



RYECROFT C. E. (C) MIDDLE SCHOOL

POLICY STATEMENT

**GIFTED AND
TALENTED**

The School Atmosphere

At Ryecroft C. E. (C) Middle School, we are very proud of our positive climate with regards to success. Our rewards system encourages all pupils to work hard and all areas of endeavour are equally valued and recognised. Pupils at Ryecroft are encouraged to think for themselves and are involved in making decisions through the school council. The House, Young Leaders and Mentor systems that are in place allow pupils to lead their peers by example.

1. Principles of the Policy

- The challenges of creating demanding, enjoyable and personalised education for very able pupils are particular.
- Providing challenge for very able pupils has been shown to raise the achievement levels of all pupils.
- We endorse the NACE (National Association of Able Children in Education) mission statement – ‘...provide for pupils with high abilities whilst enabling all pupils to flourish.’
- Ensure all pupils, regardless of background or circumstance, have the opportunity to be included in the Gifted and Talented provision.

2. Aims of the Policy

Everyone at Ryecroft C. E. (C) Middle School is committed to an inclusive approach to education that provides for an environment and curriculum which encourages all pupils, including the gifted and talented, to maximise their potential.

This policy is intended to support the following aims:-

- The raising of aspirations for all pupils.
- High expectations of achievement for all pupils.
- Greater enterprise, self-reliance and independence for all pupils.

3. Definition

What do we mean by gifted and talented?

- The DCSF defines gifted pupils as ‘children and young people with one or more abilities developed to a level significantly ahead of their year group (or with potential to develop those abilities.)’
- Gifted pupils are those who demonstrate a significantly higher level of ability than most children of the same age in one or more of the statutory curriculum areas, other than art, music and PE – i.e. very academically able children.

- 'Gifted' pupils can be: good all-rounders or high achievers in only one area; of high ability with low motivation, of good verbal ability but poor writing skills, very able but with short concentration spans; very able but with poor social skills.
- 'Talented' pupils are those who display talent in one or more of the following areas – Art, Drama, Music, PE or Technology – i.e. very able children impractical/creative subjects.

4. Identification

At Ryecroft C. E. (C) Middle School we use a range of strategies to identify pupils who are gifted and talented. These may vary depending on subject area.

Gifted Pupils are identified through:

- Tests and examination results including SATs and subject/module tests.
- Predictive information including FFT.
- Information from previous schools.
- Teachers will nominate pupils who demonstrate strength in a particular subject (Teacher Identification).
- There may be some pupils who are not deemed 'gifted' but are considered 'very able' pupils. These pupils will be involved in G&T activities where appropriate.

Talented Pupils are identified through:-

- Teacher feedback as they progress through Year 5 in the first instance
- Involvement and success in teams, bands, clubs and competitions are important elements of the identification process.
- Nomination letters with a questionnaire will be sent home for parental feedback (Parental Identification).

Identification will be ongoing, never 'once and for all.' Concerted efforts will be made to search out and address the needs of underachievers with latent high ability.

All pupils identified will be placed on the Gifted and Talented Register and both pupil and parent informed. Parents will be given a pack with useful information and websites.

5. Provision

At Ryecroft C. E. (C) Middle School we aim to:

- Create and maintain an ethos where it is 'ok' to be bright.
- Encourage all pupils to become independent learners.
- Recognise achievement in all areas.

- Take into account the effects of social circumstances, gender and ethnicity on learning and high achievements.
- Provide a wide range of extra-curricular activities and clubs.
- Provide work at appropriate levels.
- Provide opportunities for pupils with like minds to work together.

Types of provision will include:-

In the classroom

- High expectations from teachers.
- Awareness of what prior knowledge, understanding and skills the pupils have.
- Differentiate by input as well as outcome.
- Appropriate target setting.
- Planned extension activities.
- Provision of open ended tasks.
- Encouragement of independence.
- Varied and flexible pupil groupings allowing pupils to work in a variety of settings and combinations.

Whole School Provision

- 'Can do' ethos.
- Opportunities and extension built into all schemes of work.
- Appropriate target setting.
- Access to specialist teaching.
- Effective transition arrangements.
- School clubs, societies, councils.
- Opportunities for performance.
- Use of outside agencies for training and provision.
- Opportunities to take part in school, local and national competitions.

Out of School Provision

- Links/opportunities with universities and other organizations.
- Range of extra curricular activities.

6. Roles and Responsibilities

- The provision for our Gifted and Talented pupils is the responsibility of all staff.
- The co-ordinator for Gifted and Talented pupils will maintain a register for G&T and will ensure that appropriate records are kept including a provision map.

7. Review and Development

The school's success in meeting the needs of G&T pupils will be evaluated using the following:-

- Records of individual pupil progress.
- Pupils' comments.
- Feedback from subject departments and class teachers.
- Ofsted reports.

8. Resources

An annual review will be made of resources for G&T pupils including:-

- Budget available.
- Human Resources.
- Training for staff.
- Useful websites.
- Books and any other suitable resources for pupils and teachers.

Signed on behalf of the Governing Body

Chair Date