



Carmel College

WEEK COMMENCING 20TH OCTOBER - 7TH NOVEMBER 2025
WE ARE IN THE SEASON OF ORDINARY TIME

LIFE TO THE FULL FORTNIGHTLY UPDATE

IMPORTANT MESSAGES FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

[Click here](#) for the College calendar

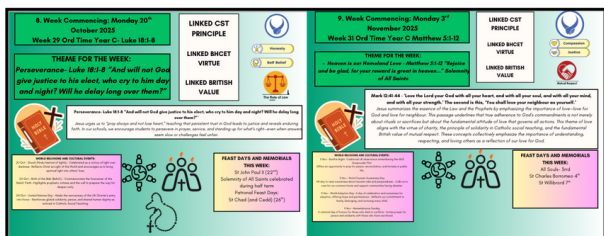
- [Click here](#) for more information on the importance of good attendance
- Please remind your children that chewing gum is prohibited at Carmel College.

Carmel Parking Pledge – Keeping Everyone Safe

Please park safely and respectfully around Clare Avenue and Hillclose Avenue, keeping driveways, junctions, and crossing points clear, avoiding double parking, and helping students cross safely.

When using the Carmel College One-Way System, enter from the Hummersknott end, park on the left facing downhill, use the nearside door for students to exit, and avoid parking on 'School Keep Clear' markings, driveways, verges, or pavements—exit via Carmel Road. [Click here](#) for more information.

CATHOLIC LIFE



29th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C) – Perseverance Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

"And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them?"

Jesus urges us to "pray always and not lose heart."

He reminds us that persistent trust in God leads to justice and reveals the depth of our faith.

In Carmel, we encourage students to persevere in prayer, in service, and in standing up for what is right – even when answers seem slow or challenges feel unfair.

Faith grows strongest when we keep going with hope.

The Solemnity of All Saints (Sunday 2nd November 2025) (Year C) – Heaven is our homeland

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

On the Feast of All Saints, Jesus reminds us that holiness isn't about perfection or power – it's about living with humility, mercy, and love.

The Beatitudes describe a new way of seeing the world: finding joy in simplicity, peace in forgiveness, and hope in times of difficulty.

We remember that ordinary people can live extraordinary holiness by choosing kindness, justice, and compassion each day.

In Carmel, we encourage one another to walk this path of blessedness – helping others, seeking peace, and keeping our eyes fixed on heaven, our true home.

Follow the Sunday Mass readings [here](#).



**CURRICULUM
OVERVIEW**



**CATHOLIC
LIFE**



**CARMEL
SIXTH FORM**



**LATEST
NEWSLETTER**

KEY DATES AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Event
22nd Oct (Wed)	Year 7 Autumn Disco
23rd Oct (Thurs)	Students break up for half term; SVP Food Bag Donations to be brought into college
24th Oct (Fri)	Inset Day – Students at home
3rd Nov (Mon)	Students return to college
11th Nov (Tues)	Whole College Service of Remembrance
12th Nov (Wed)	Student Leadership Conference (afternoon)
18th Nov (Tues)	Sixth Form Open Evening
21st Nov (Fri)	Year 11 Art & Textiles Trip
24th Nov (Mon)	Year 11 Mock Examinations begin
25th Nov (Tues)	Academic Mentoring Day – students attend with parents/carers; work set via Teams & ClassCharts
10th Dec (Wed)	Year 11 MIMA Art Gallery Trip
16th Dec (Tues)	Advent Liturgy & Christmas Celebration
17th Dec (Wed)	Sacrament of Reconciliation offered
19th Dec (Fri)	Carmel closes for Christmas Holidays – students leave at 1:30pm

**CARMEL
ONLINE SAFETY
NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER 2025**





ACADEMIC

 **Autumn Assessments**- Over the past week, our Year 11 and Year 13 students have been working extremely hard during their Autumn Assessments. This week, they are focusing on reviewing progress, acting on teacher feedback, and setting clear targets for improvement in each subject.

Meanwhile, our Key Stage 3, Year 10, and Year 12 students are completing their assessments this week. We have been so impressed by their effort, focus, and perseverance – students have engaged brilliantly with revision activities and shown real commitment throughout.

