



CARNFORTH

H I G H S C H O O L

A Specialist Science College

Prospectus 2006/7



'A place where every child matters!'



Community

Achievement

Respect

Effort

Welcome...

Dear Parents and Carers,

Carnforth High School is currently experiencing the most exciting period in its 45 year history. In the last 12 months we have secured Specialist Science Status, opened our new £2 million building and are continuing a major upgrade of all of our IT facilities.

The new building, opened in September, will significantly enhance teaching and learning and take standards to an even higher level. The new classrooms are magnificent and our Specialist Science Status has already had a significant impact on results. At Key Stage 3 over 79% of students achieved a Level 5 or better in Maths and Science and at GCSE our results were the best ever with 62% gaining 5A*-C grades, with significant gains in Maths, English and Science.

The School provides a varied curriculum, rich in sport and the arts with high levels of expertise in Technology, Science, Maths and English. September has seen the arrival of five new staff, whom I believe, will further enhance our progress.

By focussing on Community, Achievement, Respect and the Effort of pupils, I believe that we are delivering a quality service at Carnforth, with staff who are teaching to the highest standards for each and every pupil.

We aspire to be a school at the heart of the community where learning is embraced and valued. I hope you enjoy reading our 2005/6 brochure and come and visit us, to witness for yourself the recent significant developments taking place. You will discover that Carnforth continues to be a school where children are happy and successful.

At Carnforth, we are dedicated to delivering a service of the highest quality and standard for each pupil. We are a school where 'Every Child Matters'.

If you would like any further information, or want to visit the school at Open Evening or have a tour during the day with me, please phone the school and arrange an appointment.

Yours Sincerely



Paul Legon
Headteacher



Ethos & Values

“Striving for academic excellence and standards of good citizenship in all our pupils.”

Highlights and Headlines

- Key Stage 3 saw significant improvements, particularly at Level 6+ in Maths and Science.
- Key Stage 4 results were the best in the Carnforth's history.
- 2005 5th consecutive year of DFES funded, gifted and talented summer school (only 8 in Lancashire).
- 2005 onwards, National Pilot for GCSE financing studies.



Innovations at Carnforth

The High School's innovation and improvement group was established in 2004 to share good practice, encourage teachers to innovate and promote quality.

Carnforth High is taking part in a Lancashire pilot project for Internet Professional Development with six local primary schools.

The 'raising parent and student expectation' project was shared across Lancashire as good practise.

To improve GCSE grades 'immersion days' take place where students focus on a specific subject and complete the majority of their coursework- the benefits have been substantial.

To boost performance, before every exam, revision warm up sessions have been introduced.

Year 11 students receive sessions on exam technique, revision strategies and working under pressure.

Recent concerns regarding student diet has prompted the school to remove all vending machines in May 2005.

Overall performance of the school was rated good or very good by 86% of parents
May 2005 Parental Survey.



Building work at Carnforth High

- During the Summer of 2005 the £2 million building will be completed.
- This will provide 3 new English rooms, 3 new Maths rooms, 5 new Technology rooms, new Art rooms and a Multimedia workshop.



A new £40,000 Court Yard will be available for Music and Drama performance from the end of September.

Ethos & Values

"To create an environment that encourages curiosity, enquiry and a love of learning."

Carnforth High School Science Status

- Carnforth is the only Specialist Science School within 40 miles.
- Specialist status has enabled the school to implement many innovative steps to improve the quality of learning.
- Funding has increased by £85,000 per year with £100,000 of capital investment.
- Class sizes for GCSE Science and maths are significantly smaller by using additional staff.
- Improving links with primary schools to deliver Science and Maths.

Key Stage 3:

Undergraduate copper chemistry practical at Manchester University (congratulated by the course tutor on their high standards).

School Science Club meets weekly to tackle everything from bath 'bombs' to flying an 8 foot hot-air balloon with lots of learning on the way.

Attended the Salter's Chemistry Competition at Manchester University.

Students from Carnforth act as Science Mentors to local primary children at a Galactic Gig run by the Institute of Physics.

