

carmel
college

Inspiring minds.
Shaping futures.

Gifted and Talented

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

PROGRAMME 2016-17



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GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAMME 2016-17

Carmel's GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAMME

provides a structured programme of activities, events and support to our Gifted and Talented students. It offers the best possible preparation for application to **Oxbridge, Russell Group and other prestigious institutions**, as well as onto Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Science degree courses. It also provides support for our talented students in specialist fields such as Art, Music, Physical Education and Drama/Theatre Studies.

As a Gifted and Talented Modern Languages applicant at Carmel, you will be supported, encouraged and challenged by **our highly-qualified and committed MFL tutors**, who will help you to **achieve your potential** in your Modern Language studies and to develop the high order skills necessary for success at degree level.

Success Stories

Sophia Stephenson (Cowley) achieved a grade A* in German and a B in Spanish and will study German and Spanish at the **University of Manchester**.

Having achieved an A* in French, **Ellie Taylor**, formerly of Wade Deacon, will study French and Linguistics at the **University of Warwick**.

Joseph Corcoran (St Augustine's) achieved an A in Spanish and a B in French (after just 2 years of learning) and will study French and Spanish at the **University of Leeds**.

Emma Jones (Wade Deacon) achieved an A* in French and will study PPE at the **University of Nottingham**.

Bethany Seaborn (Tower College) – achieved an A in Spanish and will study Chemical Engineering at the **University of Leeds**.

Joshua Burrows (Rainford High) achieved a grade A in Spanish and will start his first year at the **University of Manchester** studying Spanish and Business & Management.

Jack Kenny achieved a grade A in French and Spanish and will begin his first year at the **University of Leeds** studying French and Spanish.

What will I be offered through the College Gifted and Talented Programme?

At the beginning of your first year in college you will be enrolled onto **Carmel's Gifted and Talented Programme**. You will be offered the chance to attend the **Haydock Oxbridge Conference** and to visit Oxford and Cambridge.

You will also have the opportunity to complete the **Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)**, which will allow you to choose an area or aspect of Language study in which you have a particular interest, such as the use of the subjunctive, or the impact of culture on popular music and then to use your research skills to produce a 5000 word study. This qualification is the ideal preparation for writing dissertations in a foreign language and achieving accuracy in translations at an advanced level and is highly regarded by leading universities as it demonstrates your enthusiasm for the subject and ability to work independently. Moreover, it is often a point of focus for discussion at Modern Languages admission interviews.

What will the MFL Gifted and Talented Programme offer me?

As part of the Modern Languages Gifted and Talented Programme you will be supported by our experienced MFL tutors. They will offer you specialist help to ensure that you develop your interest in your chosen language(s), choose the right MFL degree course for your career intentions and are supported at all stages during the UCAS application process.

This specialist support begins in your first term at Carmel, some students being enrolled onto the programme as a result of their GCSE points profile, but others as a result of their performance in the college's internal examinations in October and their flair for and commitment to Languages within lessons.

In September, if you study French or Spanish you will have the opportunity to sign up for an exchange with a school in La Roche Sur Yon or a stay with a Spanish family in Avila, Spain. These trips not only offer excellent opportunities to develop linguistically in a real environment, but can be referred to in your Personal Statement and often form the basis for discussion at interview as they provide clear evidence of your love of and commitment to languages!

At the beginning of the second term, as you begin to consider which Language courses you may pursue at degree level, you will have the chance to attend stretch and challenge tutorials led by one of our tutors, which will provide you with the opportunity to broaden your grammatical knowledge. Later in the term, talks will be held by **ex-Carmel students** currently studying Modern Languages at prestigious institutions. The latter will enable you to gain invaluable advice about which institution and course to choose and how to maximise your chances of success in the application process. When the college's UCAS application process begins in earnest, you will be given specialist support at **admissions workshops**, which will cover all aspects of the admissions process, from choosing an appropriate course to writing an effective Personal Statement.

At the start of the second year you will continue to be supported with the application process, receiving specialist help from members of the MFL team to perfect your Personal Statement and prepare for **admission tests** such as **Oxford's MLAT** and/or **interviews**. You will also have the opportunity to attend a **weekly aim higher group** focusing upon challenging texts, covering issues such as politics in the country (or countries) of the language you are studying, literature and poetry.



Individual tutorials with native speaking Language Assistants.



Language Lab

2016's Gifted and Talented students visit the Oxbridge colleges



Our students say..



"Upon arriving at Carmel, the friendly atmosphere of the French department really stood out to me. I made friends quicker than in any other subject thanks to the interactivity of the lessons and regular speaking practice. The willingness of the staff to help with any issues is one of the

main reasons I have made such progress and been able to apply to some of the country's top universities to study French and Linguistics. The tutors know each student's strengths and weaknesses and I was offered plenty of extra tuition sessions in preparation for university entrance exams and applications. In addition, the French Exchange trips (I went twice!) helped me enormously with my speaking exams as well as providing unforgettable experiences and friends. The French department really does feel like home after my two years here and I will be extremely sad to leave; however, next year I hope to continue at the University of Warwick which would have been impossible without the help of Carmel's French department."

Eleanor Taylor

Now at University of Warwick studying French and Linguistics



"I have really enjoyed studying French over the past two years at Carmel. One of the best things about studying French at A Level has been the variety of topics that the course covers. Not only do we have the opportunity to practise our conversational skills, we also tackle some of the current

issues affecting our society such as climate change and immigration. I have also taken part in many of the opportunities that the department offers to improve my French. Two things that I have found really helpful have been taking part in the French Exchange and the "Stretch and Challenge" sessions that I attend weekly. In both cases they have been great opportunities to learn more and gain a greater understanding of French outside of the classroom. I am planning to study Physics at Manchester next year and I am hoping to continue with my French at university. I would thoroughly recommend French to anyone because it is a friendly department where you get to know everyone personally and where the staff are dedicated to helping everyone achieve their full potential."

Edward Neal

Now at University of Manchester studying Physics

MFL Gifted and Talented Calendar 2016-17

		GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAMME GENERAL	MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAMME
2016/17	SEPTEMBER	Gifted and Talented Programme meeting; Gifted and Talented Societies begin	Opportunity to sign up for the French Exchange (You must be studying the language to take part)
	OCTOBER	Internal Exams – Gifted and Talented students not already on the programme are identified and enrolled	Students enrolled on the Programme as a result of performance in October Assessment
	NOVEMBER	Apply for Cambridge and Oxford Shadowing Scheme	Presentations by speakers from various prestigious universities
	DECEMBER		Talks by ex-Carmel students – Life at Cambridge (How to Prepare)
	JANUARY	Application for Sutton Trust and summer schools; Identification of Gifted and Talented students after internal exams	
	FEBRUARY	Should you be thinking about Oxbridge? - talk	
	MARCH	Mansfield Study days at Oxford; Haydock Oxbridge conference	Second leg of French Exchange
	JUNE	Careers Evening talks	Admissions workshop and talks by ex-Carmel students; Personal Statement advice; summer reading lists
	JULY	Oxbridge Open days; Summer schools start	
2017	SEPTEMBER	UCAS preparation Early Applicants; Aim Higher evening; Oxbridge application training	Personal Statement support; admissions test preparation; interview advice; support sessions for SAQ (Cambridge); MFL Stretch and Challenge tutorials commence
	OCTOBER	Early Application deadline; Internal Mock Interview Evening	MFL mock interviews; guidance on written work to be submitted
	NOVEMBER	Oxbridge interview training	Stretch and Challenge tutorials continue
	AUGUST	Support on results day	Departmental support on results day

More Information

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