

## CARRE'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL BASKETBALL SEASON SUMMARY

### PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

Carre's have had another very successful year on the basketball court, with all year groups experiencing success in both their development as players and in their team performances. Each year, increasing numbers of students take up the sport and demonstrate sustained participation over the competitive season. This is particularly pleasing as the vast majority of team players have not played the sport before Year 7, have not played in a community club and would most likely still regard basketball as their 'second or third sport'. While winning games is not the most important factor in the running of our school teams, the school are proud of the success our teams have had in national and county competitions. In the 2016-17 competitive season, Carre's played a total of 28 fixtures, winning 16 (57% win success), building on the success of previous years: 2015-16 (31 fixtures, winning 68% of these games) and 2014-15 (20 fixtures, winning 55% of games). Carre's teams have achieved the accolade of County Champions at every possible age group, with 4 teams also competing in the Dynamic National Schools' League this year. Most pleasing has been seeing the Year 7 team competing in the National League for the first time, narrowly missing out on qualification to the National Finals after defeat to a strong Tuxford School, who had 3 East Midland's players, by 12 points. Similarly, the under-16 team (all under-15) benefitted from playing in the under-17 National League, gaining valuable experience against older and more experienced players, while they were narrowly defeated in the under-16 competition (last-64 of National Cup) by 7 points.

Team	Played	Won	Lost	Win %
Under-12	4	3	1	75%
Under-14	9	6	3	67%
Under-16	7	6	1	86%
Under-17	5	1	4	20%
Under-19	3	0	3	0%



### SCHOOL BASKETBALL TOUR (BARCELONA, 2019)

In 2019, Carre's are set to take 30 students (currently in Years 9 and 10) to Barcelona for a football and basketball tour. The tour is being organised by Mr Offer in partnership with InspireSport, who deliver unique coaching and travel experiences.

The touring group will stay in Salou in the Cambrils Park Resort complex for 6 days. Students will play in 3 football fixtures and 2 basketball fixtures against local opposition. Students will also enjoy a stadium tour around the Nou Camp and will spend an afternoon at Port Aventura Themepark.





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## OLD CARENSIANS' GAME

The final game of the basketball calendar saw the return of the annual Old Boys' game; a game fiercely contested by both teams. This year's team was comprised of 4 Year 13 students and a further 4 Year 10 students. Regular team captain, Josh Frost, coached the team as he was unable to play due to injury. The Old Boys' team saw the return of regular Old Boys players Ben Lambert, Nathan Gunning, Nathan Maggs, Stewart Anderson and Ben Goacher, while Tom Reid, Cameron Richardson, Terry Kirk, Harrison Allen and Tom Monson made their debuts.

The Carre's team started brightly, with Matthew Spoons winning the tip to give the team the first possession. A series of quick passes freed up Elliott Burrell to drive into the paint, but his shot was contested and narrowly missed the target. The Old Boys inbound pass found its way to Tom Monson who was fouled during his lay-up but missed both free throws. Three minutes passed before the first made basket by Stewart Anderson, but was immediately followed by a reply from James Heywood-Holt. This kick started the Old Boys into life, as a series of baskets helped them to lead by 16 points at the end of the first quarter.

A spirited team talk saw a buoyed Carre's team take to the court. The team were far more direct on offense and competitive on defense, where Elliott Burrell's 7 points helped the team to win the quarter by 6 points.



**Back Row:** C Coomer, M Spoons, T Scott, B Singer  
**Front Row:** L Bucci, J Heywood-Holt, E Burrell, C Tyson



**Back Row:** B Lambert, N Gunning, H Allen, T Kirk, T Reid  
**Front Row:** N Maggs, C Richardson, T Monson, S Anderson, B Goacher

Carre's Grammar School					
Player		Points	Fouls	FT	FT%
Charlie Tyson	#5	4	0		
Elliott Burrell	#6	15	2	1/2	50%
Cameron Coomer	#7	0	2		
Luca Bucci	#8	2	1		
James Heywood-Holt	#9	4	0		
Bobby Singer	#10	2	2		
Tom Scott	#11	1	0	1/2	50%
Matt Spoons	#14	2	5*		

Old Boys					
Player		Points	Fouls	FT	FT%
Nathan Gunning	#35	7	0	1/2	50%
Stewart Anderson	#2	10	1		
Ben Goacher	#34	9	2	1/2	50%
Tom Reid	#34	2	0		
Nathan Maggs	#9	2	0		
Terry Kirk	#3	8	4	2/6	33%
Harrison Allen	#1	0	0		
Ben Lambert	#9	2	2		
Tom Monson	#6	15	1	3/9	33%
Cameron Richardson	#3	0	0		

The second half started with the Old Boys leading by 8 points (28-20). The Carre's team were very slow to start, although a number of missed open looks at the basket could have made the game far more competitive in the first 5 minutes. The Old Boys started strongly, with Terry Kirk hitting 2 of his 4 free throws, while Nathan Gunning and Nathan Maggs each added 2 points at the mid-way point to lead the quarter 6-0. The Carre's team did respond in the closing minutes, with Elliott Burrell and Charlie Tyson each converting to close the gap to 3 points. At the start of the fourth quarter in last year's game, Carre's trailed by 5 points before Ben Goacher's 15 fourth quarter points guided the team to an 11 point win. This year, the Old Boys led by 7 points at the start of the fourth (35-24) and the final 10 minutes of the game virtually replicated last year's game.

Two quick baskets from Stewart Anderson and Nathan Gunning set up Tom Monson to play with freedom on offense and score two acrobatic lay-ups. The Old Boys deservedly won the game 53-31 but it was a fantastic performance by a developing Carre's team. MVP was awarded to Tom Monson for his 15 points and energy on offense. A huge thank you to Nathan Gunning for organising the Old Boys' team.



## **LINCOLNSHIRE REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS**

Carre's Grammar School PE teacher, Russell Smith, was recently asked to coach the under-15 and under-17 Lincolnshire Representative Teams (boys) Trials for both teams were organised for Monday 22 May in preparation for the regional tournaments in June 2017.

### **Under 17 (Boys) Regional Team**

On Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June, the under-17 regional basketball tournament took place at the Nottingham Wildcats Arena, with Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire competing against one another. The Lincolnshire team met at the Wildcats Arena at 9:45am, although Joe Burrell and Martin Krzyzanowski arrived at 9:15am to warm up for the event. Team captain, Harry Fairfield, led the team through a thorough warm up, with Lincolnshire set to play Northamptonshire first in game 1. The team consisted of Harry Fairfield (Charnwood College), Joe Burrell and Bobby Singer (Carre's Grammar School), Joel Ayers and James Hardy (Sir William Robertson Academy), Charlie Whitfield (Branston Community Academy), Shaun Nel (Priory Ruskin Academy), Shaun Ely (Spalding Grammar School), Martin Krzyzanowski (St George's Academy) and Alessandro Pook (De Aston School).



