

Potential High Achievers at Ash Manor School

At Ash Manor School we recognise that every student in our care is unique and brings with them a diverse range of abilities. We value academic excellence and believe that the learning of all our students should be personalised. We promote a curriculum that reflects the needs of all our students, including those who are more able.

Ash Manor School ensures that our high-ability students become high achievers. Students are motivated to recognise their strengths in an atmosphere where their educational, social and emotional needs are met.

We take every opportunity to celebrate the successes of our children both within school and also in their personal pursuits outside of school hours.

More able students will have the opportunity to experience success and achieve as high a standard as possible. We set high expectations and provide opportunities for all more able, gifted and talented pupils to achieve the best that they can. We work to overcome potential barriers to learning for individuals and groups of more able, gifted and talented pupils.

Definitions of Potential High Achievers

'Gifted and Talented' is the terminology adopted by the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) to describe 'Potential High Achievers'. These young people do not form a homogeneous group. They do not all exhibit the same behaviour or characteristics, but represent a wide range of individual differences. School definitions may therefore relate to pupils who show outstanding ability or achievement in either a limited or extensive range of areas.

DCSF definitions:

- *'Gifted and Talented' children are those who have one or more abilities developed to a level significantly ahead of their year group (or with the potential to develop these abilities).*
- 'Gifted' refers to those pupils who are capable of excelling in academic subjects. (DCSF). Gifted children are identified by schools as those who are performing significantly above the expected level in one or more curriculum areas.
- 'Talented' refers to those pupils who may excel in areas requiring vision-spatial skills or practical abilities, such as art and design, music, P.E. or performing arts such as dance and drama. (DCSF)

Identification

We identify more able students by analysing primary school transitional data and other data in music, art and sporting activity. Details of the students we identify are made available to all members of staff who plan for them in their lessons.

We look at strategies to ensure we are providing our students with the opportunities they need to develop their gifts or talents within our school.

Aims

- To provide stimulating learning experiences and encourage independence and autonomy.
- To support students in using their initiative.
- To foster the development of well-rounded and balanced individuals both intellectually and socially.
- To encourage students to reflect on the progress of their own learning and to understand the factors that help them to make progress.
- To encourage students to be open to ideas and initiatives presented by others, thus promoting the importance of citizenship and cultural diversity.
- To create a culture of success and celebrating achievement.
- To develop a range of identification and assessment procedures to ensure that the needs of more able, gifted and talented pupils are recognised and understood.

How parents or carers can help

Parents or carers can help their more able child by considering the following actions:

- Being aware of the school's Potential High achiever's policy.
- Supporting any targets set for their child.
- Providing opportunities for him/her to attend extra-curricular activities.
- Both recognising and sharing in the celebration of their child's achievements.

We would welcome any suggestions from parents or carers of our Potential High Achievers students. Please send us your suggestions through the school messaging system.

For further information on helping your child learn, please refer to the following webpage:
<http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/index/information-and-services/parents/schools-learning-and-develop>