

Carmel RC College

CARMEL COLLEGE, A SPECIALIST TECHNOLOGY AND VOCATIONAL COLLEGE, IS A MIXED SCHOOL PROVIDING EDUCATION TO 1,100 11-18 YEAR-OLDS OF DIVERSE ETHNICITY AND ACADEMIC ABILITY.

"MY VISION IS THAT TALMOS WILL SAVE TIME ON PLANNING AND HELP SHARE RESOURCES AND EXPERTISE WITH OTHER SCHOOLS IN THE TOWN. I'D LIKE TO SEE ALL SCHOOLS WORKING TOGETHER IN THE FUTURE TO SHARE GOOD PRACTICE."

DAVID BAYNE, RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TEACHER AND TALMOS CO-ORDINATOR

► Business Profile

With consistently good levels of attainment, Carmel RC College has moved on to implement TALMOS (Teaching and Learning Management Open System) to spread good practice and enhance teachers' continuing professional development.

A leading light for academic success in Darlington, Carmel is already a well performing school and in June 2005 decided to underpin its teaching and learning with TALMOS, a powerful managed learning environment from CORE Education.

► Industry

Education and Assessment.

► Location

Carmel RC College,
The Headlands,
Darlington,
Co. Durham,
DL3 8RW

► Deployment Summary

TALMOS provides the perfect platform to deliver the Government's vision for personalised learning. TALMOS develops collaborative working within individual schools, LEA and school clusters, helping them accelerate improvements in standards and strengthen teaching and learning. Carmel was keen to realise the benefits of TALMOS and set about utilising it under the training and guidance of CORE Education.

TALMOS was chosen because Carmel thought it would save teachers time on lesson planning and they would be able to share resources, creating a more joined up approach to teaching and learning. Integrating TALMOS into the fabric of a school's working practice and infrastructure can take schools up to three years but 12 months in, Carmel is already seeing the benefits of training teachers to use and add resources to it.

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► Deployment Summary

So far, every teacher at Carmel has used TALMOS and 50 per cent of the school's resources are up on the system, providing the basis of a content database that can be tagged to individual learning objectives.

David Bayne, Religious Education Teacher and TALMOS Co-ordinator, Carmel RC College, explained: "Teachers are surprised by how intuitive it is. They love the fact that they can link the resources to QCA schemes of work."

Teachers at Carmel are already starting to share resources, both within and across departments. As part of the TALMOS offering, Carmel is also taking advantage of CORE's wide range of companion products including Channel 4's popular ClipBanks video clip education resources for teaching modern foreign languages, science, design & technology, geography and history.

Embedding ICT across the curriculum

TALMOS lends itself particularly well to thematic cross curricular teaching that truly embeds ICT across the curriculum. For example; religious education and history are both being taught through the same Martin Luther King video clips of speeches and newsreel purchased through CORE Education and integrated into TALMOS. Students ask themselves history questions about Martin Luther King and also religious education questions such as: 'Why is Martin Luther King regarded as a modern day prophet?'

The ability to tag resources in TALMOS to specific learning objectives and learning styles is also a real plus for personalised learning. From a professional development point of view educationalists can also review the resources they have used over the year to check they have correctly catered for all learning styles.

► Benefits

Pioneering the use of TALMOS in Darlington, the good news about Carmel's success with the system has now spread to three other schools in the area who have also now adopted the service in their institutions.

Looking ahead, David is particularly excited about harnessing the collaborative capabilities of TALMOS, "My vision is that it will save time on planning and help share resources and expertise with other schools in the town. I'd like to see all schools working together in the future to share good practice."

This sort of cohesive approach to learning means teachers can gain knowledge from one another, borrowing resources and gaining a different perspective on how to approach the same lesson. TALMOS has empowered Carmel to build links with other secondary schools in the area and David even plans to expand his horizons to using TALMOS with feeder primaries in a bid to smooth primary to secondary transition in the borough.

Key Benefits:

- Saving teachers' time
- Lesson planning
- Collaboration

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► Benefits

- Transition
- QCA schemes of work
- Assessment
- Utilising resources
- Learning objectives
- Learning styles
- Personalised learning