Game 1 against Northamptonshire didn't start well, despite Lincolnshire taking a 2 point lead in the opening seconds. The team's lack of organisation defensively led to Northamptonshire scoring numerous fast break points, enabling them to take a 17 point lead (20-3) after the first quarter. The second quarter virtually replicated the first, with Lincolnshire moving the ball well on offense but failing to convert this work into points. Joel Ayers scored the first basket of the quarter but a series of fast break points extended Northamptonshire's lead to 31 points (38-7). A productive team talk at half time emphasised the importance of defense, and particular defensive transition to stop their fast break, and the Lincolnshire team suddenly found another gear. Having scored just 7 points in the first half, the team added a further 10 points to their total in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter alone, with baskets from Harry Fairfield (4 points), Charlie Whitfield (4 points) and James Hardy (2 free-throws). The team now trailed by 41 points (58-17) with one quarter remaining. Buoyed by their improved 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter performance, the team then went toe-to-toe with a very strong Northamptonshire side in the final quarter. Lincolnshire went on to win the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 13-8 and demonstrated that they can compete with the more experienced sides in the tournament.

### **Tournament Schedule**

<b>Tip Time</b>	<b>Court 1</b>	<b>Court 2</b>
10.30	Derbyshire v Leicestershire	Lincolnshire v Northamptonshire
11.30	Nottinghamshire v Derbyshire	Leicestershire v Lincolnshire
12.30	Northamptonshire v Nottinghamshire	Derbyshire v Lincolnshire
14.00	Leicestershire v Northamptonshire	Lincolnshire v Nottinghamshire
15.00	Derbyshire v Northamptonshire	Leicestershire v Nottinghamshire

Game 2 came straight after game one, so the team would have to battle with fatigue as they played Leicestershire. Despite a strong finish to game 1 and a strong emphasis on defensive transition, the team failed to deal with Leicestershire's high pick-and-roll to create a mismatch on offense and their fast-break transition offense. Leicestershire romped to a 15-0 first quarter lead. An improved defensive performance was emphasised after the first quarter and the team duly delivered. Lincolnshire solidified their defensive effort and limited Leicestershire to just 3 baskets in 10 minutes, but could only add 2 points to the board via Bobby Singer. The team then demonstrated their capabilities in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, where they dominated the Leicestershire team and won the quarter 14-6, with baskets from Harry Fairfield (8 points), Alessandro Pook (2 points), Bobby Singer (2 points) and Joe Burrell (2 points). Lincolnshire was now behind by 11 points and had momentum behind them. The energy expended during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, having played a back-to-back paid its toll, as Leicestershire went on to win the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 16-5 to win by 22 points (43-21).

Game 3 saw Lincolnshire play against a Derbyshire side who had narrowly beaten Nottinghamshire minutes before in overtime. Lincolnshire could not cope with Derbyshire's ball movement on offense and full-court press, with Derbyshire winning the quarter 35-2. Joe Burrell got Lincolnshire's only basket in the first quarter. Lincolnshire settled into the game as the second quarter progressed, with baskets from Alessandro Pook (2 points), James Hardy (4 points), Harry Fairfield (3 points), Bobby Singer (2 points) and Charlie Whitfield (2 points) but still went on to lose the quarter 26-13. Derbyshire took a convincing lead (61-15) into the second half. Lincolnshire's second half performance was much improved. When this improvement was coupled with Derbyshire taking their foot off the gas, Lincolnshire were suddenly much more competitive, narrowly losing the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 8-6 and 16-10 in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. Derbyshire won the 2<sup>nd</sup> half 24-16, but Lincolnshire could be proud of their second half performance. Derbyshire won the game 85-31.



**Back Row:** Harry Fairfield, James Hardy, Shaun Ely, Martin Krzyzanowski, Charlie Whitfield, Russell Smith (coach)  
**Front Row:** Alessandro Pook, Joseph Burrell, Shaun Nel, Robert Singer, Joel Ayers.

Lincolnshire's final game saw the team compete against a strong Nottinghamshire side, who knew that a strong performance could see them winning the tournament on point difference, with Leicestershire beating Derbyshire, Derbyshire beating Nottinghamshire and Nottinghamshire beating Leicestershire in the previous games. Lincolnshire were aware of this but were determined to work hard defensively to deny Nottinghamshire an 'easy win'. Lincolnshire's defense was excellent in the first quarter, although the opposition still went on to win the quarter 16-2. Lincolnshire were the only team to play 4 games in a row, and the impact of this became evident in the second quarter, with a number of the players struggling with fatigue and cramps. Nottinghamshire took full advantage and went on to win the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters 21-3 and 19-7 to lead by 46 points with a quarter remaining. The team then put in an exceptional 4<sup>th</sup> quarter performance to narrowly lose the quarter 10-6, with Nottinghamshire winning the game 66-18.

#### Player Statistics

	Student	Points Per Game	Fouls Per Game	Rebounds Per Game	Free Throw %	FT Made/Taken
#4	Joseph Burrell	2	0	1.25	/	/
#5	Shaun Nel	2.25	0.75	2	/	/
#6	Joel Ayers	1	1.75	1.25	/	/
#7	Shaun Ely	1	0.25	1.5	0%	0/1
#8	Allessandro Pook	2	1.5	2.5	25%	1/4
#9	James Hardy	1.25	0.5	4.75	43%	3/7
#10	Robert Singer	2	2	3	/	/
#11	Harry Fairfield	8	2.25	2.25	/	/
#12	Martin Krzyzanowski	0.5	1.25	0.5	/	/
#13	Charlie Whitfield	2.25	1.75	3.25	50%	1/2

Overall, the team can be proud of how they performed during the tournament. It is a fantastic achievement to represent your county at basketball and it is great that Lincolnshire are now entering the regional tournaments and are competing with these experienced teams. The under-17 East Midland's coach had his eye on a number of Lincolnshire's players, with Charlie Whitfield and Shaun Ely narrowly missing out on selection to the provisional squad. They can be proud of their performances as they are both a year younger than most of the players selected. Harry Fairfield was selected from Lincolnshire to the provisional squad and we wish him all the success in being picked to play in the East Midland's squad for the games in September.

### Under 15 (Boys) Regional Team

The under-15 Lincolnshire team arrived at the Nottingham Wildcats Arena for 9:15am on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June to go through their warm up routines prior to the tournament. The team consisted of Nathan Rogers, Niall Parsons, Xander Millar, Elliott Burrell and Luca Bucci (Carre’s Grammar School), Michael O’Connor and Harry Chessor (Sir William Robertson Academy), Adam Cunningham (King’s School), Osione Irotumhe (Spalding Grammar School) and Daniel Lindsey (Branston Community Academy). The team were excited about the prospect of representing Lincolnshire but would have to wait until 11:00am for their first game against last year’s tournament winners, Derbyshire.



