

HIGHLY ABLE STUDENTS POLICY

1. Rationale:

1.1 Our school aims to provide a challenging and comprehensive curriculum for all students, including those that are identified as highly able.

2. Aims:

2.1 To identify students who are highly able and to ensure that the school responds to, and provides for their individual needs.

3. Implementation:

3.1 A staff member skilled in identifying and responding to students with special talents will be appointed to coordinate the school's gifted and talented students program.

3.2 The appointed staff member may take an active role and choose to access accredited service providers to assist in the development of programs for highly able students.

3.3 A variety of identification tools will be utilised to identify students of above average ability, which may include input from teachers, parents, peers, students and professional consultants.

3.4 A program support group involving the highly able students coordinator, parents and staff will collaboratively determine appropriate programs and strategies for individual students and monitor the student's progress toward predetermined goals. The programs provided will reflect strategies outlined in the DET 'Gifted Education Resource Booklet.

3.5 The school, where possible, will provide flexible extension and enrichment programs for gifted and talented students including acceleration, (subject, curriculum content, or year level) special ability groupings, out of hours programs, individual learning contracts, mentoring, classroom enrichment and extension, and the provision of varied teaching strategies (de Bono, Bloom's Taxonomy, Gardner's Multiple Intelligences, e5 etc).

3.6 Gifted students programs and activities outside the classroom will also be provided to enhance and extend the educational program of individual students.

3.7 Staff professional development needs will be ascertained annually to ensure individual differences in our students are best catered for and identified.

4. Evaluation:

4.1 This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three year review cycle. This policy was ratified by School Council on 15th June 2015.