



GIFTED & TALENTED in PHYSICAL EDUCATION at SHSSFC

Our department will have, at any time, a number of extremely able and gifted students, some of who may perform at a level that well exceeds the level of others in their class or that expected for children in their age group. This may be one or more areas of learning. Their performance will exceed that of above average attainers and sometimes that of children described as well above average for their age. We believe through our out of hours learning, coaching opportunities and links with clubs that we can make a difference in enabling these students achieve the greatest possible progress in PE and sport.

The aim of this policy is to ensure a consistent approach to the identification and support of the very able or talented child through:

- An agreed shared definition of the terms 'very able and gifted'
- Identification of the very able or gifted students as early as possible
- Substantiating identification by the use of objective assessment measures, where appropriate
- Meeting students needs with a range of appropriate strategies
- Raising staff awareness of the range of strategies available to them
- Create a climate of learning in the department
- Make use of the coaching and club opportunities available
- Continue to support all students
- Liase with Able and Talented Co-ordinator within school

It is recognised that the terms, talented, elite and performance maybe used to describe students that perform or who have potential to perform at levels beyond those expected in sport and/or physical activity.

IDENTIFICATION PROCESSES AND CRITERIA

Identification will be made through the following:

- Teacher nomination
- Informal audit of special abilities
- Previous records
- Students work
- Parental information audit
- Notice provided by externals agency (club or National Governing Body of Sport)

Areas to look at for ease of identification will be:

- Perform exceptionally well at one sport, or very well at many
- Good spatial awareness
- Good understanding of effort such as weight and time
- Skilful body management
- Innate abilities (co-ordination, balance, strength, speed)
- Learn, understand and adopt technical aspects of sport very quickly
- Can make correct decisions in pressure situations and adapt their technique accordingly
- Able to work independently and with initiative
- Commit to the school's extra-curricular sports programme in some way

It is recognised that students will fall into three categories:

- 1) Talented within school PE lessons
- 2) Participation within school teams/clubs
- 3) Participation at county, regional or national/international level

SUPPORTING OUR TALENTED STUDENTS:

Implementation:

- Schemes of work to include extension material
- Curriculum enrichment opportunities provided
- A register of talents sports people in the school is compiled and up-dated regularly
- A lifestyle management programme is provided for those students on the register (TTA)
- Parents/carers are consulted and involved in the implementation of strategies to support their child
- External individuals and agencies are involved in the planning and implementation of these strategies
- Offering taster sessions in minority sports for G & T students
- Directing students to participate at local clubs
- Adapting individual student timetables so as to cater for those involved in 'demanding' training for specific sports outside of school

Able/gifted students may take part in activities outside of school that are very demanding on their time and physical resources, for example dancers, swimmers and gymnasts. This can lead to tiredness and consequent under-achievement. It is vital that teachers work with parents/carers and external coaches/tutors to implement appropriate strategies to deal with this. The activity/success could also cause embarrassment and the student may therefore rather keep their involvement quiet. This would need to be approached sensitively by the member of staff concerned.