



## **POLICY ON DEVELOPING THE POTENTIAL OF ABLE AND TALENTED PUPILS**

In all of the policies we strive to achieve the aims and objectives of the Wales Young People's Active Rights seven core aims framework.

**“DYRO DY LAW I MI AC FE AWN I BEN Y MYNYDD”**

Through co-operating and trusting each other we want to ensure that every pupil fulfils his or her potential with regard to their ability and talents. We do this by offering opportunities, support and guidance within a positive, broadminded, safe and civilised society.

### **Vision for our pupils**

We want to develop pupils who are fluent in Welsh and English who are proud of the tradition and heritage of their locality and country. We seek balanced and responsible citizens who respect the rights of other individuals and are comfortable with themselves. They will respect their minds, their spirit and their bodies and they will have broad horizons and curiosity for new information. They possess the necessary skills to benefit from challenges in the future in the world of work and in society and they will want to continue to grow and develop as lifelong learners and citizens of the world.

#### **Definition**

- The term '**more able**' refers to pupils who are academically more able across the curriculum.
- The term '**talented**' refers to those who show a special talent in one field or in more specific fields such as sports skills, musical ability as well as leadership and interpersonal skills.

In Wales, approximately 20% of the school population can be more able, whilst the highest 2% can be considered to be exceptional. It is possible for high levels of ability and talent to develop or decline over time. Some learners will be more able and talented during a particular period in their development and this may not last.

## **Methods of Identification**

Several criteria can be used to identify more able and talented pupils and we are committed to collecting as much information as possible about pupils.

- Information from primary schools about pupils' abilities and talents.
- An opportunity for parents of Year 6 pupils to complete a questionnaire on pupils' talents and interests.
- Data – NFER KS2 and KS3, CAT, national literacy and numeracy test results, internal levels, GCSE and AS/A2 results, Fischer Family Trust (FFT) targets. Tracking on INCERTS and SIMS.
- Subject specific reference lists.
- The professional opinion of staff.
- Informal comments by parents and external specialists.

## **How do we provide for the pupils?**

- A More Able and Talented Pupils Co-ordinator has been appointed to lead and monitor the provision.
- Collaboration with specialist agencies such as NACE.
- Collaboration with the Vale of Glamorgan's Seren Hub which offers opportunities to Year 12 pupils.
- Continuous professional development opportunities for staff who are involved in learning and teaching and ways of stretching pupils.
- Raising staff awareness of the need to identify more able and talented pupils and provide a challenging curriculum for them.
- Opportunities to stretch pupils are noted in each department's work plans.
- A register of more able and talented pupils has been drawn up and distributed to all members of staff in both the primary and secondary.
- There is a possibility that some pupils can study additional GCSE and A Level subjects, and do so earlier than other pupils in their school year.
- Completion of university modules e.g. University of Wales Trinity Saint David's Going for Gold Scheme.

- Opportunities for more able and talented pupils to work together in specialist workshops such as Writing Squads, BBC News Report, Transitional Primary / Secondary / Workshops, school newspaper, mentoring of primary pupils.
- Pupils are encouraged to attend clubs, local and national events, competitions and residential courses.
- Mentoring and pastoral care sessions with their personal tutor.
- Mentoring and pastoral care with the MAT coordinator for pupils who are recognised as being exceptional in three or more subjects.
- The formulation of Individual Learning Plans for exceptional pupils.
- Undertaking assessments, tracking progress and identifying underachievement in accordance with the school's Assessment for Learning Policy.
- Annual awards ceremonies to celebrate successes.
- March 2012 - the school won the NACE Challenge Award which recognised our excellent provision for more able and talented pupils.

### **Parental Involvement**

We want parents to play a part in the partnership by encouraging and supporting pupils at home. Subject teachers are given the opportunity to discuss your child's ability and potential at parents' evenings. Parents will also receive information about their child's progress through our interim and full reports. Please see the information provided by each curriculum department for extension activities and a list of websites for undertaking independent research.