

This definition has two important elements:

- a. The definition is relational. Being gifted and talented is not necessarily a matter of possessing an objective quality which would mark a student as being gifted and/or talented in any other school. It is simply a matter of being amongst the most able 5 - 10% of students in a particular school.
- b. The cohort is not immutably defined. Students develop at different rates and with students joining and leaving a school it may well happen that a particular student will fall within the scope of the definition 'gifted and talented' in one year, but may not fall within that category in a subsequent year. Alternatively just because a student has not been identified as 'gifted and talented' in one year that does not mean that the student will not be so identified at a later point.

General guidance can be found at: <http://www.excellenceeast.org.uk/>

3. Identification of Gifted and Talented Students

Currently, identification begins in Year 7 using statistical information from MidYis and Key Stage 2 data, as well as identification by teachers.

This follows in years 8 and beyond as teacher recommendations. This list is then circulated to subject staff to collect their evaluation of students who present as being particularly able in their subject area.

The Gifted and Talented Register is compiled from this information and circulated to subject teachers in the Autumn Term. The resulting Register is revised and updated at the end of the academic year to take into account students' progress and the arrival of new students.

4. Provision for Gifted and Talented Students

a. Within lessons

Teachers shall ensure that students who appear on the Gifted and Talented Register within their classes are given appropriately challenging tasks. Possibilities for extension are listed with the Register and opportunities for differentiation and extension should be noted within Schemes of Work.

b. Enrichment Opportunities

There is an extensive range of enrichment sessions which provide challenge for the talented students including various levels of sports coaching, musical ensembles and drama productions. Departments are responsible for targeting talented students and encouraging them to participate in challenging activities.

c. Clubs and further extension

The School offers a wide range of clubs which may appeal particularly to gifted and talented students, including:

- Astronomy Club
- Creative writing
- Leadership training
- Maths challenges
- Music groups
- Sports clubs
- Technology challenges

There are also workshops and conferences which gifted and talented students may be invited to attend.

5. Responsibility for the Programme

The Coordinator for Gifted and Talented Students has overall responsibility for the various courses specifically for gifted students and for overseeing the maintenance and distribution of the Gifted and Talented Register. They are also responsible for monitoring and evaluating the School's provision for gifted and talented students.

It is the responsibility of the Heads of Department and all subject teachers to ensure that the needs of all gifted and talented students are met through the mainstream curriculum through the use of differentiation and extension material as appropriate to that subject.

6. Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring of gifted and talented students will take place on various levels.

- Regular review of the Register will allow the School to monitor the perceived performance of students and highlight students who may be underachieving compared to their statistical potential.
- Pastoral monitoring will take place following scheduled reports and a member of staff will interview underachieving students.
- Informal monitoring of students involved in specified sessions provided for gifted and talented students will take place during those sessions.

The School is currently setting up a mentoring programme for exceptionally gifted and talented students and/or those at risk of underachievement. Parents/Carers will be contacted directly where their child is to be included in the scheme.