

Institutional Distinctiveness of Our College

Carmel College of Arts, Science and Commerce for Women, Nuvem, Goa, was established in June 1964 by the Apostolic Carmel Congregation. It remains the first and only exclusively women's undergraduate institution in Goa. Its distinctiveness lies in the way it transforms the lives of its students, many of them first-generation learners from rural South Goa, in a safe, supportive and non-judgmental environment.

Admission was once open to neighbourhood students regardless of their Class 12 results. Admissions are now made through the state's centralised portal, but the college continues to mentor and support students who enter with lower percentages, and many go on to graduate with distinction. In 2025-26 the college continued this approach alongside the National Education Policy 2020, which it has implemented since 2023-24.

Student support is woman-centred and personal. Mentoring is built into the life of each department. Timely intervention for students at risk, engagement with parents and home visits at times of bereavement continue to be part of the college's approach.

The college's two best practices, Service Learning and Carers for the Soil, give its community engagement a clear shape. In 2025-26 they were carried out through 30 documented activities with partners such as the Rotary Club of Margao Midtown, the Goa State Forest Department, the Wildlife Trust of India, Global E-Waste Management Systems, Anyay Rahit Zindagi, Serena Palliative Care and the Village Panchayats of Nuvem and Betalbatim.

Under Carers for the Soil, students planted trees through four Vanmahotsav and Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam programmes in July 2025, collected 78.1 kg of e-waste in two drives backed by an MoU with Global E-Waste Management Systems, cleaned three beaches, collected milk packets and plastic bottles from their neighbourhoods, and attended talks on ozone, whale sharks and soil conservation.

Under Service Learning, students brought clothes for the upcycling unit of Anyay Rahit Zindagi, where women survivors of trafficking make marketable products. They visited elderly residents at Cluny Home and Shalom Retirement Home, helped senior citizens build confidence with mobile phones, delivered supplies to St. Anthony's Orphanage, and supported the well-being of caregivers. Many of these activities were led by students themselves, and each gave them a real role outside the classroom.

The college is guided by faith, truth, service and integrity, and is led by an all-woman management team. In 2025-26, as in earlier years, it aimed to send out women who are articulate, morally grounded and socially responsible, and who carry the habit of service into their families, workplaces and communities.