


Moorside Primary School		
Document Name	Able and Talented Policy	
Date	September 2017	
Version	2	
Audience	Staff, Governors, Volunteers, Parents, Website	
Approved by	Governing Body	

Rationale:

At Moorside we believe that all children are entitled to an education that will enable them to develop their full potential, be that intellectual, physical, aesthetic, creative, emotional, spiritual or social. Moorside is committed to providing a sufficiently challenging curriculum for all its children. In addition, we will provide opportunities to identify and, in turn, nurture those who are more able and talented. We recognise children can have special abilities in any area of the curriculum and they are all equally valuable.

Aims:

- To identify able and talented pupils
- To provide an educational environment which is appropriate to the abilities and needs of such pupils and which encourages them to maximise their potential
- To develop the pupils' thinking skills through engaging, extended and enriched learning activities
- To raise the able and talented pupils' own level of expectation and risk-taking
- To develop resourcefulness and resilience and the capacity to form appropriate relationships through emotional and social development
- To help subject teachers identify SEN and A&T activities in schemes of work and lesson plans and deliver differentiated tasks in a style that is appropriate and meaningful
- To involve and encourage parents in meeting the needs of their able and talented children

Definitions:

Talented pupils are those with a particular ability in art, music, sport or the performing arts.

Able pupils are those with the potential to achieve at a higher level than the majority of their peers in 'academic' subjects.

The school recognises that able and talented pupils are those who achieve, or have the ability to achieve, at a level significantly in advance of the average for their year group.

Identification:

An able or talented pupil is identified using a variety of methods. The specific procedure will vary according to subject area but will include elements of the following:

- Teacher nomination as a result of observation and performance in class
- Assessment results
- Specialist teacher identification
- Dance, music or sports accreditation

This information is collated by the Able and Talented Leader and is made available to all staff. The able and talented register is regularly reviewed and updated.

Provision for Able and Talented Pupils

In-class learning opportunities may involve:

- Enrichment – adding breadth and range to a pupil’s attainment and progress through activities that consolidate and widen the pupil’s knowledge, skills and understanding
- Challenge – providing activities and experiences which engage interest, encourage speculation, generate enthusiasm and stimulate thought and action at a high level
- Independent Learning - allowing pupils to organize their own work, to carry out tasks unaided, evaluate their work and become self-critical
- Extension – providing opportunities for pupils to increase the depth of their knowledge, skills and understanding
- Differentiation –modifying the learning experiences of able and talented pupils so as to promote opportunities for them to engage primarily in higher-order thinking; and by using pace and acceleration skilfully
- Specialist teaching – providing teaching that utilises the particular skills and expertise of individual teachers
- Team teaching – team-based approaches in a year group, or in the whole school, which enables the skills or enthusiasms of particular teachers to be made more widely available to able and talented pupils

Out of class learning opportunities may involve:

- Extra-curricular clubs or enrichment days e.g. INSPIRUS, Chess Club, preparation for the 11+ test
- Music or sports practice and performance, or competition opportunities
- Special events, for example field trips or residential trips
- Providing out-of-school activities within the community
- Challenge projects
- Visits by experts
- National schemes/competitions/festivals

Roles and Responsibilities

The Able and Talented Leader is responsible for co-ordinating the able and talented provision in the school by:

- Supporting staff in the identification and setting-up of provision for able and talented pupils
- Collating and monitoring the Able and Talented Register
- The effective assessment of children's potential and performance
- Supporting staff in the development of learning experiences to challenge the abilities and talents of pupils in their classes/subjects to enable them to maximise their potential
- Facilitating school wide activities/challenges
- Ensuring the involvement of parents in meeting the needs of their able and talented children

The Headteacher has overall responsibility for monitoring and overseeing provision for able and talented pupils.

Tracking and Monitoring

All able and talented progress will be monitored. There will be appropriate intervention if problems such as underachievement are identified and exceptional performance will be celebrated in a range of ways.

Date of next review: September 2018