

**carmel**  
college

Inspiring minds.  
Shaping futures.

Gifted and Talented

# PSYCHOLOGY

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 Psychology student at Carmel, you will be supported, encouraged and challenged by our highly-qualified and committed **Psychology tutors**, who will help you to **achieve your potential** in your Psychology studies and to develop the high order skills necessary for success at degree level.

### Success Stories

**Grace Ferguson** (Wade Deacon) is studying Psychology at the **University of Leeds** after achieving A\* in Psychology. She was also interviewed at the **University of Cambridge**. She studied Sociology and Law alongside Psychology achieving A\*A\*A overall.

**Beth Royle** (St Cuthbert's) is currently studying Psychology at the **University of Leeds** after achieving A\* in Psychology. She was also interviewed at the **University of Oxford**. Alongside Psychology she achieved A\* in Biology and A in Maths.

**Siobhan Flanagan** (Broughton Hall) was predicted B/C based on her GCSE profile but went on to achieve an A\* in Psychology and is now studying Psychology at University.

**Liam Simister** (De La Salle) is currently studying Law at **Selwyn College at the University of Cambridge**. He studied Psychology, Maths and Spanish achieving A\*AA.

**Louisa Keight** (Rainhill High) is studying English Literature at the **University of Cambridge**. She achieved an A\* in Psychology (100% on Unit 4!) and completed an Extended Project on a topic combining Psychology and English Literature in which she achieved A\*. She also achieved an A\* in English Literature and an A\* in French.



**Dr Shelly Morris-King** is a former Carmel student who is now a Consultant Clinical Psychologist. She completed her undergraduate degree at **York University**, followed by post-graduate clinical training at **Leeds**, as well as a post-graduate diploma in **Clinical Neuropsychology at Glasgow**. She is now a Chartered Psychologist working at the Walton Centre.

## 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 visit **Oxford and Cambridge Universities** for their **Open Days**.

You will also have the opportunity to complete the **Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)**, which will allow you to choose an area or aspect of Psychology in which you have a particular interest, and then to use your research skills to produce a 5000 word study. This qualification is the ideal preparation for writing dissertations at university 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 Psychology interviews.

## What will the Psychology Gifted and Talented Programme offer me?

As part of the Psychology Programme, you will be supported by our Psychology G&T Co-ordinator, who, assisted by the other members of the Psychology team, will offer specialist help to ensure you develop your interest in Psychology, choose the right Psychology degree for your career aspirations, and get help at all stages during the UCAS application process. This specialist support begins in your first term at Carmel, with 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 January.

At the beginning of the second term, as you have begun to consider which subject you want to pursue at degree level, you will have the chance to join PsychSoc (an enrichment activity for G&T students), which will provide you with the opportunity to broaden your knowledge and understanding of Psychology. You will participate in activities preparing you for higher education, such as designing and conducting a psychological research study and writing a research report on your findings. You will also work as part of a team to produce a PsychSoc magazine, containing articles, experiments, book reviews etc.

You will have the opportunity to attend talks in college by a Clinical Psychologist which will help you to decide whether Psychology is a subject you want to study at degree level and what sort of career you might pursue. You will also have the opportunity to attend a Crime Conference, lectures at Manchester University, a two day visit to Cambridge University as well as the chance to participate in a psychological study at a university. All of these activities will broaden your awareness of current developments in Psychology and career options in the field.

When the college's UCAS application process begins, you will be given specialist support, covering all aspects of the admissions process, from choosing an appropriate Psychology course to writing an effective Personal Statement. For those applying to Oxbridge for Psychology, or related courses, there will be sessions preparing you for the Thinking Skills Assessment (an admissions test used by Oxford and Cambridge) as well as mock interviews.



*Psychology students visit Cambridge*



*PsychSoc Enrichment*

*2016's Gifted and Talented students visit the Oxbridge colleges*



## Our students say...



"I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Carmel and would definitely recommend the college to any prospective students. Studying Psychology has given me a great insight into the human mind; it's been so interesting to learn about abnormal and forensic psychology, finding out what causes changes in human behaviour. All teachers within the department are very

supportive and willing to find time to help students with anything they are struggling with. From revision sessions and past paper questions to stretch and challenge activities, there is always something to help further students' learning within the department. I really enjoy the open discussions we have during class, they allow us to express our ideas and embrace different perspectives, furthering our knowledge and understanding of a variety of topics within Psychology."

**Daisy Shuttleworth** (St Cuthbert's)  
Now at University of Manchester studying Drama and English Literature



"I really enjoy Psychology at Carmel and the helpful, friendly staff are always there to support you with your studies if you need it. I enjoy learning about the interesting topics within Psychology and would recommend it to other students. You can learn and develop a variety of skills including literacy through essay writing and enhance research skills through taking part in and implementing experiments. At

Carmel, I have been very impressed with the way teaching staff thoroughly prepare you for life after college whether it's preparing you for university, by improving skills related to independent work, or preparing you for the workplace through developing group work and social skills. After Carmel I want to be a Sports Psychologist and I feel the course I have taken will allow me to fulfil this aim. I have always been encouraged to reach my potential in Psychology and I am hoping to achieve an A\* in summer."

**Michael Donohue** (Wade Deacon) continuing his football career with Everton Football Club.

## Psychology Gifted and Talented Calendar 2016-17

		GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAMME GENERAL	PSYCHOLOGY GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAMME
2016/17	SEPTEMBER	Gifted and Talented Programme meeting; Gifted and Talented Societies begin	Students with high GCSE score invited to use the Stretch and Challenge section of Connect.
	OCTOBER	Internal Exams – High Achieving students not already on the programme are identified and enrolled	Students enrolled on the Programme as a result of performance in October Assessment and invited to take part in the Cambridge trip in February
	NOVEMBER	Apply for Cambridge and Oxford Shadowing Scheme	Crime Conference in Manchester; Opportunity to attend Stretch and Challenge tutorials
	DECEMBER		Talk on studying Psychology at university
	JANUARY	Application for Sutton Trust and summer schools; Identification of Gifted and Talented after internal exams	PsychSoc commences (Gifted and Talented Enrichment)
	FEBRUARY	Should you be thinking about Oxbridge? - talk	Psychology Lectures at Cambridge University
	MARCH	Mansfield Study days at Oxford; Haydock Oxbridge conference	An afternoon of lectures at Manchester University
	APRIL		Opportunity to attend Stretch and Challenge tutorials
	JUNE	Careers Evening talks	Talk by a Consultant Clinical Psychologist in college. Also a chance to take part in a Psychology experiment at a university.
		JULY	Oxbridge trip – Oxbridge Open days; Summer schools start
2017/18	SEPTEMBER	UCAS preparation Early Applicants; Aim Higher evening; Oxbridge application training	Oxbridge prep. (e.g. help with Personal Statements, interview preparation, admissions test preparation etc.); Personal Statement Workshop for Psychology applicants
	OCTOBER	Early Application deadline; Internal Mock Interview Evening	Psychology mock interviews with Psychology Co-ordinator
	NOVEMBER	Oxbridge interview training	Crime Conference in Manchester
	DECEMBER		
	JANUARY		Stretch and Challenge (Aim for the A*) tutorials available
	AUGUST	Support on results day	Departmental support on results day

### More Information

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