



Year 11 and Year 13 Destinations Report 2026

Local Advisory Board Report

Executive Summary

Kirkby Stephen Grammar School continues to demonstrate strong outcomes in preparing students for their next stage of education, employment and training. Destination data for students completing both Year 11 and Year 13 in Summer 2026 highlights the breadth of opportunities secured by students and reflects the effectiveness of the school's careers programme, guidance and post-16 support.

The overall picture is extremely positive, with all students progressing into sustained education, apprenticeships, employment or training. Students secured destinations at a range of highly regarded universities, colleges, sixth forms and apprenticeship providers across the region and nationally.

Year 11 Destinations 2026

Overview

The Year 11 cohort successfully progressed into a range of academic, vocational and apprenticeship pathways following completion of their GCSE studies. The majority of students continued into post-16 education, with significant numbers choosing both Sixth Form and Further Education routes.

Year 11 Destination Summary

Destination	Number of Students	Percentage
KSGS Sixth Form	25	46%
Other Sixth Form Centres	3	6%
Further Education Colleges	21	39%
Apprenticeships	3	6%
Employment/Training	2	4%

Total Cohort: 54 Students

Key Headlines

- **52% of students progressed into Sixth Form education**, including 25 students who chose to remain at KSGS.
- **39% of students progressed to Further Education Colleges**, accessing a wide range of vocational and technical pathways.
- **6% of students secured apprenticeship opportunities** in sectors including engineering and construction.
- All students progressed into education, employment or training destinations.

Further Education and Sixth Form Destinations

Sixth Form Providers

- KSGS Sixth Form
- Kirkbie Kendal Sixth Form
- Queen Elizabeth Sixth Form, Darlington
- UCC Sixth Form

Further Education Colleges

- Kendal College
- Carlisle College
- Lancaster & Morecambe College
- Myerscough College

Courses and Pathways

Students enrolled onto a broad range of programmes, including:

- Agriculture
- Animal Care
- Agricultural Engineering
- Business
- Construction
- Art & Design
- Game Design
- Performing Arts
- Health & Social Care
- Beauty Therapy

- Motor Sports Engineering
- Welding
- Sport
- IT and Digital Pathways
- Agriculture and Land Management

KSGS Sixth Form Recruitment

A significant positive from the Year 11 cohort is the number of students electing to remain at KSGS for Post-16 study.

25 students chose KSGS Sixth Form as their destination for September 2026, representing **46% of the cohort** and over half of those progressing into Sixth Form education.

This represents a strong endorsement of the Sixth Form offer and reflects continued confidence in the provision available at KSGS.

Year 13 Destinations 2026

Overview

The outcomes for students completing Sixth Form studies in 2026 are exceptionally strong. Students secured destinations at a number of highly regarded universities alongside degree apprenticeships, apprenticeships, employment and specialist vocational routes.

Destination Summary

Destination Type	Number	Percentage
University	13	68%
Apprenticeship	2	11%
Degree Apprenticeship	1	5%
Employment	2	11%
Further Education College	1	5%

Total Cohort: 19 Students

Higher Education Destinations

The majority of students progressed to university study, securing places on a diverse range of courses.

Universities Attended

- Newcastle University

- Northumbria University
- University of Liverpool
- University of Leeds
- University of York
- University of Warwick
- University of Bristol
- University of Cumbria

Degree Subjects

Students secured places on a wide range of highly competitive courses including:

- Astrophysics
- Biochemistry
- Mathematics and Physics
- Financial Mathematics
- Sports Science
- Psychology
- History
- Global Development
- Media and Cultural Studies
- Paramedic Science
- Civil Engineering (Degree Apprenticeship)

The breadth and academic range of destinations demonstrates both the ambition of KSGS students and the strength of the support provided through the Sixth Form progression programme.

Apprenticeships and Employment

Apprenticeships

Students secured high-quality apprenticeship opportunities, including:

- Childcare Apprenticeships
- Degree Apprenticeship in Civil Engineering with Breedon Mining Company

Employment

Students progressed into employment opportunities including:

- Professional artistic and creative work experience

- Employment within family business and agricultural sectors

These destinations highlight the range of opportunities available to students and the school's commitment to supporting individual aspirations beyond traditional university pathways.

Conclusion and Overall Evaluation

The 2026 destination data presents a highly positive picture of student progression at Kirkby Stephen Grammar School and reflects the school's continued success in preparing young people for their next steps.

Students have secured a broad range of ambitious and appropriate destinations across higher education, apprenticeships, technical qualifications, further education and employment pathways. Particularly strong outcomes are evident in both the Sixth Form cohort and in the retention of students into KSGS Sixth Form.

The fact that 52% of Year 11 students progressed into Sixth Form education, with 46% choosing KSGS Sixth Form, is a particularly positive outcome and demonstrates confidence in the school's Post-16 provision.

Similarly, the Year 13 destinations reflect high aspirations, with 68% of students progressing directly to university, alongside a growing number accessing apprenticeship and degree apprenticeship routes.

These outcomes reflect the strength of the school's careers programme, pastoral support and academic provision, and provide clear evidence that KSGS is fulfilling its commitment to preparing students successfully for education, employment and life beyond school.

Looking ahead, the next stage of development is not simply about improving destination figures, but about using destination data more strategically to inform and strengthen the school's wider Personal Development and Careers Education provision. By building on the strong foundations already in place, KSGS is well positioned to further enhance outcomes, broaden opportunities for students and demonstrate excellence against the Personal Development expectations within the new Ofsted framework.