



6<sup>th</sup> November 2009

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Carmel Triumph in Debate**

The Hexham & Newcastle Catholic Partnership South Annual Debate was won by Carmel RC College, November 2009. The debate was run by a team of mentors from the English Speaking Union who are based in London. The English Speaking Union is a world leader in providing English language support for the use of debate and extended speech in an educational context. This competition between the Catholic Partnership schools provided debate training for students from St Anthony's Girl's School, English Martyrs School, St Robert of Newminster, Carmel RC College and St John's.

St Robert and Carmel were finalists in the debating arena using their skills to develop arguments and deliver rebuttal. Sara Crawshaw Director of the Catholic Partnership said "All of the school teams have shown incredible maturity and skill in persuasive discussion throughout the debate and have had a rare opportunity to develop their confidence beyond their own school. It has been a wonderful day".

Joe Wardropper from St Robert of Newminster was awarded the Best Speaker in the competition.

Attached is a photograph of the winning Carmel RC College Team with Maura Regan Principal of Carmel RC College.