

GIFTED AND TALENTED

PROGRAMME 2016-17

- // Carmel's Gifted and Talented Programme provides a structured programme of activities, events and support.
- // It offers the best possible preparation for application to Oxbridge, Russell Group and other prestigious institutions as well as onto Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Medicine degree courses.
- // It also provides support for our talented students in specialist fields such as Art, Music, Physical Education and Drama/Theatre.
- // In 2016, 8 students on the Gifted and Talented Programme were offered a place at Oxbridge.



Gifted and Talented

What is the Gifted and Talented Programme?

Carmel's Gifted and Talented Programme is aimed at students who have achieved a profile of 6.7 or above by gaining a high number of grade A or A* at GCSE level, although it is also possible to become part of the programme by performing at a high level in the internal examinations. It offers a framework of structured support for:

- students who wish to study at Oxford or Cambridge, Russell Group universities or other prestigious institutions;
- students who wish to study Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary Medicine;
- talented students in specialist fields such as Art, Music, Physical Education and Performance.

What will I be offered on the Programme?

All students enrolled on the Programme will:

- be offered specialist support from one of our **Gifted and Talented** Co-ordinators with all aspects of your application to Oxbridge, Russell Group and other prestigious institutions and Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Medicine courses;
- be offered the opportunity to complete the **Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)**. This allows you to choose a subject area in which you have a particular interest and then to use your research skills to produce a 5000 word study. This qualification is highly-regarded by leading universities as it demonstrates your ability to work independently.

In 2016 eight students were offered places at Oxbridge!

Mathew Best – Natural Science, Clare College, Cambridge, **Sian Bradshaw** – English, Wolfson College, Cambridge, **Andrew Dixon** – Law, Merton College, Oxford, **Ryan Ellison** – Biochemistry, Exeter College, Oxford, **Jack Huang** – Trinity Hall, Oxford, **Lucy Hughes** – Law, Magdalene College, Cambridge, **Suzanne Vanezis** – Fine Art, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, **Megan Wellens** – Philosophy, Christ Church, Oxford



Our students say...

Being part of the Gifted and Talented Programme at Carmel has really helped me with my university applications and provided me with a lot of valuable opportunities.

It has been incredibly beneficial with regards to preparing for the questions in the Law National Aptitude Test. I had excellent support with my UCAS application, including personal statement guidance and mock interviews, not only with tutors but solicitors too. In my first year, I was part of the National Academic Challenge, and our team managed to come second, which was a very difficult but really rewarding experience. The Programme also gave me a chance to visit Oxford and Cambridge Universities, and listen to talks from both, which was really useful in helping me decide where I would like to study. I could not have asked for more from Carmel and would recommend any high achieving students who wish to succeed to come here!



Andrew Dixon

Wade Deacon

Studied:

Government and Politics, History, Law

Now at:

Merton College, Oxford
studying Law

Meet the Gifted and Talented Team

The team consists of a Head of Gifted and Talented Programme and seven co-ordinators. These co-ordinators are subject tutors who have the additional responsibility of providing structured support for our Gifted and Talented students.

Each co-ordinator is a specialist in a particular subject or vocational field and will be available to offer you expert advice with regards to all stages of your application. The college also has a dedicated Careers Tutor, Charlotte Ford, who is able to offer specialist advice regarding HE courses.

What sort of support will the co-ordinators provide?

The Gifted and Talented Co-ordinator is the central point of contact for any matter relating to the Programme and will be able to offer you support in the following areas:

- researching courses and institutions;
- drafting your personal statement, which forms a key part of any successful application;
- developing and practising your interview skills. You will be given the opportunity to participate in practice interviews in order to test out and refine your skills. Professional feedback will be provided to enable you to improve your performance in time for the real thing;
- guidance and preparation for aptitude and admissions tests as well as the Oxbridge admissions tests. A number of institutions now require applicants to sit these as part of the application process and they can be a daunting prospect if you are unprepared. You will be given help to prepare in the event that this becomes a likely element of your application.

