



HIGH PRIORITY LEARNERS (GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS)

Purpose

Southland Girls' High School Board of Trustees is committed to the ideal of meeting the needs of the individual student, including those with exceptional gifts and talents.

Guidelines

- High Priority Learners can be those possessing or capable of developing above average ability, a high level of task commitment and a high level of creativity.
- Gifted and Talented learners are considered to have exceptional abilities (in the areas of academic, cultural, sporting, creativity, arts or leadership) relative to most other people.
- A range of educational opportunities and services will be provided that are not ordinarily part of the regular programmes of the school, to extend, enrich and challenge.
- Giftedness can relate more to aptitude in areas such as intellectual, creative, perceptual/motor, while talent is associated with outstanding achievements in fields of human endeavour such as academic, technical, artistic and athletic, cultural and leadership
- Extension and acceleration avenues should be made available to students who demonstrate a high degree of academic ability, through consultation with teachers, whanau and students
- Reflect a multi-dimensional approach and should emerge from culturally responsive classrooms.
- Recognize the diversity, understandings and ethnic values and needs of Maori, Pasifika and other cultures when catering for GATE students.
- Identification process is: inclusive, flexible and continuous, utilizes multiple data sources, natural part of the students learning, collaborative
- Existing resources, experiences and expertise within the school and wider community will be utilized. These may include motivational speakers, mentoring programmes, enrichment competitions, career education and initiatives.

Procedures:

1. The school will work collaboratively to identify, promote awareness and understanding of gifted and talented students and will endeavour to meet their particular needs both within and beyond the classroom.
2. Gifted and Talented pedagogy will be incorporated into the classroom planning and provisions made.
3. The foundation document for the programme development and staff training will be "Gifted and Talented Students: Meeting their needs in NZ Schools", Ministry of Education 2012.
4. All teachers will endeavor to provide for gifted and talented students in their classroom with differentiated learning. Contribution to the programme may also involve Academic Tutors, Year Level Co-ordinators, Head of Junior School, Specialist Classroom Teacher and Global Minds Teacher
5. Programmes will recognize potential as well as proven performance and will provide extension to challenge the student and enrichment to broaden understanding. Flexible learning pathways will be offered where appropriate to accelerate students and cater for needs, interests and abilities.
6. The Global Minds course for Year 8-10 student will operate where there are sufficient numbers on a semester basis. Year 8 students can be invited in, year 9 and 10 students may be invited or opt into the programme as a language package choice. Student selection is based around data, staff and parental/whanau information. Year 9 and 10 learning extends into Cambridge IGCSE Global Perspectives.
7. Ability grouping and multi-level learning is available at all times.
8. Professional development will be provided for teachers of Years 7-13 whenever necessary to ensure an inclusive approach.

Last Reviewed: August 2019

Board Chair

Review Date: August 2021

Principal