

CARTERTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE 11-19

Choosing

CARTERTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE & SIXTH FORM

PROUD TO WORK WITH...

BRIZE NORTON

As a signatory to the Armed Forces Covenant, we work very closely with the Community Development Officer at Brize Norton to ensure that we secure the emotional welfare of students from service families.

CARTERTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS FEDERATION

Carterton Community College is fortunate enough to be part of a federation with Carterton Primary School and Gateway Primary School, meaning that students benefit from a joined up approach with high standards and expectations at its heart.

NATIONAL GOVERNORS' ASSOCIATION

We are a 'Federation First' Champion school, helping the NGA 'spread the word' about the benefits for maintained schools of being part of a group of schools with shared governance.

“ *The school has a number of strengths which benefit pupils, such as care and support for pupils' personal development. Pupils raise their achievement as they move through the school and, by the time they leave school, pupils attain standards in GCSE and other courses which are above national averages.*

— Ofsted.

“ *Progress for the best eight subjects
is Outstanding*
— *Challenge Partners inspection
December 2015*

DEAR PROSPECTIVE PARENTS,

We know that choosing a Secondary school is a big decision because of the huge impact your child's education has on their future success and prosperity. Trust us, that's not a responsibility we take lightly. Here, within these pages you'll discover how we can support your child over the next five to seven years to gain top rank qualifications and grades that will lead them on a path towards a rewarding career. Of course, it's not all about 'work', it's also about 'play', so you'll also find out about all the amazing clubs and opportunities we provide and the reasons why our students feel so happy and respected here.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Carterton Community College. Our name represents us beautifully. We are a school that values and promotes community. Our motto is 'Service before Self' which reflects our belief in humility, respect for others and our responsibility to contribute positively to the local community and the wider world. It also reflects the community we have within our gates. As a smaller than average Secondary school we have a close-knit community here, where happiness matters and opinions are valued.

WE GET RESULTS!

Take a look at our GCSE and A-level results over the past few years and you'll see we consistently get great results, with a high proportion of students achieving in line with the national average. Sometimes, however, exam results and league tables mask another very important measure – Progress 8 – which looks at how much progress students make from their starting point. Our scores here are among the highest in the County and above national averages.

As a school we want to be constantly making progress too, which is why we work with Challenge Partners (an organisation that aims to improve pupil outcomes by advancing effective school collaboration and peer review) on an ongoing basis, to make sure that we're doing everything we can to give your child the best education they can get.

If there's anything we haven't covered in the Prospectus, or you'd like to come and visit our school, please don't hesitate to get in touch. We'd be happy to speak to you or show you around.

DAMIAN BOOTH

Executive Headteacher

Tel: 01993 841611



HIGH STANDARDS, HIGH ASPIRATIONS

You'll see this as you come up our driveway. It's our vision for the school – and it's not just for the students; as a teaching body we hold ourselves to the same standards. All of our staff are subject experts who are committed to keeping up with developments in their subject and with teaching best practice, so that they can help ensure our students achieve their very best.

We don't view education as a production line, churning out identical students with identical qualifications. We recognise that everyone is different, with different strengths and interests, which is why we develop a 'personalised learning approach' with individualised targets for each student. That doesn't mean an easy ride. While we take into account natural individual talents and leanings, we have high expectations of our students in all areas – helping them conquer their weaknesses as well as turning their strengths into expertise.

A BROAD AND BALANCED EXPERIENCE

Our curriculum combines the expectations of the National Curriculum in the core subjects with flexible learning packages designed to meet the needs of our students at Key Stage 4 in particular. All of our students follow a core curriculum that consists of English, Maths, Science, ICT, Religious Studies, PSHE and Physical Education.

In Key Stage 3 students also follow courses in Design Technology, Modern Foreign Languages, Geography, History, Art, Music and Drama.