 **Year 11 Morning Intervention**- On Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, our Year 11 students are making excellent use of their morning intervention sessions, using every minute of form time to consolidate their learning across GCSE subjects. Their dedication and determination have been outstanding.

 **Academic Mentoring Day** - The data from all Autumn Assessments will support meaningful conversations during Academic Mentoring Day on Tuesday 25 November. Parents and carers will receive booking information for appointments after half term.

 **Year 11 Parents' Evening**- We were delighted to welcome so many parents and carers to our Year 11 Parents' Evening on Tuesday 7 October. It was wonderful to see such strong partnership between home and school as we work together to support our young people on their journey towards success.

 **Half Term Reminder**- A reminder that all students finish for the half-term holiday on Thursday 23 October, as staff will take part in a full day of training on Friday 24 October. We hope our students enjoy the extra day to rest and recharge.

 **Homework and Revision Support**- Students continue to receive targeted homework and revision tasks via ClassCharts, designed to reinforce learning and prepare them for the next steps in their studies.

Support and resources are always available on our website:

- Revision resources: carmel.bhcet.org.uk/carmel-curriculum-intent/revision
- Curriculum information: carmel.bhcet.org.uk/carmel-curriculum-intent

PSHE

This half term, Key Stage 3 students have been focusing on Confidence for Life, learning about themselves, their gifts, goals, and the importance of celebrating diversity.

Key Stage 4 students are studying Relationships for Life, following the Diocesan-approved Ten Ten RSE programme, exploring respect, friendship, and positive choices.

In the Sixth Form, Year 13 are completing their UCAS applications, with early entries for medicine already submitted, while Year 12 are working through the VESPA programme (Vision, Effort, Systems, Practice, Attitude), learning how to become the best Carmel Sixth Form students they can be.

These modules will continue after half term as students build on their learning and reflect on how to live life to the full.



PASTORAL

17

Attendance & Punctuality– We have made a positive start to the year, and it's been wonderful to see students arriving punctually and ready to learn each day. Good attendance is one of the most important factors in ensuring every child reaches their full potential – every lesson really does count.

We kindly ask that:

Holidays are taken outside of term time.

Medical appointments are booked after school wherever possible.

Punctuality matters – please support your child to be here, be ready, and be on time each day.

If your child is experiencing any difficulties with attendance or any other pastoral issue, please contact their Pastoral Learning Manager via admin@carmel.bhcet.org.uk so that we can offer support.

 Parking Reminder – We ask all parents and carers to please park considerately and safely when dropping off or collecting students. Increasing numbers of cars stopping or parking illegally on The Headlands are creating a safety risk and preventing buses from passing. To ease congestion, please consider parking five minutes away and walking the short distance to school. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our students safe.

 The Renew Shop – Thank you for all your kind donations to the Carmel Renew Shop. The shop is currently being revamped by a team of staff and students and will reopen in time for Academic Mentoring Day in November.

This project supports our commitment to sustainability and stewardship – encouraging everyone in our community to share resources, reduce waste, and care for our common home.

SIXTH FORM UPDATES

Leadership & Ethos – Over 50 Sixth Formers supported our Year 7 Ethos Days at St Augustine's, leading scavenger hunts, dance sessions, arts and crafts, and a lively Just Dance competition – a brilliant example of faith, joy, and servant leadership in action.

Twelve Sixth Formers have also completed safeguarding training in preparation for their new roles supporting younger students with SEND.

Trips – Preparations are well underway for both Project Peru and the Lourdes Pilgrimage. A group of Sixth Formers recently met with the Darlington Catenians to thank them for their ongoing support of these life-changing experiences. Plans for the New York Trip in February half term are taking shape, with almost all visas processed. Students are excited to experience a full itinerary including NBA basketball games and The Great Gatsby on Broadway.

Sixth Form Leadership –Our new Sixth Form Leadership Programme is now up and running, with students taking leading roles across Student Voice, Inclusion, and Stewardship, helping to shape college life for all.



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LIFE TO THE FULL AT CARMEL!

