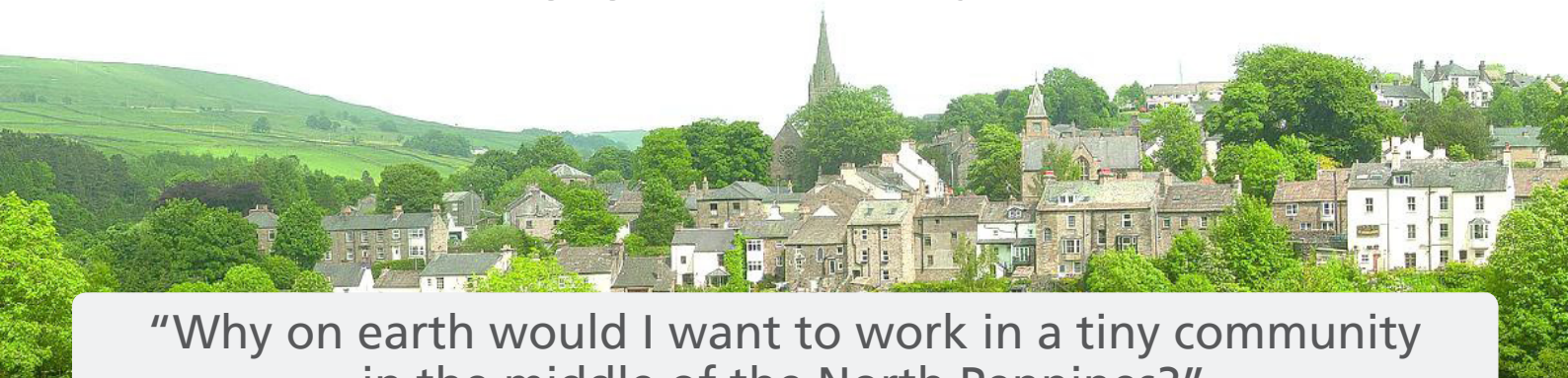


Alston Moor

“An active and engaged community”



“Why on earth would I want to work in a tiny community in the middle of the North Pennines?”

It's a good question, but we have some good answers below

Enterprise

More diverse than you think

Alston Moor was the country's first 'social enterprise town', and worker's co-ops like the Wholefood Shop grocers and deli, and a superb bakery collective mean that your food need never be boring.

Being known as a place that encourages small enterprises has its benefits. Alston Moor has a range of exciting and bespoke businesses such as a cycle shop, a cane workshop offering furniture repairs, a hardware shop and more, making for a range of specialists on your doorstep.

Businesses and the community all benefit from high-speed fibre-optic broadband in Alston itself. Living remotely does not mean being isolated.

Active Community

We have something to suit everyone from the active to the contemplative, the music lover to the connoisseur drinker



Innumerable groups and activities ranging from a community gym to book groups, film club to rug makers and much more. **An annual gala, sheepdog trials, music festival and sheep show draw people from well beyond the immediate area.**

Each of the three main settlements has a pub (several pubs in the case of Alston), with food on offer and interesting beers, not to mention live music nights in some. **If walking or cycling are among your passions, there's plenty for you, including the national Pennine Way walking route and C2C cycle route.**



ALSTON PRIMARY SCHOOL



NENTHEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL



SAMUEL KING'S SCHOOL

If your preferences run to the underground world, exploration of the mines offers extraordinary sights and there are groups to help you if you're a beginner. **If you're a skier (downhill or cross-country), our winters usually provide some good fun – there's even a ski tow!**

As well as the North Pennines area itself, the Eden Valley, Lake District and Hadrian's Wall are just a short distance away. **Carlisle, Penrith, Hexham and Newcastle are easily reached for cinema, concerts of all varieties, and theatre.**

The community has brought in grant-funding to improve the historic town centre in Alston, restore a glorious old chapel in Nenthead and continue three decades of work to recreate, in narrow gauge, the railway from Alston to Haltwhistle.

Travel

Well-connected

West Coast and East Coast mainlines, the Settle-Carlisle line, and the Carlisle-Newcastle route provide rail travel across the country, while the M6 and A1(M) are close enough for easy north-south road journeys.



Our Hospital



The Ruth Lancaster James Community Hospital in Alston is a much treasured and valued part of our community. An integrated health team based at the hospital provide treatment and care for the residents of Alston Moor in all settings.

We are always developing, making changes to how we deliver care and expand to meet the changing needs of the community. Exciting times ahead for those involved.

What our Patients say...

Great place and caring staff

"A wonderful community hospital. Clean lovely single rooms, very dignified and respectful. Easy to visit. The daily staff were always on hand to discuss."

Source NHS choices

Friends and Family Test Score: 97% of Patients recommended this hospital



What our Staff say...

"I enjoy providing a service for the community, being part of a small team, working and living locally enhances patient care , it's like being part of a family."

"I enjoy being part of a small friendly, caring team who make a difference to the patient experience."

"It is very rewarding being part of a small team with many areas of expertise, with a can do approach ensuring patients and their families receive the best outcomes."

Why choose this location over other small towns or villages?

The people of Alston are keen supporters of their local community hospital and have worked closely together with partners to develop this information sheet to share with you. They recognise that the most important thing for anyone moving to live or work here is that they understand what a welcoming, supportive and friendly place Alston is to live. As they like to tell us, **"You'll not be a stranger for long!"** All new recruits will be given a local buddy to help settle into the area so you will never feel alone.