

## About Millom School

Millom School is an 11-18 community school, with a current roll of 526 students, and an established sixth form. We regard ourselves as a learning community and understand the importance of investing in our colleagues as well as our students. The school plays a central role in the local community.

We provide a friendly, supportive, but structured environment, in which students are given every opportunity to flourish. We have a commitment to professional development for staff and a culture of change and improvement with strong support from senior leadership and the governing body. We are proud of our school, our staff, and our students, and are ambitious for the future. In the immediate locality Millom School plays a key role in the Millom partnership of schools, working with all of the educational establishments from age 0-19. The headteachers meet six times a year to build upon the already widespread shared good practice between the schools. Recent developments include exploring the feasibility of further sharing resources.

Outcomes for learners have risen significantly in recent years. At Key Stage 4 the Progress 8 score for 2018 was -0.03, and indications are that for 2019 this will be higher. The school was last inspected in October 2018 and was judged to be "Requires Improvement". The full Ofsted report is available on Ofsted's or the school's web site. Inspectors recognised the many strengths that the school has, agreed with the areas for improvement that we have identified and confirmed that we have made progress in these areas.

The School serves the small town of Millom (pop. about 7,000) and a wide rural catchment area extending to the north and west for some thirty miles along the Cumbrian coast and into the Lakeland fells. Local housing in the attractive surrounding countryside is generally affordable. It is the only secondary school in the town and shares its catchment boundaries with John Ruskin School at Coniston (15 miles north-east) and the West Lakes Academy at Egremont (27 miles north-west). The school is part of the Furness Educational Consortium, which includes all the secondary schools, Barrow Sixth Form College and Furness College.

The curriculum is innovative with a degree of personalised learning established and continually developing. In Key Stage 4 the school has introduced a number of alternative courses and accreditations in conjunction with GCSEs. These are presented to the students as 14-19 courses and they offer automatic progression to AS/A2 or Level 3 vocational courses. The curriculum includes a range of A-level and BTEC subjects.

### **Student Support**

The student support team's brief is to focus on the pastoral aspects of students' experiences at school, by assisting students who have difficulties in lessons, either with learning or behaviour. They listen and provide advice and support if students have personal difficulties, and work alongside parents and a range of other outside agencies. The team also provides students with information and guidance, helping them plan for the future, and create opportunities in school for students to try new and different activities.

### **Governance**

The school has a large and active governing body. The governing body includes parents, local councillors, business people and residents from Millom and the surrounding area. Senior students and members of the senior leadership team are associate governors. There is a slimmed-down committee structure which includes a finance committee who have been commended by the LA for their oversight over the school's budget.