### Tournament Schedule

Tip Time	Court 1	Court 2	Court 3
10.00	G Derby v Leicester	B Derby v Leicester	
11.00	G Northants v Notts	B Northants v Lincs	
12.00	G Leicester v Northants	B Notts v Derby	
13.00	G Derby v Notts	B Leicester v Lincs	
14.00	G Northants v Derby	B Northants v Notts	B Derby v Lincs
15.00	B Northants v Derby	B Notts v Leicester	G Leicester v Notts
16.00	B Leicester v Northants	B Lincs v Notts	

Game one against Northamptonshire didn’t start particularly well, with the opposition leading 11-2 after the first four minutes and were behind by 16 points (22-6) after the first quarter. The Lincolnshire team had not yet settled into the game and struggled to cope with the Northamptonshire team’s fast break transition offense. The team were told to focus on a strong defensive performance, adopting man-to-man help defense and they successfully limited Northamptonshire to just 10 points in the second quarter. Lincolnshire trailed by 24 points at half time and seemed to relax more-and-more as the game progressed. In the third and fourth quarters, the team went toe-to-toe with Northamptonshire, narrowly losing each quarter 12-8 and 13-9, reinforcing that the team could compete with their opposition. Overall, a disappointing first half but far more encouraging second half.



Ahead of game two, the emphasis of the team discussion was on starting well by showing the high-quality defense demonstrated in the second half of game one and looking to implement a high pick-and-roll on offense when possible. Unfortunately, things did not go to plan once again, with Lincolnshire losing the first quarter by 15 points (19-4). An animated team talk reinforced the expectations of the players and they delivered in the second quarter. Lincolnshire were unfortunate to lose the second quarter 11-10. The second half reinforced to the coaching team and spectators that the Lincolnshire side could compete with the other counties, with Lincolnshire winning the half 16-15, but the disastrous first quarter led to a 45-30 loss overall.

The team had little time to rest or reflect upon their performance against Leicestershire, with their game against Derbyshire coming straight after game two. This may have been a blessing in disguise as the team looked to avoid another disastrous first quarter. Quick baskets by Adam Cunningham, Nathan Rogers and Osione Irotumhe saw Lincolnshire matching Derbyshire, although the opposition scored three quick baskets before the end of the quarter to give them a 15-7 lead. Buoyed by a strong start to the game, the team then won the second quarter 14-10, with baskets from Nathan Rogers, Niall Parsons and a Klay Thompson-esque three-pointer from Xander Millar. Lincolnshire had now closed the gap to just 9 points. In the second half, Luca Bucci and Nathan Rogers started to successfully implement the high pick-and-roll and the team’s solid defense

led to the Derbyshire team finding it difficult to take the ball to the basket on offense. Baskets from Michael O'Connor, Nathan Rogers, Elliott Burrell and Harry Chessor could not prevent Derbyshire narrowly edging the third quarter 10-8. The fourth quarter saw Lincolnshire play their best basketball to date, with Luca Bucci scoring 5 points, Nathan Rogers getting 6 points and Xander Millar rattling in another 3-pointer to win the fourth quarter 14-13. Lincolnshire lost the game 53-43 overall but could be proud of their performance.

### Player Statistics

	Student	Points Per Game	Fouls Per Game	Free Throw %	FT Made/Taken
#4	Daniel Lindsey	2	2.25	50%	1/2
#5	Elliott Burrell	4.25	2.25	50%	3/6
#6	Xander Millar	2.75	1	/	/
#7	Nathan Rogers	5.5	1.5	43.8%	7/16
#8	Osione Irotumhe	1	2.5	/	/
#9	Adam Cunningham	1.5	0.5	100%	2/2
#10	Niall Parsons	4.75	1.75	33.3%	3/9
#11	Luca Bucci	1.5	3.5	40%	4/10
#12	Harry Chessor	2.5	0.5	60%	3/5
#13	Michael O'Connor	1.5	0.75	25%	1/4

The final game saw Lincolnshire play the tournament's in-form team, Nottinghamshire, who knew that a victory would lead to them winning the tournament overall. The team's performance in the first quarter replicated the disappointing first quarter against Northamptonshire, with the team losing 21-6. The team did improve in the second quarter, limiting Nottinghamshire to just 14 points, but could only add 7 points to their total. Niall Parsons and Xander Millar both converted a 3-point attempt, while Harry Chessor added the final point from the free-throw line. Nottinghamshire rediscovered their form in the third to take the score to 65-23, before a strong finish from Lincolnshire saw the team win the fourth quarter 13-10. Niall Parsons led the team in the game with 12 points, while Adam Cunningham, Daniel Lindsey and Osione Irotumhe were all outstanding defensively. Nathan Rogers added 7 points to the team's total, added to his 5 rebounds and 3 free-throws. The result led to Nottinghamshire winning the tournament overall but Lincolnshire could be proud of their performances over the four games.



Back Row: Russell Smith (coach), Harry Chessor, Michael O'Connor, Osione Irotumhe, Niall Parsons, Daniel Lindsey  
Front Row: Luca Bucci, Elliott Burrell, Xander Millar, Nathan Rogers, Adam Cunningham

The event finished with a presentation ceremony to select the East Midland's squad. In total, 22 players were selected to the provisional East Midland's team, with the final 12 man squad being selected following the two training sessions on 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> July. Of the 22 players, 6 were selected from Nottinghamshire, 6 from Leicestershire, 6 from Northamptonshire, 3 from Derbyshire and 1 from Lincolnshire. Lincolnshire guard, Nathan Rogers, was successfully selected to the provision squad but faces tough competition to make the final 14. Kai Waller of Carre's Grammar School was also selected from the Nottinghamshire side.

The Lincolnshire Tournament MVP was awarded to Nathan Rogers for his performances over the 4 games, including team-high 5.5 points per game. He amassed a total of 22 points, 15 rebounds and 16 free-throw attempts during the tournament. Well done.

## **UNDER 15 TEAM**

***The U15 team have competed in the U16 & U17 County and National competitions this year.***

The U15 team continue to impress with their performances on the court and their dedication in terms of attending training and making efforts to put these skills into practice. At the start of the year, I took the decision to enter the team into the U17 National Schools' League to give the team valuable exposure of competition against more experienced players. The team have been dominant for over 2 years in Lincolnshire and were keen to embrace the challenge of playing teams from Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire and Birmingham. Their first game was against Nottingham Academy, who play their home games at the Nottingham Wildcats Arena. The Nottingham Academy team were dominant from the tip off and the Carre's team saw first-hand how devastating a solid defense with a fast break transition offense can be, losing heavily. This was soon followed by a second away fixture against Aston Manor Academy (Birmingham). The Carre's players were somewhat apprehensive after the previous game, but soon found that they were able to match the Aston Manor team in many areas of the game. The team grew into the game and, had it not been for the Aston Manor team's height and physicality (averaging over 6ft 5ins), the score line would have been far closer.

