



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Gifted and Talented Policy

Agreed by the Governing Body on	March 2017
Review Date	Summer 2019
Review Schedule	Biennial
Person(s) Responsible	SLT and Provisions & Achievement Committee

MISSION STATEMENT

We live, love and learn through Jesus.

'The mind is a fire to be kindled not a vessel to be filled'
(Plutarch)

PRINCIPLES

At St Joseph's we believe it is vital that our provision meets the needs of all our learners, including those whose gifts or talents set them significantly above their peers.

We recognise that it is important that gifted and talented pupils are encouraged to think independently and to enquire into their preferred area of expertise. To fulfil the potential of gifted and talented pupils to think independently, we need to provide the opportunity, support and time for them to engage in independent thinking

DEFINITIONS

- Those who excel in academic disciplines are termed 'gifted'
- Those who excel in areas requiring visio-spatial skills or practical abilities are termed 'talented': Art, Dance, Drama, Music and Sport

The school identifies these children not just by their attainment and test results but also by their characteristics. By doing this we aim to identify those with the potential to be gifted and talented, but whose attainment may not yet reflect this.

PROVISION

The reason for identifying children as gifted and talented is closely linked to provision: *as a result of identifying these children, what do we need to ensure happens in our provision to meet their needs?*

At St Joseph's, on a daily basis we offer:

- Questioning that encourages creativity, including in discussion and debates
- Higher order thinking skills
- Development of expertise
- Exploration of alternative views
- Problem solving and enquiry
- Independent learning, application and evaluation
- Connection of learning: the big picture
- Constructive assessment and feedback on work

In addition we offer:

- Exposure to 'experts' in all areas of the curriculum
- (see curriculum planning and class/whole school events)
- Maths Club for L5 mathematicians
- Maths Club for Gifted and Talented Mathematicians
- ICT Club
- Subject Ambassadors
- School Magazine

ASPIRATIONS

We aspire to take children's hunger for learning and engender a culture of risk taking in our school. We believe that when children learn in a safe and supportive environment, they can imagine great things, they feel ready to challenge accepted ideas – searching and questioning the things they learn, and most importantly, they can lead their own learning.