Fun activity day at the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology at Lancaster University for 50 pupils from genetics to forensic hair analysis

Key Stage 4:

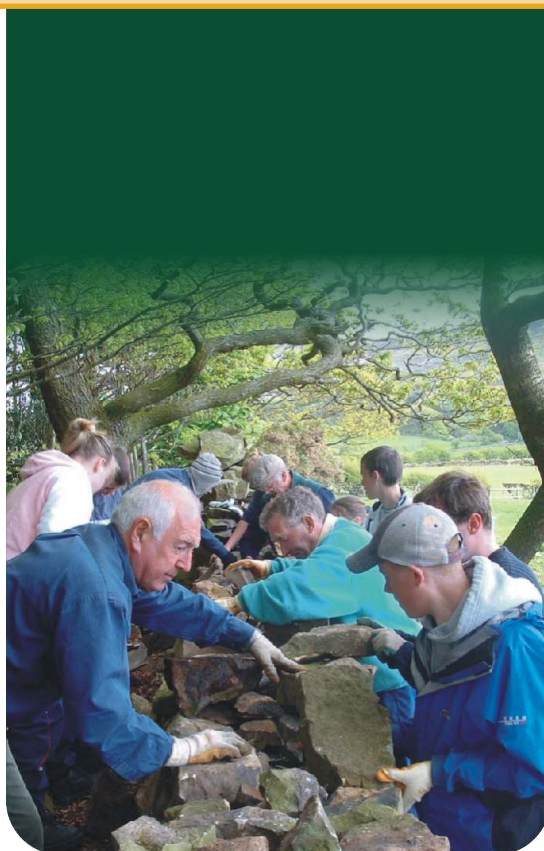
Weekly visits to Myerscough College for an Animal Care course.

Physics at Alton Towers with Johnny Ball then do their own research around the park!

Build and race your own hovercraft at Lancaster University.

Environmental Science - stone walling experience on Caton Fell.

Students learn about Environmental Management with talks and walks at Leighton Moss Bird Reserve.



Ethos & Values

“To offer a broad education to enable pupils to achieve the skills, attitudes, concepts and knowledge necessary to help them fulfil positive roles in a global society”

Student Voice

At Carnforth we feel it is essential that we understand how children feel about the quality of education they receive.

At the 2005 Department for Education Innovation Unit's Conference, Student Voice was highlighted as best practice. As part of the Leading Edge partnership Carnforth has begun student visits to other schools to gather feedback on what we do well and what the school could improve on.

The Student Council was set up in 2004 so every pupil can voice their views to staff to improve the quality of teaching and learning and the school environment.

As part of the whole school self evaluation process, every half term a department's performance is analysed. Student views play an integral part in improving each department.

"Visiting other schools made me realise what Carnforth does well and what we could do better. It felt good being able to make a difference"
Year 9 Student

"I've gained a lot of experience chairing the Student Council and learnt that voicing an opinion can make a real difference"
Head Girl 2005



Ethos & Values

"To establish and maintain the concept that every member of this school has the right to be treated with respect and dignity."

Making a Positive Contribution

A central theme of life at Carnforth is to ensure children have the skills necessary to play an active part in the community.

The School wants all of its pupils to be enterprising, self confident young people who are able to develop positive relationships and respect the environment. We encourage all students to undertake roles of responsibility and contribute to the school and wider community.

Opportunities include: Prefecting, buddying new students, supporting local primary schools community work and from September, the Junior Sports Leader Awards will be taught at Carnforth. This gives children the chance to gain the right skills to run sport sessions for young people in the community.



“The School's good partnership with parents and its close links with the local community enhance the opportunities available for its pupils”.

OFSTED 2000



Ethos & Values

“To provide equality of opportunity for all pupils to develop their particular talents, irrespective of gender, race, religious beliefs, social class, culture or any special needs.”

Be Healthy

In response to dietary concerns in June 2005, the school removed all of its vending machines.

