**Gifted & Talented Students**

**POLICY**

**Purpose:**
The school will identify, recognise, nurture and support students who demonstrate that they are highly able, gifted or have special talents, interests, abilities or potential. The school understands that:
- There are varying degrees of giftedness and expression of talents.
- There are a variety of areas of giftedness (e.g., academic, music, leadership, creativity, sport, art.)
- Students have a variety of intellectual, physical and emotional needs, all of which need to be catered for to ensure that a student’s full potential is developed.

**Guidelines:**
- All staff will differentiate the curriculum to provide all students with the appropriate stimulus, challenge and teaching to meet their wide diversity of needs.
- The school has a commitment to provide extension, enrichment and appropriate programs for Gifted & Talented students.

**Implementation:**
- A variety of identification tools will be employed to identify Gifted & Talented students which may include input from teachers, parents, peers and professional consultants.
- Extension and special programs may operate within the curriculum and through the provision of activities outside class time.
- Special activities for Gifted & Talented students may be funded through the Gifted & Talented students budget.
- Staff will be offered regular professional development to assist them with teaching and learning approaches for Gifted & Talented students and with understanding the needs of highly able students, particularly emotional needs.
- The school will recognise and celebrate the efforts of Gifted & Talented students by acknowledging their achievements.
- The school will aim to provide students with special abilities a supportive and nurturing environment that will encourage personal growth and confidence.
- A Gifted & Talented students support group for parents will meet (on an as required basis) and offer resources and support for parents.
- Teachers will plan and offer a differentiated curriculum incorporating opportunities to broaden and extend all students’ skills and higher order thinking processes.
- Some curriculum content may be negotiated between teacher and students to enable the students to pursue and study topics of high interest.

**Evaluation**
This policy will be reviewed as part of the four-yearly review cycle, or earlier if necessary.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in: September 2009