Following 2 tough U17 National League games, the U15 team now prepared to play in the U16 District League, with the winning team progressing to represent the District in the Lincolnshire Schools' Basketball Finals. The team started by playing Sir William Robertson Academy, and blew away the opposition in similar style to the performance of Nottingham Academy the previous month. This was then followed by another explosive performance against St George's Academy, where the team demonstrated their exceptional ball movement on offense and resilience and pressure defensively. Their final league game saw the team play against local rivals, The King's School (Grantham). The team found it difficult to compete against the physicality of their opposition initially, but soon found their rhythm. The King's players found it difficult to cope with the ball handling and fast ball movement and their physical approach led to 2 of their players 'fouling out'. The Carre's team finished strongly to bear their rivals 52-32.

Bouyed by their dominance in the U16 District League, the team then turned their attention back to the U17 National League, hosting Charnwood Academy. Our usual team talk at the start of the game highlighted that the players were starting to acknowledge their development as players and, accepting that the results of these games were irrelevant, this brought fresh optimism to playing in the U17 competition. This optimism dwindled somewhat when the Charnwood players took to the court due to the height difference between the 2 teams and on hearing that they are the primary feeder club for the Leicester Riders Academy. Nevertheless, the team gave it their all but were defeated by the single best basketball team that my school teams have played against while I have been coaching in the sport. The team soon had the opportunity to get back onto the court, as the team hosted Orimiston Academy. Carre's were slow to start, losing the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter, but successfully applied key principles from training into the game and closed the



**Back Row:** Lucca Bucci, James Heywood-Holt, Niall Parsons, Kai Waller, Bobby Singer  
**Front Row:** Nathan Rogers, Adam Varney, Elliott Burrell, Joe Burrell, Xander Millar



gap to 1 point, with one quarter to play. The team then played the best, most hard fought quarter of basketball that I have seen them play and thoroughly deserved their first U17 National League win. The National League campaign concluded with Carre's hosting Noel Baker Academy, a feeder club for the Derby Trailblazers and winners of the U17 National League last year. The team competed with Noel Baker for much of the game and played some exceptional basketball, but narrowly lost by 20 points. The team have benefitted greatly from their involvement in the competition and I predict that the team will fulfil their potential in the next 12 months.

No.	Student	Points Per Game	Fouls Per Game	Free Throw Success (%)
#4	Adam Varney	2.4	0.7	63%
#5	Nathan Rogers	11.6	2.3	47%
#6	Joe Burrell	0.8	0.4	50%
#7	Niall Parsons (CAP)	9	1.9	29%
#8	Elliott Burrell	10.5	3	41%
#9	Xander Millar	1.6	0.4	0%
#10	James Heywood-Holt	1.6	0.7	0%
#11	Bobby Singer	10.1	1.7	23%
#12	Kai Waller (Year 9)	2	1.5	N/A
#13	Lucca Bucci	3.4	1.6	30%



After the conclusion of the U17 National Schools' League, the team prepared to compete in the Lincolnshire U16 Basketball Finals. The team were dominant throughout and deservedly emerged as U16 County Schools' Champions. The results of the league games: De Aston School (92-48), William Farr School (112-64) and Thomas Middlecott Academy (104-56) is a reflection of just how dominant the team were throughout the three games. The achievement is even more impressive when you factor in that all players are U15. Success in the U16 County Schools' Finals set up a National Cup last-64 fixture against Ellis Guilford School. The Carre's team went toe-to-toe with the Nottinghamshire School for the entire game, which concluded in dramatic style. With 60 seconds remaining, Carre's were trailing by 3 points. A well-timed screen from Bobby Singer allowed team captain, Niall Parsons, to get past his man and drive in for a lay-up. Some pressure from the 6ft 4in centre made the shot a little more difficult but the ball looked to have gone half way down into the basket before coming back out again, with the rebound won by the Ellis Guilford centre. The centre drove towards the basket but was halted by a collision with Carre's centre, Bobby Singer. The Ellis Guilford managed to get a shot away, which found its way into the basket from the backboard. There was some deliberation between the officials before a foul was called against Bobby, with the basket deemed 'good'. Seconds earlier, Carre's could have reduced the deficit to 1 point and it had now risen to 5 points. The Carre's players were unusually animated about

have been the incorrect call after the game. As the team set themselves up for the free-throw following their perceived injustice of the decision, they failed to react to the missed free throw, thinking there were two free-throws to come. The situation led to a lapse in concentration as the basket was 'good', leading to just one free-throw. The free throw was missed and the Ellis Guilford forward moved into the painted area for the rebound and added a further 2 points. Within 12 seconds, the game went from potentially being a 1 point game to a 7 point game. Nevertheless, the team can be very proud of their accomplishments and will be expecting to compete with nationally recognised teams in the





## **Basketball 'Most Valuable Player' Awards (2016-17)**

### **Under-12 Performance Awards**

**Player of the Year:** **Jake Henderson**

*Selecting a MVP from the under-12 team was incredibly difficult this year, as there have been so many exceptional performances at varying points of the season, but one player has stood out for his dedication to improving as a performer. Jake is a player who always attends training sessions, is the first into the hall and is always looking for a way to develop his game. He has shown that he is very receptive to feedback and has developed his ability to beat a defender before driving into the basket for a lay-up. Jake is now hoping to train with Newark Tornados to gain more exposure to the sport and will only improve with time and practice.*

**Players' Player of the Year:** **Archie Russell**

*Achieving the recognition of your team mates is often an award that is highly coveted, as it highlights that your team mates appreciate your contributions to the team's success, and Archie certainly has the appreciation of his peers. His ball handling skills are exceptional for a Year 7 student, while his jump shot technique also highlights the time he has spent perfecting it. Archie has contributed the most points to the team's offense this season, with 11.25 points per game on average and he has become increasingly efficient with the ball as the season has progressed.*

**Most Improved Player:** **Archie Sodeau**

*Having never played basketball before joining the school in September, Archie has developed into a very talented and efficient performer. He has developed his ability to box out when contesting rebounds and is able to receive the ball in the low-post to contribute valuable points (5 per game on average). Next year I look forward to seeing Archie develop his ability to set high screens and implement the 'pick-and-roll' into his game. Archie is now training with Newark Tornados to gain more exposure to the sport and will only improve with time and practice.*

### **Under-14 Performance Awards**

**Player of the Year:** **Vincent Fairchild**

*Vincent has had a very successful year playing basketball at Carre's, where he is a valuable member of the under-14 team. He has impressed me with his hardworking attitude and his commitment when it comes to training. His performances in the under-14 team, where he is playing in the age group above, have warranted this recognition. Vincent has averaged 3.1 points per game and has an impressive free-throw percentage, which further reinforces his efforts in developing his playing ability. The highlight of Vincent's season from a personal point of view was his work offensively in the Championship Game during the under-14 District Basketball Finals, where his 6 made free-throws (out of 6) helped the team narrowly beat Sir William Robertson Academy 48-32.*

