



West Byfleet Junior School

Gifted and Talented Policy

Introduction

At West Byfleet Junior School we believe that children, including the most gifted, should have access to a challenging education. We aim to ensure that gifted and talented children have opportunities to use and extend their abilities in order that they can excel.

Definitions

In determining who are the gifted and talented pupils in our school we are concerned about **all** pupils who may possess talents and have high ability in any area. This does not just mean high ability in Literacy, Numeracy, Science or ICT. Indeed, in recognizing talent, we are looking for children to demonstrate talent in areas such as the following:

- Sporting/Athletic ability
- Musical talent
- Drama/Performing Arts
- Design
- Innovative ideas/Thinking skills
- Creativity/artistic
- Organisational ability
- High interpersonal/Social skills

Who are the Gifted and Talented?

There are a variety of ways in which the school can try to identify the gifted and talented. We propose to consider looking at a checklist to assist in the identification of gifted and talented children.

In terms of the gifted child the following checklist provides us with guidance.

Checklist for gifted

- Possesses superior powers of reasoning.
- Displays originality and initiative in intellectual and practical work.
- Absorbs information very quickly.
- Has an appreciation of the strengths and weaknesses of other people, including those in higher positions such as teachers.

- Unusually high personal standards, perfectionist approach and not satisfied with approval of others at times.
- Keen powers of observation.
- Has exceptional curiosity.
- Has great interest in the nature of man or the universe.
- Has ability to lead others and influence others.
- Wide range of interests, sometimes unusual hobbies.
- Sees connections, relationships, inconsistencies, cause and effect, bias and the distinction between fact.
- Identifies connections in story plots easily.
- Mature and intelligent engagement with peers and adults.
- We will use test scores in the core subjects as one means to identify high ability, e.g. above 120 standardised score reflects high ability, 140+ means exceptional ability. However, we are fully aware that tests can be rather limiting and that:
"We must learn to measure what we value rather than valuing what we measure"

Identification

Talented children across the curriculum can be identified in school through teaching of the various subjects and extra curricular activities.

Provision for the gifted and talented

It will be the role of the Gifted and Talented Co-ordinator working alongside Governors, staff, parents and pupils to identify ways in which opportunities for children to develop their Gifts and Talents. Opportunities will be identified for each academic year and may comprise the following:

- Gifted Numeracy, Literacy, Science, ICT groups for specialist, focused and more challenging tasks within the classroom.
- Attendance at Masterclasses within County or across Secondary Feeder schools.
- Annual Primary Mathematical Challenge
- Participation in enrichment activities alongside peers, e.g. visiting workshops.
- Opportunities to receive specialist coaching in school and after school, e.g. Rugby coaching, French tuition.
- Opportunities to work alongside talented adults in a particular area, e.g. Local artists.
- Participation in special events such as Inter House Competitions for Performing Arts, Visual Arts and Sports.
- Performing in assembly or at Parental Open Evenings.
- Participation in School Productions and public events.
- Opportunities to take part and display talents during specialist weeks such as book weeks or arts weeks.

Role of the Gifted and Talented Co-ordinator

- Creation and revision of this Policy annually
- Plan provision of opportunities for Gifted and Talented alongside class teacher.

Policy: Gifted and Talented Policy

Nominated Staff Lead:

Nominated Working group

Status: Ratified by FGB

Lesley Lawrence

Children and Learning

Review cycle:

Date of Next Review:

Type: Non Statutory

Three yearly

Autumn 2022

Monitoring

It is the joint responsibility of the Gifted and Talented Co-ordinator alongside the appointed Governor for Gifted and Talented to ensure monitoring of the effectiveness of the policy takes place.