



Press release



Carmel
RC College

Monday 19th October 2009

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AWARD SUCCESS FOR CARMEL RC COLLEGE

Carmel RC College in Darlington has been awarded the prestigious International School Award for the fourth time, in recognition of bringing the wider world into the classroom.

On the 16 October, International Co-ordinator Tom Read from Carmel College attended a high-profile ceremony in London organised by the British Council on behalf of the DCSF. He received the award on behalf of Carmel students, parents and staff, from broadcaster and journalist George Alagiah. In addition Carmel received special recognition for being one of only eleven secondary schools to have received the full award four times, the maximum since its launch in 1999.

On being notified that Carmel College had received the award, Maura Regan, Principal said; "It is cause for celebration that once again the work of all our students, staff and parents in reaching out to the global community has been recognised"

Celebrating its 10th anniversary this year, the DCSF International School Award seeks to celebrate, develop, recognise and accredit outstanding practice in the international dimensions of teaching and learning. Fostering an international dimension in the curriculum is at the heart of the British Council's work with schools, so that young people gain the cultural understanding and skills they need to live and work as global citizens.

2009 has seen 700 schools accredited in the 75th anniversary year of the British Council. This is a record number of recipients and includes a wide range of schools from a variety of different backgrounds from across the UK.

The Award is now made available worldwide in countries such as India, Sri Lanka, Egypt, Lebanon, Cyprus and Pakistan. Around 2000 International School Awards have been presented to successful schools in the UK since the scheme began in 1999.

The ISA encourages and supports schools to develop the following:

- An international ethos embedded throughout the school
- A majority of pupils within the school impacted by and involved in international work
- Collaborative curriculum-based work with a number of partner schools
- Curriculum-based work across a range of subjects
- Year round international activity
- Involvement of the wider community
- Provides ideas for developing collaborative curriculum-based international work with partner schools

John Rolfe, Manager, DCSF International School Award at the British Council says 'Many congratulations and many thanks on your well-deserved success in being accredited with the Award. The rich range of work you are doing in the school and across your larger community to support and encourage global citizens with a greater understanding of the world around them is truly fantastic. The international dimensions of teaching and learning have been at the heart of the work of the British Council for 75 years and to receive the Award in its 10th anniversary year is a special cause for celebration'

For more information, to interview the school or for images please contact Tom Read, Tel: 01325 254525 / tread@carmel.org.uk

A photograph to accompany this story will be sent direct from the photographer Frank Noon Ref: DSC 7592