**Players' Player of the Year:** **Kai Waller & Haydn Tear**

*The under-14 MVP, as voted by their peers, has been shared this year between Kai Waller and Haydn Tear, with both recipients receiving 40% of the vote. Kai has had an exceptional year on the court, averaging a phenomenal 22.7 points per game and converting 71% of his free throws. Kai has been at the free-throw line more times than any other performer in all of the school teams, which is a testament to his improved desire to drive into the basket and come into contact. Haydn Tear has also had a very successful year on the basketball court, where he has been pivotal in the team's offense and has assisted more baskets than any other performer. As the team develops, it will be important for both players to regularly train with the team, if they are to experience similar success in the future.*

**Most Improved Player:** **Euan Lynam**

*Euan has only just started playing basketball for Carre's during the 2016-17 basketball season, and he has already demonstrated that he has the ability to emerge into a very talented and efficient performer. Most pleasing has been his ability to put pressure on the ball carrier defensively and to adopt 'help defense' when necessary. Added to this, his 1.4 points per game has helped the team to progress to the last-32 of the Dynamic National Schools' Competition. I fully expect Euan to take a leading role of the success of the under-14 basketball team next year.*

## **Under-16 Performance Awards**

**Player of the Year: Bobby Singer**

*Bobby has had an excellent season and is the deserved winner of this award. He is a player who contributes points (10.1 per game on average) but, more importantly, is a vital part of our team offense. Bobby is highly effective at setting screens, getting other players free and contesting rebounds on both ends of the court. He has also played an important part in the under-19's national league campaign, where his work on defense resulted in him achieving the award of MVP against Wyggeston and Queen Elizabeth I School.*

**Players' Player of the Year: Elliott Burrell**

*This year, Elliott has been voted as the team MVP by his peers as a result of his energy, work ethic and improved ability to shoot the ball. There have been countless occasions this year when Elliott has been the first player back on defense to slow down the opposition's offense and has blocked countless shots during defensive transition. On the other end of the court, Elliott has become a proficient ball shooter, averaging 10.5 baskets per game on average on top of leading the under-19's in scoring with 12.5 per game.*

**Most Improved Player: Xander Millar**

*Xander has had an excellent year playing with the under-16 team, where he continues to develop his ball handling skills and shooting proficiency. Xander's skills in isolation are second-to-none and he continues to work to develop his application of these skills into competitive fixtures. A highlight of Xander's season was when he played Aston Manor Academy in the under-19 national league. He successfully blocked a 14-foot jump shot attempt from a 6ft 3ins guard before sprinting up court to receive the ball beyond the arc and drained the 3-point attempt.*

## **Under-19 Performance Awards**

**Player of the Year: Josh Frost**

*There have been many positive elements and excellent individual performances throughout the under-19 basketball team's season. These include Elliott Burrell's game-high 16 points against Arnold Hill Academy, Matt Spoor's 9 rebounds and 5 points in the same game and Bobby Singer's defensive performance and MVP award against Wyggeston & Queen Elizabeth I School. Having said all of this, this year's MVP award goes to a performer who has been involved in school basketball teams over the past 7 years and has been an active contributor to these teams. He is highly regarded by his peers, and younger performers, and has actively volunteered to support the running of lower school fixtures. This year's MVP award goes to Josh Frost.*

**Players' Player of the Year: Josh Frost**

*This year's under-19 MVP award has been achieved by team captain, Josh Frost. Josh has been a very important member of the school's basketball teams over the past 7 years and receiving the admiration of his peers is a fitting tribute to his contributions. Josh has found it difficult at times this year, as he has had to adopt the responsibilities of a guard rather than adopting his usual position of centre, but has led by example on all occasions. Josh has had to accept that he would score fewer points per game (3.6) this year in enabling the team to be more competitive with nationally recognised opposition. This selflessness, coupled with his dedication in attending training and supporting younger performers make him a very worthy recipient.*

**Most Improved Player: Tom Scott**

*Tom is a player who has impressed me this year with his high levels of effort, dedication and commitment towards improving as a performer. Among the most important factors for me, as a coach, is seeing students regularly attending training sessions, being receptive to constructive feedback and taking pride in developing as a performer and Tom fulfils all of the above criteria. Most noticeably this season, Tom has been instrumental defensively in the under-19 team and has seen his game develop over the past 12 months. Added to this, he has actively supported the running of younger age groups as a table official, coach and in the filming of games.*

## UNDER 12 TEAM

The Under-12 team have had a very positive start to their Basketball careers at Carre's and continue to impress with their performances on the court. The decision was taken to enter the team into the Dynamic National Schools' League for the first time at this age group in the school's history, and the boys have benefitted greatly from these experiences.

The season started brightly, with a high proportion of the year group regularly attending weekly training sessions and showing real potential. The team soon had the opportunity to play in their first competitive fixture against St George's Academy (Ruskinton site), with Carre's hosting their Under-14 team. The team started brightly and soon established a commanding lead, winning the first quarter by 8 points. The team then continued in similar fashion in the second quarter overall. Team captain, Archie Russell, led by example and demonstrated his athleticism on offense, amassing a total of 12 points. Archie Sodeau also demonstrated his potential in the painted area, winning countless rebounds and adding a further 12 points to the team's total to help lead the team to a 40-16 victory in their first game.

The team soon had another opportunity to get back onto the court against Bourne Academy. The team were in high spirits and started very brightly, scoring 14 points in the first quarter without reply. The team successfully implemented the key principles used in training and immediately saw their success in the game. Bourne struggled to cope with Carre's defensive press and fast break transition offense, with Carre's eventually winning the fixture 40-10. MVP was awarded to Theo Mussell.

The team's first National League game saw Carre's travel to Nottinghamshire to play Nottingham Academy at the Wildcats Arena. Carre's started with Archie Russell, Angus Taylor, Archie Sodeau and Henry Wicks. The team got off to a quick start and led Nottingham Academy by 9 points at the end of the first quarter. Carre's had established a 15 point lead at one point in the first quarter, before Nottingham Academy closed the game to finish the quarter 19-10. Archie Russell led Carre's scoring with 10 points. The second quarter began with Xander Pottinger, Harry Richardson, Dylan Crichton and Jake Henderson on the court, and they continued where the first quarter team left off. Dylan Crichton demonstrated his ability to get free in the painted area, compete for rebounds and scored 10 of the team's 15 second quarter points. Carre's led 34-17 at the half.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter started with the same team that took the court in the first quarter and the impressive team performance continued throughout the next 10 minutes. The team were encouraged to focus on their defensive effort in the third quarter, as means of developing their all-round performance, and the team didn't disappoint. Nottingham Academy were limited to scoring a total of 4 points in the quarter, while Henry Wicks scored 8 of the team's 16 points. In the final quarter, the team were intent on finishing the game strongly and had the intention of scoring more than 70 points. Harry Richardson and Dylan Crichton continued to grow into the game and demonstrated their ability to challenge for rebound before scoring a total of 10 points each.