“ *Pupils receive good levels of support and have good attitudes to school. Very good procedures to minimise absence results in good attendance levels.*

— Ofsted

When students select their ‘options’ before entering Key Stage 4, they are able to choose from a wide range of courses and qualifications to supplement the core curriculum – such as BTECs in Art & Design, Media, or Engineering, and GCSEs in Art, Drama, Music, French, History, Geography, Product Design, Graphics, and Food Technology, Computer Science, PE & Sports Science.

This variety enables students to choose subjects and assessment arrangements that best fit their personal preferences and will maximise their achievement. Flexibility and careful curriculum planning allows the development of individual packages. For example, some students may wish to extend their studies to include separate Sciences, Literature and Statistics, while others may opt for a reduced GCSE package that allows for supported learning opportunities.

We encourage and develop excellence in our students in all aspects of their school life, from their experiences in lessons to the wide ranging extra-curricular activities we offer, including ‘enrichment’ sessions where pupils can elect to do activities that broaden their horizons such as sailing or Air Cadets.

THE COLLEGE, STUDENTS AND PARENTS

We believe in the power of the school, student and home partnership. Parents are kept fully informed on their child’s progress through regular progress reviews, reports, or parents’ evenings. Students are encouraged through this process to evaluate and take responsibility for their own learning, identifying for themselves what they have done well and where they still need to improve.





WORKING TOGETHER WITH LOCAL PRIMARIES TO ENSURE A SMOOTH TRANSITION

We are part of a federation with both Carterton Primary and Gateway Primary (which means we share the same governing body and top level leadership) and work in partnership to share best practice with other schools in the area such as St. John the Evangelist, St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School and Edith Moorhouse.

So what does that mean for you? It means your child doesn't come to us a complete unknown. Our relationship with them begins before they set foot through our door. Even if your child hasn't already visited our school as part of an enrichment activity or introduction day, we'll be able to liaise with their Primary school teachers so that we understand what their key strengths are and whether they have any areas they might need support with. And, if you have any concerns about them moving up to 'big school' we can work with them and you to make the transition as smooth as possible.

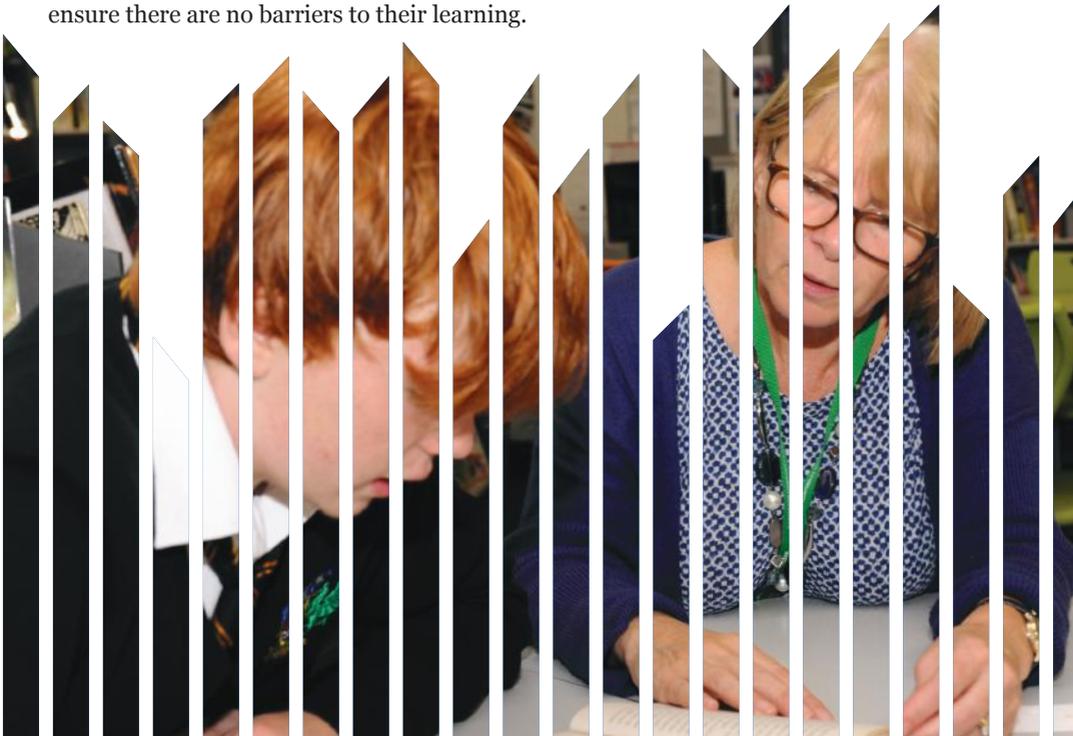
NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND

