

# More Able, Gifted and Talented

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At Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy, great value is placed on excellence in all areas of the curriculum. Our vision is to provide a secure and challenging environment that stimulates the development of all students' talents and abilities, ensuring that no 'ceiling' is put on achievement.

The school's More Able, Gifted & Talented Programme includes students of all ages who have demonstrated a high calibre in their studies. Once identified, we work alongside parents/carers to actively promote and nurture their innate talents. They are offered every opportunity to enrich their educational experience, pushing them to reach their full potential to go above and beyond in life.

## **Definition and Identification of More Able, Gifted and Talented Students.**

### ✓ **More Able**

The term 'More Able' encompasses approximately 20-30% of the school population and is used to describe students who enter the academy with higher than average results in their Key Stage 2 National Tests. This gives us a good indication that they will do exceedingly well throughout their five years, meeting or exceeding their targets identified through our flightpath.

We believe there are many separate components essential to optimum educational success, however these 5 .....

- ❖ Growth Mindset
- ❖ Opportunity
  - ❖ Support
- ❖ Motivation
- ❖ Hard work

### ✓ **The Star List**

Within the More Able group of children there will be those who are exceptionally able. Our 'Star List' includes approximately 5% of our top academically performing students as identified by data. We recognise these students to often have high levels of vocabulary, memory, abstract word knowledge, abstract reasoning and a wealth of general knowledge.

### ✓ **Gifted and Talented**

'Gifted and Talented' is a term used to describe students who have the potential to develop significantly beyond what is expected for their age. At Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy, we aim to help these students to develop their individual skills, talents and abilities, intellectually, creatively, emotionally and socially.

Students have been nominated by each curriculum area if they fulfil a specific criterion of either being gifted or talented within that subject. The following definitions will help you understand what this means.

- ❖ Gifted: This refers to students with specific academic aptitudes who are identified by their outstanding performance on achievement in areas such as Mathematics or

History.

- ❖ Talented: This refers to students who have a high level of creative or kinaesthetic abilities, such as Music, Art, Drama, Dance or Physical Education. This may be students who have achieved particularly challenging certification for their abilities or have consistently excelled in these practical areas.

## **Provision Within the Curriculum**

### ✓ Teaching and Learning

We endeavour to provide teaching which makes learning challenging, engaging and exciting, to enable students to reach their full potential. Hence, within the curriculum, we have been working to extend the expertise of our staff to provide a rich and varied range of activities specifically designed to extend our More Able, Gifted and Talented students.

Teaching strategies have been developed to personalise learning to meet individual needs to include different intelligences and learning styles, extending the provision in response to what the students themselves have told us helps them to learn. A few examples of such provisions are listed below:

- ❖ Professional writers visit to enhance the English curriculum
- ❖ Project Atmosphere – a creative writing project after visiting Oak House, Haden Hill and Manor House
- ❖ The UKMT Individual Maths Challenges
- ❖ Enigma code cracking ventures in Mathematics
- ❖ Scientific visits from scientists
- ❖ Triple award science offered to students who are particularly able
- ❖ Sports Leaders Level 1 Course
- ❖ Trips to specific Expressive Arts Development Centres, such as Ingestre Hall
- ❖ Theatre trips to watch, interpret and analyse a variety of plays such as Women in Black
- ❖ Opportunities for students to write and adapt their own Software in ICT
- ❖ Star tasks in humanities

## **The Brilliant Club**

We have worked with the Brilliant Club for 3 years now and this year will offer 24 Year 9 students the opportunity to work alongside PhD students. They will study university style in tutorials and the club will undertake 2 university visits, one to launch the programme and one to celebrate completing the final essay.

## **Extra-Curricular Provision**

Across the school, we also provide a wide range of opportunities for our More Able, Gifted & Talented students to further develop their skills outside of curriculum areas. A few examples of such opportunities are listed below:

- ❖ Trips to visit Russel Group Universities
  - University of Warwick
  - University of Birmingham
  - University of Nottingham
  - University of Oxford
  
- ❖ A variety of trips from different curriculum areas
  - Sociology trips to the House of Parliament
  - Business trips to Alton Towers
  - Computer Sceince trips to Dudley Zoo
  
- ❖ Musical Productions and Talent Shows
  - Hairspray/We Will Rock You/Aladdin
  - Rock the Shop
  - PAPA Crimbo
  
- ❖ A variety of external competitions
  - Maths: Maths Fest
  - Science: Salters Chemistry Festival
  - PE: Triathlon Competition
  - OAT Fishing Competition
  
- ❖ Residential to a variety of both local locations and European countries
  - French and Art trip to Paris
  - Maths and History trip to Belgium
  - Science trip to Switzerland
  - Year 8 residential to Edgmond Hall
  - Swanage Geography fieldtrip
  - Geography trip to Iceland
  
- ❖ A wide variety of sporting opportunities
  - Fitness
  - Badminton
  - Trampolining
  - Rugby
  - Basketball
  - Boxing
  - Gymnastics
  - Taekwondo
  
- ❖ Further Enrichment opportunities
  - Future Leaders: Creative Writing Course
  - STEM club
  - Maths Mentoring
  - School bands and Music Tuition
  - Chess
  - Technology Kit Car Project

- Computer Science Club
- Cooking Club
- Duke of Edinburgh

## **Contact with Parents/Careers**

There are a number of formal and informal ways that we maintain contact with parents. These include:

- ❖ An initial letter is sent home following the inclusion of a student in the Able, Gifted & Talented register.
- ❖ A Star Parent Partnership Meeting is held to support out most academically achieving students.
- ❖ Letters are sent home to inform parents/carers of any new master classes or courses being offered
- ❖ Items in the school newsletters celebrate the achievement of our More Able, Gifted & Talented students and keep parents informed of forthcoming events
- ❖ These dedicated pages of the school website hold information on the different aspects of the Able, Gifted & Talented programme
- ❖ Through our parent's consultation evenings
- ❖ Target setting day
- ❖ Parents are periodically asked for feedback.

## Useful Links

<u>Area</u>	<u>Link</u>
English	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Poetry Archive</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Poetry Society</a></li></ul>
Maths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Nrich</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Maths Challenge</a></li><li>• <a href="#">UKMT</a></li></ul>
Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Royal Institute</a></li></ul>
History	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">British Museum</a></li></ul>
Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Natural History Museum</a></li><li>• <a href="#">National Trust</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Royal Geographical Society</a></li></ul>
MFL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Hello World</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Chillola</a></li></ul>
Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Music Theory</a> (for aural training and theory work)</li><li>• <a href="#">Hofnote</a> (for more aural training. Subscription site)</li><li>• <a href="#">Gigajam</a> (for learning to play bass, guitar, keyboard and drums with video tutorials)</li><li>• <a href="#">Sphinx Kids</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Dallas Symphony Orchestra Kids</a></li></ul>
ICT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">ICT in the News</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Download Scratch</a> (a fun intro to computer programming for KS3 students)</li></ul>
Careers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Futuremorph</a> - an exciting website about careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics</li></ul>
General G&T	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">National Association for Gifted Children</a></li><li>• <a href="#">National Association for Able Children in Education</a></li><li>• <a href="#">GIFT</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Tomorrow's Achievers</a></li></ul>