**Back Row:** Henry Wicks, Theo Mussell, Joshua Hobbs, Archie Sodeau, Jake Henderson, Angus Taylor  
**Front Row:** Han Stevens, Corey Mudford, Max Aslin, Xander Pottinger, Archie Russell



Bouyed by their convincing performance against Nottingham Academy, Carre's hosted Tuxford Academy in their final National League game. Tuxford Academy were favourites to progress from the group due to the fact that they had 3 East Midland's players in their squad. The team started brightly with 2 early baskets, but the team struggled to contain the more experienced Tuxford players. Tuxford had developed a 12 point lead at the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter. A productive team talk at the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter helped the Carre's team refocus and understand how better to contain the offensive threat of the talented Tuxford players. Carre's performed exceptionally well in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter and bridged the gap to just 6 points at the half. This sustained effort defensively started to take its toll and the Carre's team visibly started to fatigue as the second half progressed. Tuxford eventually emerged as victors, with a score of 40-32, but the Carre's determination and resilience to compete with more experienced players. MVP was awarded to Jake Henderson for his efforts on defense and direct approach offensively.



No.	Student	Points Per Game	Fouls Per Game	Free Throw Success (%)
#4	Henry Wicks	5	1	0%
#5	Han Stevens	4	0	N/A
#6	Max Aslin	1	0	N/A
#7	Angus Taylor	2.5	0.25	0%
#8	Archie Russell (CAP)	11.25	0.25	0.13
#9	Corey Mudford	1	0	N/A
#10	Xander Pottinger	1.25	0.5	N/A
#11	Jake Henderson	5	0.5	50%
#12	Joshua Hobbs	2	0	N/A
#13	Dylan Crichton	10	0.25	33%
#14	Theo Mussell	3	1	N/A
#15	Archie Sodeau	5	0.75	50%
#16	Harry Richardson	11	0.25	25%

The team have demonstrated that they can compete with basketball academies across the East Midlands and, with regular attendance at training over the coming months, have the potential to reach the latter stages of the Dynamic National Schools' League in the years to come. Next year, the team will be competing with the current Year 8 students in the Under-14 District League, where they will gain valuable experience in their long term development.

### School-Club Links

Over the past 3 seasons, we have set up a satellite basketball club at Carre's through the Lincolnshire Sports' Partnership. Satellite clubs are a Sport England initiative to help bridge the gap between school and community sport, with the aim of increasing opportunities for young people. Since the creation of this club, more and more students have taken up the sport...which is fantastic. Furthermore, 17 students over the past 3 years have regularly trained with and played for Newark Basketball Club, while 5 current and ex-students are currently playing for Cranwell Hawks.

If students are interested in playing the sport outside of school, they are encouraged to speak to Mr Smith in the first instance. Current training times for these two clubs are as follows:

- **Newark Basketball Club** (under-12/13s: Tuesday & Thursday 5:00-6:00pm; under-14s: Wednesday 5:00-6:00, both at Newark Academy).
- **Cranwell Hawks** (men's: Wednesday 8:00-9:30pm at Carre's Grammar School)

## **Basketball Leadership & Volunteering (2016-17)**

Further to the success of our school teams at varying levels of competition and player performances warranting selection to Lincolnshire teams, much of this would not be possible without our students volunteering in training sessions and games. The benefits of leadership and volunteering for junior players cannot be overstated, both in developing personal qualities and in understanding that it's not easy officiating games, coaching teams and volunteering. Within our basketball programme, players are regularly encouraged to refer back to the notion that 'our beliefs' are paramount to success. A belief is something that you know to be absolutely right and players are expected to strive to always give 100% effort in every practice, leading to an expectation that you would then always be able to do this (regardless of the difficulty of the practice or situation). Enabling players to realise their capabilities is only possible with coaches, volunteers and students leaders giving up their time.

This year, Carre's have once again been the leading school for Lincolnshire Basketball in terms of creating opportunities to play the sport. Junior participation in basketball across Lincolnshire is disappointingly low, but school basketball continues to develop. Carre's have organised the under-14 and under-16 Lincolnshire Basketball Finals for the past 4 years, enabling the highest performing school team for each superzone to compete against one another to be crowned Lincolnshire Basketball Champions. Similarly, the District Basketball Tournament is organised and delivered at Carre's, enabling schools' to have an opportunity for their students to play against local schools.



The success of both events relies on the support of students who volunteer their time. The events are organised and run by Mr Smith (Basketball Lead) although he has also had to adopt the role of floor official in both tournaments (due to the limited availability of local referees during the day). Barry Saunders (Chairman of the Lincolnshire Basketball Association) has often been available to be the other floor official. Where the students have supported the

tournaments is as table officials or in videoing the games (with highlights then posted on Twitter - @CGSbasketball). Students adopting these roles during the tournaments include Josh Frost, Phoebe Towers, Anna Welch, Catriona Smyth, Charlie Tyson, Tom Scott and Cameron Coomer. Beyond this, Cameron Stinchcombe has helped to coach the under-12 team throughout the year and the players have appreciated his help and support. Niall Parsons, Nathan Rogers, Elliott Burrell and Xander Millar have also gained some experience of managing under-12 and under-14 games, adopting the role of floor official. Basketball England report that "one of 5.2 million adults in England are engaged in sport volunteering! Without this involvement, basketball wouldn't be able to survive" ([www.basketballengland.co.uk](http://www.basketballengland.co.uk)). The same is true of basketball at Carre's, including the county-wide tournaments that we run as a school.

Through our school-club link with Newark Basketball Club, we are hoping to look into the possibility of organising a Level 1 Basketball Coaching course and Level 2 Floor Official course in the near future. A huge well done, and thank you, to all students who have supported training and games this year, and for enabling this season to be such a success.



## **UNDER 14 TEAM**

The Under-14 team have had another successful season, where they built upon their success in last year's Under-13 National Schools' League (where they finished as national quarter finalists). Unfortunately, the vast majority of the team have found it difficult to train for most of the year, and this lack of preparation has had a negative impact on the team's performances when it mattered most. The lack of court time in training led to the players struggling with fatigue in the fourth quarter of games and failing to convert lay-ups under pressure. Fortunately for the team, Kai Waller has often pulled the team through in close games.

The season started with 2 quick friendlies, both against Bourne Academy, to prepare them for the upcoming U14 District League. An 8 point loss (36-28) against Bourne's Under-15's was quickly followed by a 35 point win (39-4) against the Bourne Under-14's. The U14 District League saw 6 local schools competing against one another with the prize of progressing to the U14 County Finals. The tournament started with Carre's competing against St George's Academy (Ruskington) in the opening fixture. The game started well for Carre's, who amassed an early 10 point lead. One of the game highlights came from a lovely drive towards the basket from Vincent Fairchild, who kicked the ball out to Kai Waller at the 3-point line and Kai expertly converted to help the team secure a convincing victory. In the other half of the tournament, Sir William Robertson Academy had won both of their opening games and would meet Carre's in the final, if they were to beat St George's Academy (Sleaford) in their next game. The game started well and St George's were simply unable to compete with the Carre's high press, ball handling and ability to beat a defender in the painted area. The result set up a championship game between Carre's Grammar School and Sir William Robertson Academy. Sir William Robertson Academy started extremely well, denying drives to the basket and led after 8 minutes. Carre's started to find their feet and fantastic ball movement on offense led to the team reducing the score to 2 points with 4 minutes to play, and later found themselves in foul trouble. A series of unnecessary fouls led to the Carre's team at the free throw line on a number of occasions, with the team converting 10 of 12 free throws in the dying minutes to become Under-14 District League Champions.

