



Admissions Policy 2016/2017

Carmel College is the only Catholic secondary school in Darlington. Carmel is a popular and oversubscribed school providing continuity of education from 11 to 18 for over 1,100 pupils seeking a Christian education. The school has a proud record of achievement and at the last Ofsted Inspection was deemed as "outstanding" in all areas.

Admission Post 16 is open to all applicants irrespective of previous Educational experience.

Carmel is one of the top performing schools nationally in terms of examinations at both GCSE and 'A' level; it also has a proud record of excellence in areas of sport, music and the Arts. Carmel has undergone a series of major refurbishments to replace buildings in order to provide modern learning facilities supporting an outstanding curriculum.

The Directors of Carmel Education Trust is the Admissions Authority for this College.

Admission number for Year 7 September 2016 - 180

Admission number for Year 12 September 2016 - 200+

The Admissions Policy Criteria will be applied on an Equal Preference basis.

In this policy the word 'parent' is assumed to include the legal carer/guardian also.

The Catholic feeder schools are:

St Augustine's Primary School, Beechwood Avenue, Darlington, DL3 7HP

Holy Family Primary School, Prior Street, Darlington, DL3 9EN

St Bede's Primary School, Kingsway, Darlington. DL1 3ES

St Teresa's Primary School, Harris Street, Darlington, DL1 4NL

St William's Primary School, Elwick View, Trimdon Village, Co Durham, TS29 6HY

St Mary's Primary School, Birch Road, Barnard Castle, DL12 5NP

How and When to Apply

Applications must be made on the Local Authority Common Application Form. If you are applying on a faith based criteria a supplementary form should also be completed and returned by the closing date set by the Local Authority. Parents will be informed if their child has been admitted to Carmel College in writing by the Local Authority.

Late Applications

Any applications received after the closing date will be accepted but considered only after those received by the closing date.

Over-subscription Criteria

Children who have an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan or a statement of Special Educational Need where the school is named as the most appropriate educational setting for the child will be admitted.

Where there are insufficient places available to meet all parental preferences, priority will be given to applications in the following order:

(First priority in each category will be given to siblings (see additional note 3), that is, children who will have older siblings attending the College including Sixth Form students who have previously attended Carmel College)

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| Priority 1 | Looked after Catholic children in the care of a Local Authority or children that were looked after by the Local Authority and immediately after that became subject to an adoption, child arrangements or special guardianship order (see note 2). |
| Priority 2 | Catholic children who attend a Catholic Primary Feeder School (see note 1) |
| Priority 3 | Catholic children who attend another Primary School (see note 1) |
| Priority 4 | Looked after children or children who were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements, or special guardianship order. |
| Priority 5 | Children of a member of school staff (see note 6) who has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which application for admissions to the school is made. |
| Priority 6 | Children who are baptised or dedicated members of other Christian Churches and attend a Catholic Primary Feeder School. |
| Priority 7 | Children of other Faith traditions (see note 5) who attend a Catholic Primary Feeder School. |
| Priority 8 | Children who are baptised or dedicated members of other Christian Churches and do not attend a Catholic Primary Feeder School. |
| Priority 9 | Children of other Faith traditions (see note 5) who do not attend a Catholic Primary Feeder School. |
| Priority 10 | Other children. |

ADDITIONAL NOTES

1. Definition of a Catholic

Catholic Children are children who have been baptised as Catholics or have been formally received into the Catholic Church.

Catholic applicants in **Category 1 and 2** may be asked to provide evidence that the child has been baptised as a Catholic or has been received into the Catholic Church.

Catholic applicants in **Category 3** must provide evidence that the child has been baptised as a Catholic or has been received into the Catholic Church.

2. Definition of Children in the care of a Local Authority

A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of a Local Authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a Local Authority in the exercise of their Social Services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989)

An adoption order is an order made under Section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002.

A child arrangements order is an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live under Section 8 of the Children Act 1989 as amended by s.14 of the Children and Families Act 2014.

A special guardianship order is an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian or guardians (Section 14A Children Act 1989).

3. Definition of Sibling

Sibling refers to brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, or the child of the parent/carer's partner, where the child for whom the College place is sought is living in the same family unit at the same address as that sibling. Sibling links only apply to students continuing into the Sixth Form having previously studied at Carmel College.

4. Other Christian Churches

If applicants are seeking admission under **category 6 or 8**, they must provide a baptismal certificate and a letter confirming their church membership from their minister or faith leader.

5. Children of other Faiths

If applicants are seeking admission under **category 7 or 9**, they must provide a letter of support to confirm their faith membership from their minister or faith leader.

6. Definition of Staff

A member of staff includes all school staff who are under the direct employment of the Directors of Carmel Multi-Academy Trust and who work at Carmel College.

7. Tie-Breaker

Where there are places available for some, but not all, applicants within a particular criterion, distance from home address to the College entrance on the Headlands will be the deciding factor. Distance will be measured using the shortest walking route using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system.

8. **Right of Appeal**

Where a parent has been notified that a place is not available for a child, every effort will be made to help the parent to find a place in a suitable alternative school. Parents who are refused a place have a statutory right of appeal. This right does not apply if they are offered a place at the school but it is not in their preferred age group. Further details of the appeals process are available by writing to the Chair of Governors at the College address.

9. **Home Address**

It is the parental address which will be used in applying the admission criteria. This means that, when stating your choice of school, you should give the parental address at the time of application. The address of child minders or other family members who may share in the care of your child should not be quoted as the home address.

10. **Admission of children outside their normal age group**

Parents may request that their child is admitted outside their normal age group. When such a request is made, the College will make a decision on the basis of the circumstances of the case and in the best interests of the child concerned, taking into account the views of the Headteacher and any supporting evidence provided by the parent, bearing in mind the age group the child has been educated in up to that point.

The process for requesting such an admission is to apply to the College in writing giving a clear explanation of why the request is being made. Once a decision has been made the Admission Authority will write to the parent(s) informing them of the decision and setting out reasons for such.

11. **Waiting Lists**

If your child has been refused admission, you can request that your child's name be placed on the waiting list. If places become available, we will consider all relevant applications based on the waiting list which will be maintained until 31 December 2016.

Admission into Year 12

The College provides courses of study for post-16 (Sixth Form) students. The majority of the Sixth Form students transfer from Year 11, but we generally have places available for external students.

The availability of courses is dependent upon the number of applicants and financial sustainability of the course.

The minimum entry requirement for admission into Year 12 for Level 3 courses is 5+ A*-C, or equivalent, plus subject specific requirements as per prospectus. Details of the specific entry requirements and courses available may be obtained from the College. Entry requirements are the same for internal and external students.

Applicants who are refused a place in the Sixth Form have a statutory right of appeal. Further details of the appeals process are available by writing to the Chair of Governors at the College address.

Anyone wishing to contact the Academy with regard to its admission arrangements should contact Miss C Hutton.