 **Carmel Harvest Appeal-** This Harvest, our students are supporting the St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) and St Columba's Church Food Bank, sharing what we have with those in need. Each form class is creating a bag of food donations to support local families, with hopes to become a regular satellite donation centre through Carmel.

All items should be brought in by Thursday 23rd October.

Thank you for your generosity and care – together we can make a real difference.

 **Student Leadership-** We are delighted to announce our new Student Council members – four representatives from each year group – who will lead three key groups:

- Student Voice: Exploring everyday issues such as homework, food, and facilities.
- Inclusion & Human Dignity: Ensuring Carmel remains a community where all are different, yet equal.
- Stewardship: Caring for our common home through sustainability and environmental action.

The full council met on Friday and will hold their first group meetings this week.

 **Year 7 Autumn Disco-** Our Year 7 students are getting ready for their Autumn Disco on Wednesday 22nd October, 3:45–6:00pm in the JC Hall. With DJ Snozza back on the decks, it promises to be a fantastic afternoon of fun, music, and laughter.

Students can bring a change of clothes and dress to impress before heading to the dance floor. Tickets cost £5, which includes a bag of sweets and a drink, with extra refreshments available to purchase on the night.

Parents and carers can book tickets via the MCAS app. It's a brilliant way for our new Year 7s to celebrate their first half term at Carmel together.

 **Enrichment-** It has been fantastic to see so many students engaging in our enrichment programme, with over 80 activities running each week across sport, creative arts, academic clubs, and leadership opportunities.

Research from the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) shows that students who participate in enrichment activities are more likely to achieve higher grades and develop confidence, teamwork, and resilience.

There truly is something for everyone.

 **Macmillan Coffee Morning Success-** Our Macmillan Coffee Morning raised an outstanding £824.20.

Thank you to our bakers, raffle prize donors, Mrs Frank and her team, and everyone who supported the event.

Together, we have made a difference for a cause that supports so many families.

 **Sacrament of Confirmation-** We were delighted that over 80 young people were confirmed over two evenings last week, with Bishop Stephen celebrating Mass and conferring this special sacrament. It was wonderful to see so many of our Carmel students answering the call of faith, preparing with such commitment, and finally celebrating this milestone with joy and reverence.

 **Carmel Christmas Food and Craft Fayre-** It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas at Carmel! Join us on Thursday 6th November, 6.00–8.30pm, for our much-loved Christmas Food and Craft Fayre – a magical evening filled with festive cheer, local stalls, delicious treats, and plenty of Christmas sparkle.

The Fayre is one of our biggest PTA fundraisers of the year and plays a huge part in helping us make exciting opportunities possible for our students. Thanks to your support, the PTA has recently funded our Year 8 Culture Trail trips and provided new lunchtime activities for students to enjoy.

Your visit and contribution really do make a difference – every mince pie, raffle ticket, and handmade gift helps us continue to enrich the life of our school community.

Come along, bring your family and friends, and start the festive season the Carmel way!



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EVERYONE WANTS
TO BE A PART OF
SOMETHING
AMAZING...

JOIN US TO EXPLORE OUR OUTSTANDING
SIXTH FORM COLLEGE, WE WELCOME
APPLICATIONS TO STUDENTS FROM ALL
SECONDARY SCHOOLS

**CARMEL VI FORM
OPEN EVENING
TUESDAY
18TH NOVEMBER 2025
6PM**

Contact Us



Phone Number
01325 254525



Website
CARMEL6.ORG.UK



THE HEADLANDS,
DARLINGTON, COUNTY
DURHAM DL3 8RW



enquiries@carmel6.org.uk



*'The school values pupils for who they are. It goes beyond the expected to help every pupil
succeed and live life to the full. Pupils flourish here.'* **OFSTED 2024**





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Carmel

Christmas Food and Craft Fayre

Thursday 6th November 2025

6.00pm - 8.30pm

Carmel College

The Headlands, Darlington,
Co. Durham, DL3 8RW

TICKET PRICES

£3.50 - Adults | £3.00 - Concession | Under 16's free

Ticket price includes a complimentary glass of wine or soft drink