

The King's Junior School Gifted and Talented Policy

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this policy is to clearly define what is meant by gifted and talented, how children are identified and examine how their needs can be met.
- 1.2 Whilst all pupils at King's are in the higher quarterlies of achievement, we recognise that some children in the junior school benefit from additional opportunities to enable them to reach their full potential.

2. Aims

At Kings we believe in treating all pupils as individuals and catering for their individual needs. We are committed to providing an environment encouraging all pupils to maximise their potential and this includes pupils who display some form of giftedness and talent.

3. Definitions

- 3.1 Gifted learners are those who have abilities in one or more subjects in the statutory school curriculum other than Art and Design, Music and PE. A gifted pupil is therefore one who has the capacity for or demonstrates high levels of performance in an academic area.
- 3.2 A talented pupil is one who demonstrates high levels of ability with a specific ability in a non-academic area:
 - Physical talent
 - Visual/performing abilities
 - Mechanical ingenuity
- 3.3 We will also focus on outstanding leadership, social awareness and creativity at King's.

4. Identification of Gifted and Talented

- 4.1 The identification of gifted and talented pupils is a process in which all teaching staff have a part. Before identifying any child as gifted and talented in any area, we aim to ensure that all children have had the opportunity to learn and succeed in this area. This makes the identification process fair.
- 4.2 A gifted and talented pupil should be identified using a variety of methods. The specific procedure will vary according to the subject area but will include elements of the following:
 - Teacher nomination
 - Assessment/test results
 - Information from a previous school
 - Specialist teacher identification
 - Self nomination
 - Peer nomination
 - Parent nomination

4.3 It is important to remember that gifted and talented pupils can be:

- Good all-rounders
- High achievers in one area
- Of a high ability but with low motivation
- Of good verbal ability not reflected in writing skills
- Very able but with poor social skills
- Very able with a short attention span

4.4 We believe that everyone in our school has a responsibility to recognise and value pupils' abilities. We are aware that :

- Gifted pupils are not necessarily easier to motivate or inspire than other pupils
- Unnecessary repetition of work is de-motivating and de-motivated pupils will not always demonstrate potential.

5. Provision

There are three basic ways of meeting the needs of gifted and talented pupils, *accelerated*, *enrichment* and *extension*.

5.1 *Accelerated* consists of enabling pupils to access work which would typically be for older pupils.

5.2 *Enrichment* consists of broadening a pupil's education. This can consist of enabling a pupil to study aspects of a topic, or adding extra subjects to the curriculum.

5.3 *Extension* occurs when pupils are encouraged to develop more sophisticated thinking and reasoning skills.

5.4 Although we focus mainly on enrichment and extension at King's, pupils will be able to access work usually provided for older children when appropriate.

6. Resources

6.1 The gifted and talented coordinator is responsible for identifying learning support resources and for making requests, to the Head teacher, for the necessary funds.

6.2 See gifted and talented coordinator for lists of publications or useful websites.

7. Provision

7.1 Provision in the classroom

- All teachers have high expectations
- Tasks are designed to take account of levels of existing knowledge, skills and understanding.
- Lessons include extension opportunities or open ended tasks.
- Collaborative learning is used to enhance skills in main subject areas.

7.2 School based provision varies according to subject area and covers a variety of methods:

- Lunchtime and after school clubs

- Enrichment opportunities
- Opportunities to perform in productions and assemblies
- Workshops in specific subject areas where pupils will be invited to attend
- A weekly challenge board where children from all age groups can take part

7.3 Out of School provision:

- Access to summer schools and AJIS events
- Opportunities to enter national schemes/competitions

8. Future Developments

A school record of gifted and talented children will be compiled in Michaelmas Term 08 and updated annually.

Gifted and talented coordinator to meet with staff to create register in Michaelmas Term 08.