaving the school to progress into training, employment or further education.

Cumbria Academy for Autism complies with the SEND Code of Practice 2015.

Admissions to the School

Cumbria Academy for Autism will open in September 2019. It will provide for 56 pupils of both sexes between the ages of 4 and 19 years. For a child to be admitted the school must be named by a local authority in the child's Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

Parents wishing their children to benefit from our provision should ask their local authority to name our school in their child's EHCP.

A local authority can also refer a child to the school¹ to be assessed for an EHCP plan or following a change in the child's circumstances for his or her needs to be assessed or reassessed. Any assessment should be completed within the 20 weeks set out in the SEND Code.

Children being assessed for an EHCP will be dual registered and return, full time, to their mainstream school if the LA decides not to issue an EHCP.

¹ To refer a child in this way requires the agreement of the school's home local authority (if the school is in another local authority area), the school and the child's parents, or the student when he or she is a post 16 student.

For further information on our school, and the process for obtaining a place here, email autismfsc@gmail.com

Other school policies and further information can be found via these links:

- Equal opportunities;
- Information sharing;
- The curriculum;
- Complaints procedure;
- Safeguarding policy.

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