

KANGAROO GROUND
PRIMARY SCHOOL No 2105



GIFTED AND TALENTED POLICY
2016

Rationale

Kangaroo Ground Primary School aims to provide all students with a fulfilling and challenging education commensurate with their abilities.

Purpose of the Policy

This has been written in keeping with the school policy document, which states that the school focuses on each student as an individual and promotes positive acknowledgement of development.

At Kangaroo Ground Primary School we recognise the specific needs of each individual student and establish individual programs and procedures to meet their needs.

Guidelines

Definitions of Gifted and Talented Students

Talented students

Talented students are those that have particularly well-developed abilities in a range of areas or specific area. The practical implication of this in school is that such students will sometimes require extension work.

Talented students have particular learning requirements and need to be nurtured to ensure their potential is fully developed.

In considering talent more broadly, the spectrum of human abilities should be taken into account. Students may indicate potential to achieve that is not always reflected in their schoolwork or through the school's assessment procedures.

At school, talent may include excellence in a range of intellectual, academic, sporting and creative endeavour.

Gifted students

Gifted students also have exceptionally well developed abilities. While talented students have a high level of skill, giftedness is characterised by a deep level of understanding. Gifted students have an unusual ability to analyse, predict and extrapolate. While talented students are easy to identify, gifted students are often not. Gifted students may appear naughty, withdrawn or absent-minded. Gifted students often relate more easily to adults as they have little in common with their peers. Gifted students may have deficits in other areas.

Issues

Identification and assessment of gifted students

The skills and progress of all students are assessed on an ongoing basis. This is discussed with parents. Staff are all qualified to identify gifted and talented students. The issue of identifying gifted students is addressed from time to time in professional development within the school.

Provision of Program

Gifted and talented students are provided for in the classroom in the first instance.

Teachers will write an **Individual Learning Plan** for each talented and gifted student, which addresses the students specific strengths. This ILP outlines the extension program designed to meet the individual student's needs.

One approach to teaching gifted and talented students, used within the school, acknowledges that students achieving at this level continue to achieve at a high level throughout their education and employment. This means that they require strong skills at each of the primary school levels. Simply skipping to a higher level may leave the student lacking in this comprehensive education.

Teachers can therefore extend these children by:

- Providing problem solving tasks;
- Giving applied tasks in the classroom;
- Giving open-ended work; and
- Self-guided tasks. It is acknowledged that some students are able to complete self-guided tasks independently.

As with all students, no two gifted or talented students are the same. Their abilities, level of independence and individual circumstances all differ. Accordingly, any program to extend and challenge these students will be as individual as the student concerned.

We also advertise in the Newsletter any 'G.A.T.EWAYS Journeys' Programs which are taking place in the area.
These programs are designed to engage and extend gifted and talented students.
The programs are conducted at several schools and there is a charge to participate in these programs.

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