

## **GIFTED AND TALENTED**

### **1. Principles**

- 1.1. The College aims to be an outstanding learning community where individuals thrive; this policy recognises the specific needs of some gifted and talented students.
- 1.2. We define gifted students as “those who have the ability to excel academically (i.e. in the top 10% of their cohort) in one or more subjects”.
- 1.3. We define talented students as “those who have the ability to excel (i.e. in the top 10% of their cohort) in practical skills such as sport and artistic performance”.

### **2. Procedures**

#### 2.1. Identification

Students are identified as gifted and talented using the following possible sources:

- CATs scores (in one category of at least 120 or a mean greater than 115)
- transition information from primary schools
- departmental nominations using checklists of typical characteristics of G & T students
- parental information

- 2.2. The College keeps a register. Inclusion on the register is made known to individual students, their parents and staff. Class teachers transfer this to their individual records.

#### 2.3. Curricular Provision

The needs of G & T students are met as part of normal differentiated classroom provision. This may include:

- use of more demanding material
- encouragement of higher order thinking skills, eg analysis, synthesis, evaluation
- challenging learning situations where failure is a possibility
- setting creative, open-ended tasks
- encouraging imaginative solutions to problems
- use of co-operative learning strategies.

#### 2.4. Other provision includes:

- support from the tutor or a staff mentor
- alternative curriculum days, eg workshop days with neighbouring schools
- regular extra-curricular activities including links with local clubs
- occasional/specific extra-curricular activities such as Kids Lit Quiz, KS3 Maths Challenges, science workshops, Year 11 Plymouth University Maths Summer School
- external courses, eg DCC G & T courses at Kilve Court, South West Excellence Hub (Plymouth and Exeter universities). Sources of funding

offered to parents may include departmental funds, McDonald bursaries, Grant Aid

- KEPS programme to support and recognise gifted performers in sports and the arts
- Oxbridge/Medics/Vets programme for Year 11, 12 and 13 students – outside speakers, mentoring, trips to open days, support during the application process
- Membership of the YG&T programme for all students included on the register (web-based support including access to national courses)

2.5. The G & T Co-Ordinator:

- manages the compilation of the G & T register
- ensures that staff are aware of these students and their needs
- supports staff in meeting these needs
- co-ordinates the organisation of specific events and publicises those available externally
- evaluates whether the needs of those on the register are being met.

2.6. Evaluation:

The G & T Co-Ordinator liaises with Heads of Year in order to evaluate the progress of students on the G & T register by:

- analysis of examination results and assessment data
- feedback through barometer groups
- sample interviews with individual students and/or parents

**3. Review of Policy**

This policy is reviewed annually by the Governors' Community Committee

**Ratified by the Community Committee of the Governing Body  
18<sup>th</sup> May 2009**