

GIFTED AND TALENTED CHILDREN

Every child is unique and is valued regardless of ability.

The school curriculum is planned to encourage the maximum progress for all children, including gifted and talented children.

We aim to create a culture in which all children are encouraged to reach high standards and where it is acceptable to work hard and be successful.

We recognise that it is important for gifted and talented children to work at an appropriate pace and in a variety of settings. Some of our able children grasp concepts quickly and are ready to move to the next, or more demanding, task: at times they may also require more time than others to complete work to their own satisfaction.

'Gifted pupils' have been defined as those with academic ability which 'places them significantly above the average for their year group'. 'Talented pupils are defined as those whose abilities in art, music, dance or sport are 'significantly above average'. Guidelines suggest that schools identify 5-10% of pupils as 'gifted and talented' in each year group. In this school the number of our children who are on the gifted and talented register reflects these guidelines.

The school plans for individual children as necessary to ensure that they are provided with suitable challenge on a day to day basis. There are occasions when the school organises for children to attend local gifted and talented enrichment courses. All pupils, including the gifted and talented, are encouraged to use local centres of interest such as museums, galleries, Saturday morning workshops and clubs, sports groups, etc. The school runs clubs in a variety of areas which provide opportunities for all children, including the gifted and talented.

Parents and carers are encouraged to be involved in their child's learning and the school aims to work in full partnership. The children have opportunities to share their work and ideas with their parents during open days, parent consultations and visits to the school. Parents of gifted and talented children are given a 'provision map' termly with details of learning. We hold additional termly parent consultations for those children who are identified as gifted and talented where learning opportunities and the provision map are reviewed and a particular target is set.

We have given parents the opportunity to nominate their child if they consider that they are gifted and talented in a particular area. The children have also been involved in nominating other children in the school, identifying a range of talents that adults may not have been aware of.

This area of our work is co-ordinated by the gifted and talented co-ordinator, Nina Newington. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this area of the school's work, do not hesitate to get in touch.

To assist parents, the school has its own guidance booklet to help parents/carers support their gifted and talented children. Please ask in school for a copy.