No.	Student	Points Per Game	Fouls Per Game	Free Throw Success (%)
#4	Finlay Armond	2.6	1.1	50%
#5	Brad Mountney-Town	0	0	N/A
#6	Toby Hampton	0.3	2	N/A
#7	Euan Lynam	1.4	1.3	N/A
#8	Haydn Tear	3.6	2	25%
#9	Vincent Fairchild	3.1	1.3	66%
#10	Callum Rogers	0	0	N/A
#11	Kai Waller (CAP)	22.7	2.1	71%
#12	Tristen Skerritt	0	1.5	N/A
#13	Lewis Chessum	4.4	1.7	21%



On Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January, the qualifying school from each District competed against one another to become U14 County Basketball Champions 2017. Lincoln/Cherry SSP were unable to enter a team, resulting in Carre's Grammar School, Spalding Grammar School and De Aston School competing against one another for the title. Game one saw Carre's Grammar School compete against Spalding Grammar School. Spalding started extremely well, taking a convincing lead in the game with only 4 minutes played. Carre's started to claw their way back into the game, as Spalding found themselves in 'foul trouble' in similar circumstances to their last game against Sir William Robertson Academy. Carre's were able to convert a high percentage of their free-throws to beat their opposition. The next game between De Aston and Spalding Grammar School compete against one another and

Spalding emerged as narrow victors. Spalding now relied on De Aston School to beat Carre's by more than 10 points in game 3 to win the tournament overall.

The final game of the tournament saw Carre's Grammar School play De Aston School. De Aston found themselves in a similar position to Spalding in the previous game, where they were keen to perform well and win their first game. The game started with the first, and only, 3 point basket of the tournament; De Aston led by 3 points with 20 seconds on the clock. Carre's struggled to cope with De Aston's efforts to get the ball forward quickly and often found a free man under the basket. Carre's also struggled with fatigue and failed to pick up their men quickly enough and did not apply enough pressure defensively when fighting for loose balls. With 5 minutes left in the game, Carre's started to find their rhythm and even briefly took the lead with 2 minutes to play. But this did not stop De Aston, who clearly had a point to prove. Carre's were starting to compete far better but De Aston hung on to win the fixture by 4 points, resulting in Carre's winning the tournament on points-difference.

Achieved the accolade of Under-14 County Champions set up a National Cup fixture with Chesterton School. Carre's were very slow to start and Chesterton soon amassed a very convincing lead at the half (47-30). At half time, the team were somewhat despondent and felt that the game was now beyond reach. The half time team talk reiterated that the team must find their men quicker on defense and make greater efforts to drive into the basket with the ball as opposed to shooting contested jump shots. This led to a much improved 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, with the team drawing 14-14. A couple of quick steals, followed by lay-ups lifted the Carre's team and they went from strength-to-strength. Having scored 19, 11 and 14 points in the previous three quarters, the Carre's team went on to score a total of 48 points in the final quarter to win the game 92-79. MVP awarded to Kai Waller for an exceptional 4<sup>th</sup> quarter performance and total of 71 points in the game.



Back Row: Lewis Chessum, Toby Hampton, Kai Waller  
Front Row: Haydn Tear, Finlay Armond, Vincent Fairchild, Euan Lynam

The positive result against Chesterton School set up a last-32 National Cup fixture against Northampton School for Boys', the team that ended the team's National Cup run in the quarter finals the previous year. The game started poorly, with Toby Hampton picking up 4 fouls in the first quarter and NSB taking an 8 point lead in the opening minutes. Carre's soon found their rhythm and the teams were locked together at 25-25 at the half. As the game progressed, the team's smaller squad (on top of Toby fouling out in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter) and lack of playing time in training led to NSB narrowly edging the game 65-53. The team can be proud of their accomplishments in what has been a very respectable basketball season.



## UNDER 19 TEAM



**Back Row:** Niall Parsons, Tom Scott, Matt Spoons, Josh Frost, Cameron Coomer  
**Front Row:** Bobby Singer, Nathan Rogers, Elliott Burrell, Xander Millar, Adam Varney

The Under-19 basketball team have had a tough season, largely due to the vast majority of the team leaving over the previous two years: Matthew Bean, Venson Pang, Daniel Runacres, Rytis Tamasauskas and Joseph Tyson in 2015 and Harrison Allen, Matthew Dunn, Antanas Plauska and Terry Kirk in 2016. The only remaining player from these successful teams was Joshua Frost, but this did not stop the team competing with basketball academies across the East Midlands. This year's team included five other Year 13 students (Matthew Spoons, Charlie Tyson, Thomas Scott, Ben Taylor and Cameron Coomer) who had played some basketball lower down in the school, with six further Year 10 students gaining further experience at a higher age group. The team were drawn in a pool with Arnold Hill Academy from Nottinghamshire and Wyggeston & Queen Elizabeth I Academy from Leicestershire.

The team's first fixture was against Arnold Hill Academy, where the two teams have historically been very evenly matched. The team started very poorly, with Arnold Hill taking a 17 point lead after the first quarter (23-6), with the Carre's team finding it difficult to break down the 2-3 zone defense. A zone defense is not permitted until Under-17 competitions and the Year 10 students, in particular, were inexperienced in terms of how to break down this type of defense. Having said this, the team returned to the court to start the second quarter and matched their opposition in all areas of the game, narrowly losing the quarter 10-8. At half time, the team reflected upon their mistakes in the first quarter and looked like a completely different team in the remaining three quarters. The score line, if you were to forget about the disastrous first quarter, would have resulted in the Carre's team losing by only 3 points (30-27). Joshua Frost and Matthew Spoons were outstanding defensively, while Elliott Burrell showcased how much he's improved over the past 12 months on offense, scoring 16 of the team's 33 points.

