

Higher Ability Pupils Policy

Brownhills Ormiston Academy





ACHIEVING MORE TOGETHER

Policy reviewed date: September 2020

Review date: September 2023

Reviewed by: Mrs L Best

Philosophy:

At Brownhills Ormiston Academy we are committed to ensuring that all students are supported to fulfil their potential. We recognise that students of all abilities, including more able students (previously known as Gifted and Talented), are entitled to stretch and challenge.

This policy guides the way in which this happens at Ormiston NEW Academy. Through the policy we aim to: ensure that we recognise and support the needs of more able students provide higher achieving students with the chance to develop to their full potential ensure that we challenge and extend more able students through the work that we set them encourage more able students to develop independent thinking and learning skills.

Identification:

We identify our more able students as those who attain, or have the potential to attain, a standard substantially higher than other children of their age. More able students will generally excel, or have the potential to excel, in one or more of the following areas:

- General intellectual ability
- creative thinking
- Specific subjects(s)
- The visual or performing arts.
- Inter personal and social skills.

All members of staff are responsible for identifying students' abilities. Identification is a continuous process; a student may move on and off our more able register dependent on current levels of attainment.

We use a range of strategies to identify more able students, including teacher observation, the use of entry level data and assessment information, work scrutiny, and discussion with students and parents. Once a student is identified as more able, he or she will be added to the more able register.

Principles and Procedures:

The Teacher:

- should have high expectations of all students, in particular those who are identified as more able
- should design tasks that take account of: the prior knowledge of more able students, where this may be different to other students in the class; additional skills and higher levels understanding
- offer additional challenge tasks or challenging open-ended tasks for more able students, encouraging more able students to undertake these empower more able students with more knowledge of growing complexity
- provide opportunities for students to carry out independent learning, to foster the independent thought process of more able students
- monitor the progress of more able students to ensure that they are on track to achieve the highest possible grades, specifically Grades 8 and 9

Heads of Department:

Should monitor that the above is taking place and offer a variety of additional opportunities to stretch and challenge those identified as more able in their subject area. These could include: setting, specialist teaching and extra-curricular activities. For example:

- lunch time and after school clubs offering various activities school competitions
- sports matches against other schools
- choir, orchestra and other instrumental groups
- drama productions
- guest speakers
- enrichment days/

Form Tutors:

- be aware of the students who are identified as more able within their forms and build a dialogue around this
- report any out of school activities where students could be considered more able to more able coordinator

Senior Leaders

- keep a register of our more able students that is updated regularly regular monitoring of teacher planning and provision
- meet with parents/carers to explain how they can support more able students in the home liaise with form tutors, Heads of Department regarding more able opportunities
- offer support and guidance to those students who are identified as more able in more than two subject areas

Students:

- take up opportunities offered to them by the subject areas in which they have been identified as more able
- undertake independent reading and research around the subject area in which they have been identified as more able
- complete additional challenge tasks to the best of their ability

Parents/carers:

- inform form tutors of activities that their child undertakes out of school where they could be considered more able
- support students in completing independent reading and research around the subject area in which they have been identified as more able

Out-of-school provision:

We provide more able students with opportunities to extend their abilities and develop their interests outside school. This takes place via, for example, facilitating entrance to national competitions in subject-related areas such as music or maths, and organising out-of-school activities and visits.