Cambridge Shadowing Scheme

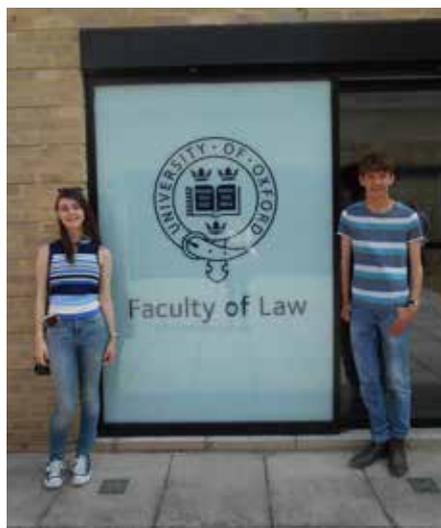
"During the Cambridge Shadowing Scheme I shadowed Lily, a first year Veterinary Medicine Student at St John's College who answered all of the questions that I had about Cambridge and the course that she was studying. I found the experience extremely helpful in confirming my desire to follow the Veterinary course in the future, while at the same time being highly enjoyable. Over the course of the two nights and three days, I attended lectures on various subjects and live anatomy classes with the animals at Cambridge which gave me an insight into life as a Cambridge University Veterinary student."

Matthew Foxcroft

St Edmund Arrowsmith, Whiston

Studying:

Biology, Chemistry, Maths, French



Our students say...

One of the reasons I applied to Carmel was the fact that they have a fantastic student support system especially for high achievers.

I love the fact that your subject tutors are always available to help you, via email or by attending a tutorial, and they're always there to help you reach your goals and challenge you when you need it. I enjoy Chemistry in particular as it gives you a broader understanding of the subject and allows you to appreciate science in everyday life. I'm a member of MEDSOC, an enrichment group which enhances my medicine application and offers advice for my future career plans. The support at Carmel is immense, not only for A Levels, but also for future plans. I am genuinely enjoying my time here as I'm surrounded by passionate teachers within a working environment which also helps you grow as an individual.



Amber Harrison

De La Salle

Studying:

Biology, Chemistry, Maths, Spanish



Carmel is a member of the national Maple Group of the highest performing Sixth Form Colleges

Our students say...

Throughout my time at Carmel, I have developed so many skills which I will be able to use in later life, especially my ability to work independently.

Carmel is a college that never fails to help their students succeed, and as part of the Gifted & Talented Programme I have been helped every step of the way in my pursuit of a place at Oxford. There are also lots of enrichment opportunities available at Carmel to support students in their studies. I took the opportunity to go to the 'Pursuit of Knowledge' philosophy conference, meeting some key philosophers on the course and widening my understanding about the thought-provoking arguments which my Philosophy course offers. It is through the help and encouragement from the staff at Carmel that I am able to apply to Oxford.



Megan Wellens
De La Salle

Studied:
Philosophy & Religion, Spanish, English Language, English Literature

Now studying:
Philosophy & Theology at Christ Church College, Oxford



Rowena Machin
St Gregory's

Studying: Law, Maths, Chemistry, Biology

"I enjoy the diversity of Carmel and the excellent resources such as the library and work-bases which are great for free periods! With the Gifted & Talented Programme there is a constant stream of opportunities to get involved in, such as the Cambridge Law Conference, which means you stay at Cambridge for several days, go to lectures such as Criminal and EU law and basically live as a law student. This is an amazing experience that I would definitely recommend! Carmel's study support system is fantastic; there are tutorials several times a week for each subject if you need help with anything and the teachers will also help you individually too. After Carmel, I want to study Law at Oxbridge, then train to become a barrister."

Oxbridge Success

2016 saw 8 students offered places at Oxford or Cambridge (pictured L-R)

Mathew Best (St Edmund Arrowsmith, Whiston) A*A*AA, Natural Science, Clare College, Cambridge

Jack Huang (Cowley International) A*A*AA, Mathematics, Trinity Hall, Oxford

Suzanne Vanezis (Wade Deacon) Art Foundation Distinction, Fine Art, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford

Andrew Dixon (Wade Deacon) A*A*A, Law, Merton College, Oxford

Megan Wellens (De La Salle) AAA, Philosophy, Christ Church College, Oxford

Ryan Ellison (Rainhill High) A*A*A*A, Biochemistry, Exeter College, Oxford

Not pictured:

Sian Bradshaw (Kirkby High) A*A*A*, English, Wolfson College, Cambridge

Lucy Hughes (Rainhill High) A*A*A, Law, Magdalene College, Cambridge



carmel
college

Carmel College
Prescot Road
St Helens
Merseyside WA10 3AG

www.carmel.ac.uk

@CarmelCollege

carmelcollege