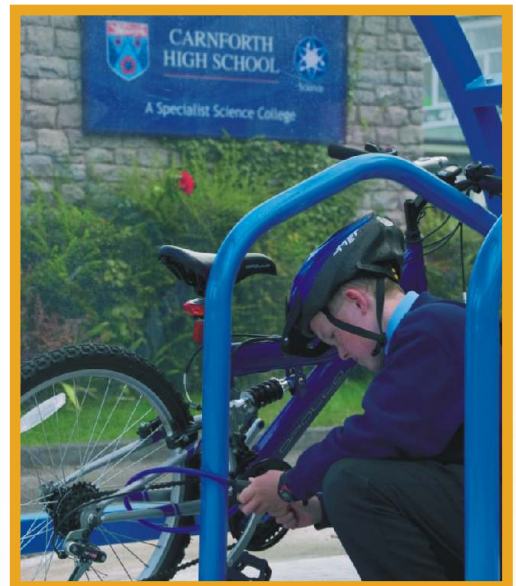
As part of a £30,000 upgrade the dining room has been completely refurbished and a cashless system installed.

In September 2005 the new student health and advice centre opened. It will be used as a model for other schools.

Carnforth is one of only 29 schools in the country chosen to take part in the blue print pilot project.

This is a Home Office research project which aims to find the best strategies to ensure that students are physically, mentally and emotionally healthy both now and in the future. The results will be used to formulate policy for all schools across the country. Students visited the House of Commons to celebrate its involvement.

Carnforth High School is involved in the Lancashire Healthy Schools Programme and has achieved the quality mark for Community and Partners.



Ethos & Values

"To encourage pupils to work, both individually and with others, towards a high standard of achievement and the attainment of their full potential."

Enjoy and Achieve

For students to achieve they must enjoy and value their learning experience.

Every year visits to Europe are organised. Last year trips included France and Germany.

A huge range of sporting opportunities are available to ensure all participate and achieve. Activities Include: Fencing, Water Polo, Aerobics, Golf, Table Tennis, Hockey, Netball, Football, Rugby, Athletics, Tennis and Basketball.

The Arts are given a high priority within school with Drama, Music and Art offering a wide range of opportunities for student participation.

'Supporting Learning',

Carnforth aims to provide access to the whole curriculum so that every child can achieve their potential. This requires supporting staff to develop appropriate strategies and resources as well as supporting pupils.

Able students follow an agreed subject-specific Individual Education Plan. Regular meetings of these pupils take place to monitor their progress. In 2005 a group of able pupils took General Studies GCSE early in Years 9 and 10 and the results were outstanding.

Teaching Quality was rated good or very good by 73% of parents.

May 2005 Parental Survey



73% of parents felt that Carnforth was good or very good at developing their child's confidence.