No.	Student	Points Per Game	Fouls Per Game	Free Throw Success (%)
#4	Adam Varney (Year 10)	5.5	1.5	N/A
#5	Nathan Rogers (Year 10)	5	0.5	N/A
#6	Cameron Coomer	0	1.3	N/A
#7	Xander Millar (Year 10)	0	0	N/A
#8	Niall Parsons (Year 10)	1	0.5	33%
#9	Tom Scott	0	0	N/A
#10	Elliott Burrell (Year 10)	12.5	1	25%
#11	Bobby Singer (Year 10)	2	1	N/A
#12	Josh Frost (CAP)	3.6	1.6	16.7%
#13	Charlie Tyson	0	0.5	N/A
#14	Ben Taylor	4	1.5	50%
#15	Matt Spoons	3.5	1	N/A
#16	Harry Wright	0	0	N/A



Carre's second National League fixture saw the team travel to Leicestershire to play Wyggeston & Queen Elizabeth I School. The team were confident ahead of the game but appreciated that they would have to be at their best to secure their first win in the competition. The start of the game was almost a carbon copy of their Arnold Hill game, with the team suffering a heavy first quarter score line (29-6). The Wyggeston team also adopted a zone defense and the team's size and experience was clear to see from the outset. The Carre's team then matched their opposition in the second quarter (14-8) and the score would have been far closer had the Carre's team not suffered careless turnovers, as the Wyggeston team were outstanding at converting fast break opportunities. During the half time break, the Wyggeston team were receiving a heated team talk from their coach, who voiced his displeasure at a less dominant second quarter. The third quarter started and Carre's once again struggled to break down the Wyggeston zonal defense, were careless with the ball and

enabled the opposition to convert countless fast break opportunities. A heavy third quarter score (31-8) resulted in the Carre's team now trailing by 52 points (74-22), with the emphasis placed on avoiding unnecessary turnovers and finishing strongly. The team did not disappoint and limited the Wyggeston team to only 7 baskets. Overall, it was a very good performance by a young team who will only get better with each game. Year 10 student, Elliott Burrell, once again contributed the most points (9 points) while Matthew Spoors achieved a game high 9 rebounds. MVP was awarded to Bobby Singer (Year 10) for his exceptional defensive display (3 rebounds, 2 steals and 4 blocks).

The penultimate game saw the Under-19 team travel to Stamford School for the annual friendly fixture. The team was comprised entirely of Year 13 students, with centre Joshua Frost having to run point in the absence of a ball-handler. Carre's have usually been very successful in this fixture, winning the last seven meetings between the two sides. The Stamford team also adopted a zone defense and dominated the Carre's team from the tip off, limiting Carre's to 3-point shots and perimeter opportunities. Joshua Frost successfully converted three 3-point attempts to top score with 9 points, while the remaining 8 points came from Ben Taylor driving into the painted area and free-throw attempts. A hard fought performance by the Carre's team but Stamford were deserved winners this time around. Ben Taylor was awarded MVP for his hard work, energy and efforts in breaking down a resilient Stamford defense.

The final game of the season for the Sixth Formers saw the team take on Old Boys' of the school; a fixture that the students, and Old Boys, look forward to each year. The Old Boys' had been victorious on each of the occasions the game has been organised over the past two years, with the Old Boys' team organised and coach by ex-Carrenian Nathan Gunning. The game is always a highlight of the basketball calendar and this year didn't disappoint. Harrison Allen and Terry Kirk had both played against the Old Boys in the previous two seasons, narrowly losing in both, but returned as an Old Carrenian to compete against the school team this year. Similarly, Cameron Richardson and Tom Reid made their debut for the Old Boys, having left the school to go to university two years before. The game was competitive throughout and fiercely contested but the spirit to which it was played made it a great event to be involved in. Stewart Anderson's energy and enthusiasm from the bench when either team scored or a great play was created reinforced that the Carre's players are a pleasure to work with. Nathan Gunning had spent a great deal of time contacting the players and ensuring a team could be fielded. Carre's managed to close the score to within touching distance with a quarter remaining but the Old Boys finished very strongly to win 53-31. Elliott Burrell was MVP for the Carre's team with his 15 points and dynamism on offense, while Tom Monson was awarded game MVP for his outstanding performance on both ends of the court.



## Basketball Fixtures & Results (2016-17)

### Under 12 (Mr Smith)

	Opposition	Competition	Date	Result	Score	MVP
1.	St George's (Ruskington) U14	Friendly	10/10/16	Won	40-16	Archie Russell
2.	Bourne Academy	Friendly	20/10/16	Won	40-10	Theo Mussell
3.	Nottingham Academy	National League	23/02/17	Won	72-36	Dylan Crichton
4.	Tuxford Academy	National League	08/03/17	Loss	42-30	Jake Henderson

### Under 14 (Mr Newell/Smith)

	Opposition	Competition	Date	Result	Score	MVP
5.	Bourne Academy U15	Friendly	03/10/16	Loss	36-28	Fin Armond
6.	Bourne Academy	Friendly	04/10/16	Won	39-4	James Peace
7.	St George's Academy (Sleaford)	District League	08/11/16	Won	156-8	Lewis Chessum
8.	St George's Academy (Ruskington)	District League	08/11/16	Won	104-0	Vincent Fairchild
9.	Sir William Robertson Academy	District League	08/11/16	Won	48-32	Kai Waller
10.	Spalding Grammar School	County Finals	09/01/17	Won	96-56	Kai Waller
11.	De Aston School	County Finals	09/01/17	Loss	96-92	Haydn Tear
12.	Chesterton School	Nationals	21/02/17	Won	92-79	Kai Waller
13.	Northampton School for Boys'	Nationals	22/03/17	Loss	65-53	Lewis Chessum

### Under 16 (Mr Smith)

	Opposition	Competition	Date	Result	Score	MVP
14.	Sir William Robertson Academy	District League	21/11/16	Won	112-12	Niall Parsons
15.	St George's Academy (Sleaford)	District League	21/11/16	Won	144-0	Nathan Rogers
16.	King's School	District League	21/11/16	Won	52-32	Bobby Singer
17.	De Aston School	County Finals	12/01/17	Won	92-48	Bobby Singer
18.	William Farr School	County Finals	12/01/17	Won	112-64	Elliott Burrell
19.	Thomas Middlecott Academy	County Finals	12/01/17	Won	104-56	Bobby Singer
20.	Ellis Guilford School	Nationals	07/01/17	Loss	58-51	Bobby Singer

### Under 17 (Mr Smith)

	Opposition	Competition	Date	Result	Score	MVP
21.	Nottingham Academy	National League	13/10/16	Loss	101-26	Bobby Singer
22.	Aston Manor Academy	National League	19/10/16	Loss	108-45	Haydn Tear
23.	Charnwood Academy	National League	29/11/16	Loss	104-31	Nathan Rogers
24.	Ormiston Academy	National League	30/11/16	Won	57-53	Elliott Burrell
25.	Noel Baker Academy	National League	09/12/16	Loss	81-61	Niall Parsons

### Under 19 (Mr Smith)

	Opposition	Competition	Date	Result	Score	MVP
26.	Arnold Hill Academy	National League	11/10/16	Loss	53-33	Elliott Burrell
27.	Wyggeston & Queen Elizabeth I	National League	23/11/16	Loss	87-30	Bobby Singer
28.	Stamford School	Friendly	25/02/17	Loss	49-17	Ben Taylor
29.	Old Boys' of the School	Friendly	28/04/17	Loss	53-31	Tom Monson