

Protocol for the Most Able Provision at Bishop Justus

“Teach me good judgment and knowledge, for I believe in your commandments.”

Psalm 119:66

National Guidance

The Government defines the group supported by the National Programme for gifted and talented education as: “Children and young people with one or more abilities developed to a level significantly ahead of their year group (or with the potential to develop those abilities).”

This group can include “learners aged 11 – 19 who meet the published eligibility criteria for the top 5% nationally”, and “learners aged 4 – 19 who are gifted and talented relative to their peers in their own year group and school/college”.

It should encompass “a range of abilities including talent in the arts and sport, and ability rather than achievement, so that underachievers are amongst those identified”.

“The gifted and talented population should be broadly representative of the whole learner population in terms of gender, ethnic and socio-economic background envisages a continuous cyclical process of identification and review rather than a one-off process.”

“Multiple criteria and sources of evidence are used to identify gifts and talents, including through the use of a broad range of quantitative and qualitative data”.

“The record is supported by a comprehensive monitoring, progress planning and reporting system which all staff regularly share and contribute to”.

“Identification processes are regularly reviewed and refreshed in the light of pupil performance and value-added data. The gifted and talented population is fully representative of the school/college’s population”.

“Stretch and challenge for gifted and talented learners in every classroom is absolutely critical.”

Aims:

- To achieve a culture of high achievement and attainment in the school
- We aim to identify our school’s most able students both within individual departments and across the full range of academic study
- We aim to ensure that students’ potential is clearly communicated to them in sport, music, creative subjects and across academic departments
- We aim to provide a full range of curricular challenge and extra-curricular opportunities to our students to fulfil and exceed their potential
- We aim to help our students appreciate that once they have left Bishop Justus they can aspire to the very highest in their field, often beyond what they thought themselves capable of

Objectives:

- We hope to achieve our aims by using data to identify and engage the academic top 10% of every year 7 group
- We will use data analysis to identify a wider group of more-able students in the school
- We will monitor and make changes to the top 10% 'most-able' group using our knowledge of individuals and groups of students throughout their time here
- We will monitor the progress of these groups
- We hope to secure the involvement of staff, parents and students through a clearly communicated strategy, sharing events and opportunities through a range of channels
- We aim to ensure that departments identify their own most talented and that they challenge them in and out of class
- We will provide extra-curricular experiences to broaden students' cultural capital and nurture the higher order skills likely to help them achieve top grades at GCSE and A-level
- We will enter our most-able students into extra-curricular experiences, broadening their knowledge outside of the established curriculum.
- We will ensure that our most-able students are aware of, and aspire to, the most challenging level of higher education

Roles and responsibilities

Differentiation at the highest level within every learning group is a whole school priority, and the responsibility of **all staff**.

The **Headteacher** and **SLT** are primarily responsible for ensuring students of all abilities are stretched and challenged by the curriculum and the quality of teaching and learning in school. The **Assistant Headteacher (Most Able)** is responsible for ensuring the identification of most-able students, the continued focus of provision for them in the classroom, and wider provision to enable them to meet and exceed their expected outcomes.

The **Assistant Headteacher (Ethos & Pupil Premium)** is responsible for ensuring that the most-able register broadly represents the wider population that makes up the whole school

Learning Directors are responsible for ensuring the progress of this group through their regular analysis of data.

The **Directors (Most-Able)** are responsible for leading the day-to-day provision of extra-curricular 'Thinking Groups', additional stretch and challenge opportunities for most-able students, and the leading of outstanding classroom practice for teaching colleagues.

Appendix of Actions and Experiences that we aim to include:

Curriculum & Training

- Teaching & Learning forum
- IRIS bank of T&L skills
- A shared best practice led by each dept. leading to a showcase
- Newsletters on most-able pedagogy eg questioning techniques, vocabulary
- Shared intranet focused on outstanding teaching
- Developing staff as a research community

Extra to the curriculum

- Thinking Group (years 7, 8, 9 10, 11 & 6th form)
- 'The Challenge' extended project
- Clubs: Chess, Debating, STEM
- University access groups
- 'Most Able' Newsletter
- Year 8 Lecture evening
- External Lecture evenings
- Bromley Borough 'Challenge' Event
- Membership of NACE
- Awards
- Music opportunities
 - Choir
 - Jazz Band
 - Concert Band
 - Chamber Orchestra
 - Variety of groups for players of specific instruments
- PE opportunities
 - Football
 - Rugby
 - Cricket
 - Basketball
 - Badminton
 - Table tennis
 - Tag American Football
 - Golf
 - Cheerleading
 - Year 11 Wednesday afternoons on/off site PE – variety of activities
- Dance/Drama opportunities
 - Musical theatre club
 - Boys' Dance Club
 - School production
- Other clubs

- History club
 - Philosophy Club
 - Mythology Club
 - Art club
 - RE club
 - Languages clubs
 - School magazine club
 - STEM club
 - Debating club
 - Cooking Club
 - Book Club
- Other academic opportunities
 - Applications for essay competition
- Thinking groups
 - Philosophy/politics/critical thinking/presentations
- Student leadership
 - Head boy/girl and deputies
 - Subject prefects and house captains
 - Year 9 head boy/girl
 - School Council
 - Students leading worship
 - Students helping with Aquinas competitions -eg Debating
- Life after Bishop Justus
 - Experienced careers adviser
 - Individualised support for Oxbridge/Medicine applications
 - Applications for university schemes in younger years
- Other
 - Challenge Board corridor display
 - 'Thinking' thoughts bulletins
 - Dedicated 'Stretch & Challenge' news and information section on the school website
 - 'Challenge' newsletter to parents and students