May 2005 Parental Survey



84% of parents felt that their child was happy at Carnforth High

May 2005 Parental Survey



Computer Facilities rate as good or very good by 80% of parents

May 2005 Parental Survey

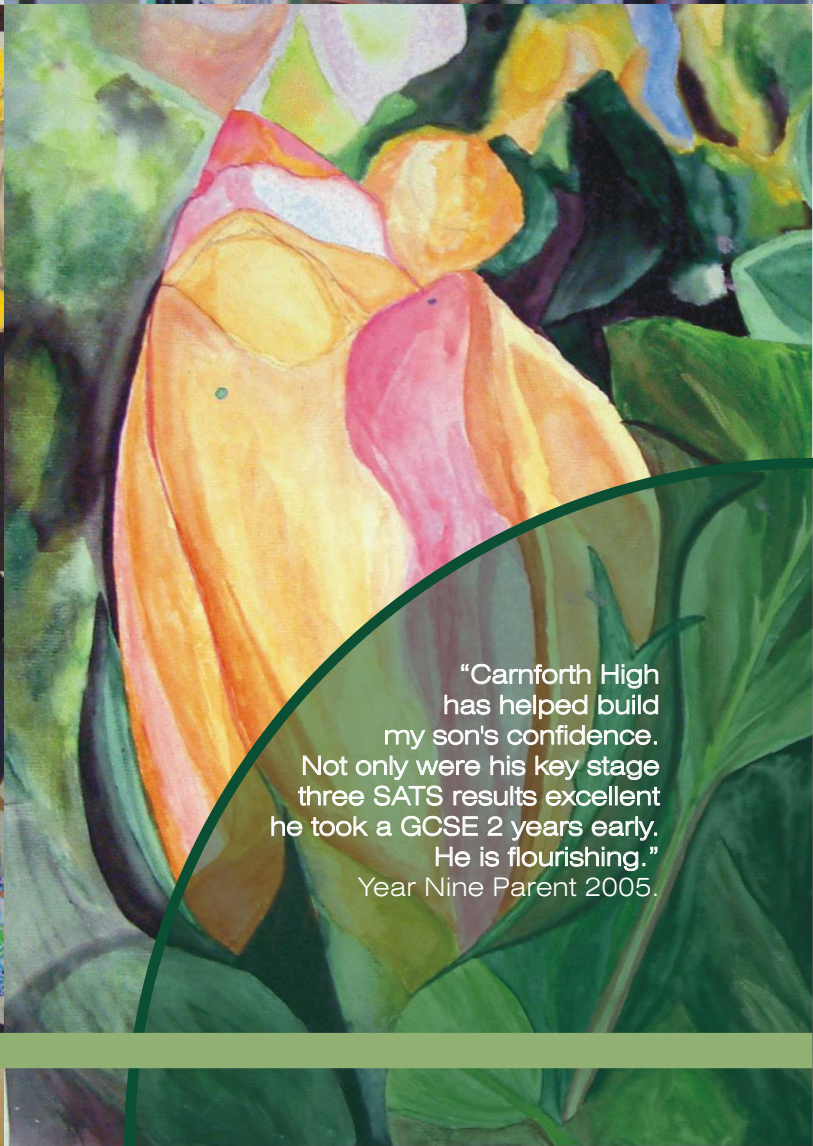


Ethos & Values

"To foster a sense of responsibility, self respect and respect for others, based on a reasoned set of attitudes, values and beliefs."



“The positive ethos successfully fosters good behaviour, friendly relationships, and encourage constructive attitudes to learning”.
OFSTED 2000



“Carnforth High has helped build my son's confidence. Not only were his key stage three SATS results excellent he took a GCSE 2 years early. He is flourishing.”
Year Nine Parent 2005.

Life Skills

Academic success needs to be matched with enabling students to see the value of gaining skills for life.

To support younger students within school, Carnforth implemented its 'buddy system' in 2000. This programme trains older pupils to provide support, guidance and give encouragement on a daily basis. In 2002 the school received a Diana, Princess of Wales, Memorial Award for its work.

“The School provides a wide range of learning opportunities, including a good range of extra curricular activities which contribute to pupils' social development”.
OFSTED 2000



Social and Health Education was rated good / very good by 81% of parents.

May 2005 Parental Survey



Over 75% of parents felt that teachers were good or very good at caring for their child.

May 2005 Parental Survey



“I am continually impressed with the maturity shown by students at Carnforth High School in discussing sensitive community issues and safety concerns often faced by young people”

Community Beat Manager
PC Lees August 2005.

Ethos & Values

“To facilitate the continuing professional development of the staff to meet the evolving needs of the school and the wider community.”

Future Success

At Carnforth we aim to ensure that all students are well prepared for life after leaving school. We have excellent links with all local post 16 providers and many students progress to university.

School and The World of Work

Links with industry are growing and all pupils in their final years have two weeks work experience, which is linked to their normal work. Individual pupils are mentored by people from local industries. Enterprise Education will be introduced for Year 11 in 2005/06.

Careers education lessons are provided for all pupils from Year Eight to Year Eleven after a brief introduction in Year 7. In addition pupils are encouraged to use the enlarged Careers' Library, attend the annual Careers' Convention and seek individual counselling from the careers' teacher and representative of Connexions.

"Attending Carnforth provided me with an excellent education. This fact has become clearer to me the older I get".
Former Pupil of 1997

"At Carnforth the teachers were approachable and easy to get on with, but made us work hard. I developed as an individual and this enabled me to make informed decisions about sixth form and stood me in good stead at university. I have now gained my degree and am embarking on a further 2 year diploma course at university to gain further qualifications."
Former Pupil 2000

"Having got the A Level grades I needed I am off to university. I feel Carnforth not only prepared me for sixth form but university as well. I have been given the skills to take an active part in the community and make the right career choice."
Former Head Girl of 2002



Ethos & Values

"To seek to involve fully all parents in all aspects of the life and work of the school."