



North Bridge House

Senior School

Gifted and Talented
Policy
2015



NBH

North Bridge House Gifted and Talented Policy

Statement of Philosophy

At North Bridge House Senior School, we are committed to providing an environment that encourages all pupils to maximise their potential – and this includes our more able pupils. Education in our school must provide for pupils of all abilities. We also aim to help our pupils to develop their personalities.

Able pupils deserve an education that encourages and motivates them to achieve their full potential, learning at a pace that is appropriate to them within the moral, social and cultural framework of our school.

We want our pupils to

- Know
- Understand how
- To be a risk taker and to enhance their confidence and abilities
- To be a thinker
- To be able to explain how

Principles and Definitions

In making provision for very able pupils, NBH recognises that:

All pupils have the right to have a challenging and appropriate education, if pupils have abilities beyond the large majority of their peer group, they need a curriculum that goes beyond the standard curriculum.

Able pupils

'Able pupils' refers to pupils who achieve, or have the ability to achieve, above average (compared with the attainment of other pupils in their year group at North Bridge House) in one or more of the National Curriculum subjects.

Gifted pupils

Gifted refers to pupils who achieve, or have the ability to achieve, ***significantly*** above average (compared with the attainment of other pupils in their year group at North Bridge House) in one or more of the National Curriculum subjects other than art, performing arts or physical education.

Talented pupils

Talented refers to those pupils who achieve, or have the ability to achieve, ***significantly*** above average in art, performing arts, physical education or in areas requiring visio-spatial skills or practical abilities (these could include a range of non-traditional areas) compared with the attainment of other pupils in their year group at North Bridge House

It is worth remembering that pupils can be:

- High achievers in only one area
- Of high ability but with low motivation or behavioural problems
- Good 'all rounders'
- Of good verbal ability but with poor writing skills
- Very able but with a short attention span
- Very able but with poor social skills
- Keen to disguise their ability



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- Have generic skills e.g. good memory, commitment, inquisitiveness, powers of observation, originality, general knowledge, quick thinking and leadership qualities. It is worth remembering that pupils can be:
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- Of good verbal ability but with poor writing skills
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- Have generic skills e.g. good memory, commitment, inquisitiveness, powers of observation, originality, general knowledge, quick thinking and leadership qualities.

Responsibility

At NBHC all teachers are the teachers for the more able and talented

Extension work is usually carried out within the classroom using the skills and expertise of the class and specialist teachers in their subject

Advice and coordination for the most able is usually the responsibility of the Head of Department

Strategies

Whole School level:

- Prepare a curriculum which will meet the needs of all pupils but gives the more able pupils the scope to fulfil their learning potential.
- Contact individual subject Heads of Department for advice
- Liaise with the Deputy Head teacher Academic
- Encourage independent learning
- Differentiate homework to reflect different levels of ability
- Be aware of the effects of gender, ethnicity, linguistic and social circumstances on learning and achievement
- Maintain high expectations
- Use a rich variety of teaching and learning strategies
- Recognise and reward achievement
- Identify and agree characteristics which may indicate more able pupils
- Consider withdrawal and/or mentoring and discuss this with the appropriate HOD or the DOS
- Communicate between phases and Year groups to ensure provision of resources and relevant INSET

Good practice at classroom level:

- Combat under achievement and passive learning.
- Provide motivating challenge to stimulate the 'bright but lazy' child
- Never assume that more able pupils are easier to teach!
- Use varied and flexible groupings
- Differentiate by task (including homework) – matching tasks to ability
- Extension – open ended questions and tasks to deepen understanding rather than 'more of the same'
- Challenge – with older pupils introducing elements of competition and set individual targets



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- Promote problem solving and investigation activities – to develop reasoning and logical thinking
- Encourage independent learning through pupils organising their own work, carrying out challenging tasks unaided, making choices and developing self evaluation skills

Out-of class Activities

- Encourage pupils to take advantage of residential trips suitable for their age
- Out of school clubs run by the teachers and outside specialists can offer extension and stimulation for the more able and talented pupils
- Encourage pupils to bring “home learning” into school to enhance the class learning by pupils becoming teachers

Personal and Social Education

Gifted and talented pupils may be working at a higher level than their peers but it is important that teachers and parents take into consideration their social and emotional needs.

- Pupils at NBH are, unless there are exceptional mitigating circumstances, kept within their chronological year group. This ensures that pupils interact and learn from pupils of their own age and emotional development.
- It is important that these pupils are stretched and challenged within their class setting
- Parents are often concerned about their children’s social and emotional development and the pupils may also find this area rather difficult and challenging
- Any problems in this area should be referred to the AGT co-ordinator

Identification

- Staff nominations
- Midyis and Insight results i.e. top 5%
- On admissions pupils are invited to take scholarship papers/interviews and auditions
- Assessment of students work
- Referrals from community resources
- There is a review of the Gifted and Talented Register on an annual basis

Range of activities

- In English the whole-school Poetry Competition
- National Poetry Day
- Book Week
- Enrichment activities e.g. i-Review and Debating
- UKMT Maths Challenge: Junior, Intermediate and Kangaroo
- Science week activities
- In Science the Triple Science GCSE provision is offered to all pupils
- Early entry Maths GCSE and OCR Additional Maths Qualification
- In Music the Battle of Bands Competition and the Christmas Concert
- In Drama the Winter and Summer Plays
- In PE competitive sports in Football, Netball and Tennis e.g. Cognita International Football Finalists and Winners of Cognita Under 13 Tennis Tournament
- Camden and London Schools Athletics



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- In Languages native speakers have the opportunity to take their GCSE in year 9 and pupils have fluent speakers have withdrawal lessons with a teacher who is a native speaker
- International Day of Languages
- Remembrance Week
- Humanities Week
- Environment Week

Signed:

Georgina Masefield, Head Teacher