

NEWS RELEASE

UNIVERSITY
— OF CENTRAL —
LANCASHIRE



Summer fun and some hard work too

Local school children have been having the time of their lives this week and getting a taste of student life at the U-Can @Uclan Summer School held at the University of Central Lancashire.

Pupils from schools in Barrow may have started the week as strangers, but by the time they leave on Friday, it's fairly certain that they'll join students from previous summer schools in exchanging mobile numbers and signing each other's t-shirts!

Youngsters from Alfred Barrow School, Ehenside School and Whitehaven School have already enjoyed a week of university life, staying in the halls of residence at the Preston Campus in July. Now it's the turn of pupils from Millom, Thorncliffe, Parkview and Walney Schools, who'll get to sample workshops run by University staff and students, take part in the social activities on offer and make friends with young people from Preston and Burnley schools, who'll be attending on a daily basis.

The University has been running its successful summer school programme since 2000. Activities on offer include workshops on journalism, sound engineering/production, space science, Spanish language and culture, art, website building and motorsports amongst many others. Evening events are just as varied and include Bollywood dancing, self defence, paint the community, football, dance and drama. And if that doesn't tire them out, the youngsters can also go bowling, watch films and join in other social activities.

The summer schools are aimed at pupils aged between 12 and 16, mainly from socio-economic backgrounds which are traditionally under-represented in higher education. The hope is to raise the aspirations of the young people who attend and to encourage them to consider higher education in the future.

"We're really proud of this aspect of University life", says Lynne Duckworth, Director of Advancement, the department which organises the summer school. "We know that we are making a difference to the lives of many of these young people as well as giving them a week to remember!"

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