Not all children thrive in the core subjects, and even if they excel in one they may struggle in another. Our Learning Support Department is on hand to make sure that no-one has to struggle alone or get left behind. We use a number of strategies depending on what level of support is required, including:

- Targeted teaching support in and out of lessons
- Individual education plans
- Termly Review meetings
- Strategies for students with Specific Learning Difficulties
- Support for parents
- Partnership with agencies like ADVIZA Careers Service, Educational Psychology, Educational Welfare and Child & Mental Health Services.
- 1:1 Tuition

PUSHING OUR MOST ABLE CHILDREN FURTHER

Just as we take care of our students who need a little extra support for learning, we are equally as committed to enabling students who show a particular aptitude for a subject to exceed their potential. Each subject department has provision for the most able pupils, to give them opportunities to extend their learning as much as possible and ensure there are no barriers to their learning.



OUR FACILITIES

BRIGHT AND AIRY ARCHITECTURE

Our buildings are modern and up-to-date, our classrooms bright and airy. Our communal areas such as the quad, dining room and Sixth Form common room are open plan, well-lit, colourful spaces full of animated discussion and laughter.

GOLD STANDARD SPORTS FACILITIES

We're justifiably proud of our sports facilities. We have a full-sized Astro-turf sports pitch, large playing field, and an indoor gymnasium and sports hall with all of the equipment and apparatus necessary to offer the full spectrum of indoor sports. We also have a set of trampolines and are the only school in the area to boast a climbing wall.



BRINGING COMPUTING TO LIFE

We are also fortunate to have a great technology set-up around the school. Our classrooms are equipped with projectors and smartboards as you would expect. Alongside the traditional dedicated classroom computer suites we have a computing science lab to take advantage of our raspberry pi, microbit, sensors and robotics equipment, where students have the opportunity to bring computing to life. Classes in Computing & ICT and Media Studies (available at KS4 & 5) introduce students to the key software packages they are likely to encounter in the workplace: desktop publishing, presentation, spreadsheet and database applications, and important industry software like the Adobe family.

PUTTING THE TECH FIRMLY IN DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

One of the best parts of our legacy as a specialist engineering college is that we have one of the best set-ups in the County, with five specialist rooms, including a suite of PCs and three sets of laptops which ensure that all pupils have excellent access to IT. We have a wide range of CAD/CAM (computer-aided design and computer-aided manufacturing) tools in the department including two laser cutters, a CNC mill and a 3D printer.



HAPPY, CONFIDENT CHILDREN BECOME SUCCESSFUL, INDEPENDENT LEARNERS

We have a well-deserved reputation for our pastoral care – the needs of our students as young people and individuals in their own right is a cornerstone of our work. We believe that happy, confident children, who are treated with respect and given the opportunity to prove their maturity, will become successful, independent learners.

We operate a house system for Years 8-13, which in addition to fostering a sense of community and healthy competition, is also crucial to our approach to pastoral care. Our community spirit is nurtured through vertical tutor groups – during registration a ‘sliver’ of pupils from each year group come together for a time. We believe this approach is important in breaking down barriers between year groups and facilitating peer mentoring and support.

The House Leader oversees and manages the academic, pastoral and discipline across the year groups and is always available for you to discuss any difficulties or concerns you might have about your child’s school experience.



