

# Aspire Learning Trust



## Gifted & Talented Policy

Policy Reference: Gifted & Talented Policy 2017

To be reviewed: Annually

Policy Owner: Local Governing Body (New Road Primary School and Park Lane Primary School and Nursery)

Policy Progression Revisions		
Date	Reviewed	Description of changes
		New Policy

Date Approved	
Date Reviewed by	
Signature of Chair	
Print Name	

## **CHALLENGING OUR GIFTED AND TALENTED PUPILS**

### **Rationale**

New Road Primary School and Park Lane Primary School and Nursery recognise that all children are entitled to an education that will enable them to develop to their full potential, be that intellectual, physical, aesthetic, creative, emotional, spiritual or social, finding appropriate challenge in our learning environment.

At New Road Primary School and Park Lane Primary School and Nursery, we are committed to meeting the needs of all students, recognising the need to provide a broad, balanced and appropriate curriculum to identify and extend our most able students. It is the intention of the school to provide adequate support, giving students the opportunity to maximise their potential, making education an enjoyable, exciting and worthwhile experience. Provision must also be made so parents can feel confident of a curriculum that caters for their children.

### **Aims**

To identify and make effective provision for our most able students in a secure yet challenging educational environment that will stimulate their interests and allow them to achieve to the best of their ability.

In order to do this the school will endeavour to provide:

- an environment in which achievement in all activities is valued and celebrated;
- awareness of the particular educational needs able students have, and offer opportunities for them to reach their full potential by providing a sufficiently challenging school curriculum and extended curriculum;
- access to differentiated provision through enrichment and extension activities in all subjects;
- to encourage the expression of talent and to make students aware of the benefits and challenges of being a talented performer;
- develop and maintain an ethos where it is 'acceptable' to be bright and to recognise achievement;
- to help able students develop the personal qualities, which will enable them to maximise their potential;
- partnership with parents to ensure good communication and support.

### **Identification Strategies**

New Road Primary School and Park Lane Primary School and Nursery recognise the importance of using a variety of strategies to identify more able students and it is important that all the individual curriculum areas of the schools both academic and pastoral, plan their own strategies to identify these pupils.

Characteristics to look for in highly able students:

- Think accurately and quickly
- Work systematically
- Generate creative working solutions
- Work flexibly, process unfamiliar information and apply knowledge, experience and insight to unfamiliar situations
- Communicate their ideas and thoughts well
- Be determined, diligent and interested in uncovering patterns
- Achieve, or show potential, in a wide range of contexts
- Be particularly creative
- Show great sensitivity or empathy
- Demonstrate particular physical dexterity or skill
- Make sound judgements

- Be outstanding leaders or team members
- Be fascinated by, or passionate about, a particular subject
- Demonstrate high levels of attainment across a range of subjects within a particular subject or aspects of work
- Have a wide vocabulary
- Asks lots of questions and learns more quickly than others
- Have a retentive memory
- Be curious and can concentrate for long periods on a subject of interest
- Have a wide knowledge and interest in the world
- Enjoy problem solving, often missing out the intermediate stages in an argument and making original connections
- Have an unusual and vivid imagination
- Set themselves high standards and are perfectionists
- When not sufficiently challenged, may become apathetic or disruptive.
- Divergent thinkers: thinks out of the box.

The following list may provide useful alternative strategies for identification for teachers. The most reliable identification will draw upon a number of strategies and will not rely on test results alone.

#### **Additional Identification Strategies:**

- End of Key Stage benchmark assessment data (students achieving at a much higher level than expected for their age)
- Achieving at a much higher level than expected for their age against subject specific criteria
- Information from external agencies, e.g. clubs / societies
- Teacher knowledge and observation

#### **Provision**

Our most able students need opportunities to develop the range and quality of their skills through tasks that stretch them technically, physically and mentally.

At New Road Primary School and Park Lane Primary School and Nursery provision for our most able aims may include the following:

- Subject specific enrichment materials.
- Awareness amongst staff of their role in the identification of more able students based on subject specific criteria and the need to make the curriculum sufficiently challenging.
- The effective assessment of students' potential and performance.
- Enrichment and extension activities.
- The active encouragement of highlighted students to enter local and national competitions and tests of all kinds.
- Opportunities for more able students to work together.
- Encourage close links between school and home.
- Recognition, rewarding and celebration of achievement.
- Close liaison with external support agencies if applicable.
- Transition units to allow pupils smooth progression from primary to secondary school

### **Gifted and Talented Definition**

New Road Primary School and Park Lane Primary School and Nursery's definition for a Gifted and Talented pupil is, 'those pupils who, in some aspect, achieve or have the potential to achieve significantly beyond normal expectations'

Within the school, this is divided into two main categories;

- Gifted – students with extraordinarily high ability or potential in academic subjects.
- Talented – students with high ability or potential in the expressive or creative arts or sport.

### **Conclusion**

- Pupils will be monitored and membership of the cohort will be flexible, as the school recognises that students develop at different rates.
- At all times the well-being of the individual student belonging to the cohort must be paramount. The key concept to the education of our most able students is that they must have **opportunity, challenge, and enrichment**.
- Opportunities for enrichment may be offered beyond the normal school day.