“ *My son has really enjoyed his time at the College and gained so much from his teachers and Head of Year. The enrichment trips have really broadened his horizons. He has also thoroughly enjoyed the extra-curricular sports offered at the College. He became a Sports Leader in Year 10 which gave him the opportunity to give something back to the younger students. As a parent I have been impressed with the school's commitment to excellence and know that my son will leave having got the very best out of his time at the College. I also know from comments from friends that they share my opinion.*

A SYSTEM OF MUTUAL RESPECT

We offer respect to our students, and naturally we ask for respect in return. In order to achieve the high standards of College life that we want to give our students, each one of them must take a measure of responsibility for maintaining it. We expect a high standard of behaviour, not just for the sake of it, but because it's the best creative and stimulating learning environment for our students. The support of our parents in maintaining these high standards is very much appreciated, as our experience has shown that a united and positive school/home relationship is one of the most effective ways of achieving this.

AND THAT EXTENDS TO UNIFORM...

Our uniform, designed by our students, plays an important part in school life as it provides a sense of equality, fosters pride in our school identity and develops their sense of belonging to our community. We therefore expect students to wear correct uniform at all times.



ENRICHING OUR STUDENTS' EXPERIENCE THROUGH...

ARTS & TECHNOLOGY

At Carterton Community College we encourage our students to develop their artistic skills through a wide ranging provision of materials and techniques (such as batik, clay, wood and plastics in addition to the more traditional paints, charcoals and so on). They also have the opportunity to complete electronics projects and learn computer assisted design. Within our well-stocked Design department, we have laser cutters and 3D printers, which allow students to create pieces as intricate as they can imagine them.

We run extra-curricular clubs and individual workshops to encourage students with a particular interest or talent in this area to extend their learning. Our workshops change every year but can include things like creating digital images, screen printing and glass slumping.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

We believe that everyone has leadership potential when given the right support and training. We actively work towards developing the leadership capacity of our students through our Leadership Development Programme, which includes nationally recognised awards such as the Duke of Edinburgh, Junior Sports Leader Award and our own in-house Young-Leaders programme. The YLP offers our students the chance to take on a number of important roles within the school - such as School Council member, Student Mediator or Student Listener - that will build their confidence and teach them key skills for life.



“ ... this school has brought me so far and made me realise my ambitions and potential. I've enjoyed all my time here and don't want to leave.”

— Year 13 student

SPORTS TEAMS

Extra-curricular sporting activities run throughout the year for the purpose of improving skills, team-work and team-management skills, and just general all round fitness and enjoyment! We have students who compete at school, county and national level in a wide variety of sports, including: football, netball, hockey, rugby, badminton, dance, cricket, rounders, tennis, basketball, trampolining, climbing, athletics and cross-country.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD SCHEME

We run a highly successful Duke of Edinburgh programme at Carterton Community College, with a number of students gaining either a Bronze or Silver award last year. To achieve an award, students undertake a wide variety of self-development activities such as volunteering, learning a new skill, improving their fitness and undertaking that all important, nay legendary, expedition!

Students tell us they really enjoy the programme, which teaches them the invaluable skills of teamwork, cooperation, perseverance and determination. We have now also introduced the Gold award for our current Sixth formers.



EDUCATIONAL VISITS AND FOREIGN TRIPS

We are firm believers in the value of learning outside the classroom and try to provide as many exciting and interesting trips as possible to enrich students' curriculum study. This programme varies from year to year, but recent trips include the Globe Theatre and other trips to see world-class stage productions; visits to local engineering firms and the Rutherton Appleton laboratories; a field visit to Cardiff Bay and Hengistbury Head to cover the exam syllabus on industry and coastal management... the list goes on and on.

We also offer students the chance to travel abroad, either through our bi-annual ski and snowboard trips, or through our bi-annual school 'expedition.' to destinations such as Morocco and the Greek Islands and New York at post-16.

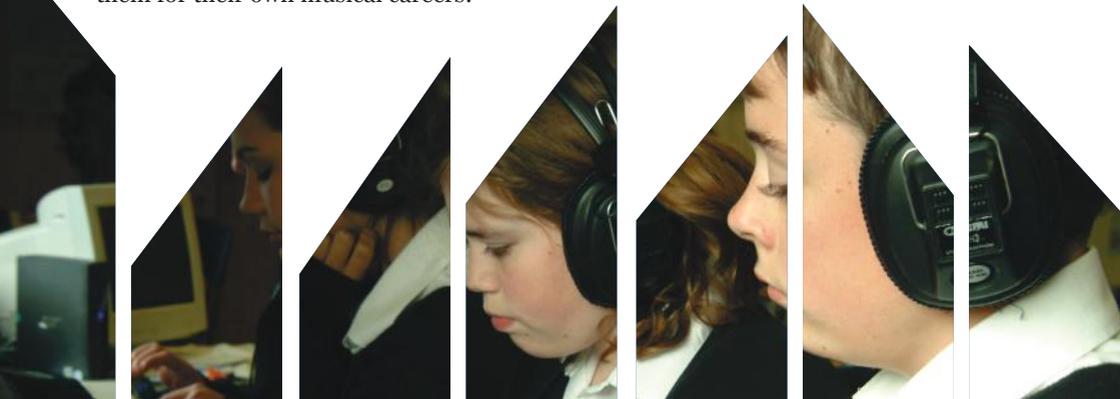
THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Classrooms are pretty useful, of course, but we also recognise that lots of the best learning happens outdoors! We offer a wide range of outward bound courses at a variety of location including Glasbury, Kilvrough and Yenworthy. All of these courses focus on developing our students' personal, social, team-building, leadership and co-operation skills. And of course, they are lots of fun! And with so much wonderful green space on campus, we regularly take classes outdoors – especially in the summer.

MUSIC

We offer a wide range of musical experiences for all our students, not only in the classroom, but through the provision of individual and peripatetic lessons. Students can choose from traditional orchestral and jazz instruments such as the clarinet, trumpet, cello, flute, trombone, violin, piano or saxophone, or rock it up with the electric, acoustic or bass guitar. We also offer choir, Ukulele group, and Keyboard club, all of whom perform at local events.

Last year we hosted the Carterton Fake Festival, offering our students and members of the local community the chance to experience some awesome tribute acts to inspire them for their own musical careers!



CAREERS – THEIR ASPIRATION IS OUR INSPIRATION

We go above and beyond with our careers service to help prepare our students for life after Carterton Community College. We try to provide students with all the information, opportunities and experiences that they need to decide upon and work towards the professional life they deserve. We do this through our annual Careers Fair, our work experience programme, workshops and presentations, the Careers space on our website – and most importantly by continually updating their Student Achievement Portfolio so that they understand their skill set and the opportunities that offers them.

THE STUDENT COUNCIL

The student council is an impressive body of pupils committed to enhancing the life of the school. They work very closely with the House Leaders, the Headteacher and governors to represent the ideas and wishes of the student body. It's a great chance for them to play a real part in how the school is run, as well as being a fantastic preparation for later life.

The Interact Club, along with the Town Rotary and Mayor, organises charity events – raising large sums of money for Children in Need and Oxford Children's Hospital. They also meet with organisations such as Carterton's Neighbourhood Action Group and the Allendale Youth Centre to discuss facilities for teenagers in Carterton and take action to improve them.



THE LOCAL SCHOOL FOR:

Carterton Primary School
Gateway Primary School
St John the Evangelist Primary School
Edith Moorhouse Primary School
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Bampton C of E Primary School
Clanfield C of E Primary School
Brize Norton Primary School
St Christopher's C of E Primary School
St.Kenelms C of E Primary School

FREE TRANSPORT FROM:

Alvescot	Brize Norton	Filkins	Langford	Shilton
Bampton	Broadwell	Kelmscott	Little	Weald
Black Bourton	Clanfield	Kencot	Faringdon	

Contact Oxfordshire County Council for more details, subject to a minimum safe walking distance.

GET IN TOUCH!

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www.cartertoncc.oxon.sch.uk
Facebook: www.facebook.com/Carterton-Community-College
Twitter @CartertonCC



HIGH STANDARDS, HIGH ASPIRATIONS
Inspiring excellence in a safe and happy environment