



GIFTED AND TALENTED POLICY

(Senior School)

(This policy is available on the school website or on request)

QEH is strongly committed to enabling all pupils to progress to the best of their individual potential. Pupils qualify to be at the school by means of a stringent entrance examination and it is recognised that all QEH pupils are above average ability, most well above and some far above. The school curriculum encourages excellence in all subjects and for those who demonstrate or have the potential to demonstrate an outstanding level of ability in a particular subject or field of activity we provide appropriate learning opportunities which enable them to achieve as highly as they are able.

AIMS

- To encourage and maintain a culture where success is valued and celebrated
- To ensure that all pupils receive a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum which enables them to maximise their abilities and develop a love of learning
- To ensure that individuals who are considered especially able in a particular subject or field of activity receive the help and support they need to reach the highest standards of which they are capable, contribute to their group as well as possible and develop a sense of “awe and wonder” in relation to their subject.
- To provide a range of differentiated range of learning opportunities that provide intellectual challenge and opportunity to move at a rate commensurate with their ability.

DEFINITION AND IDENTIFICATION

At QEH we identify gifted and talented pupils using nationally accepted guidelines including Entrance Exam scores, MidYIS achievement scores (from an assessment done in September of year 7) as well as department recommendation.

These boys are then included in the QEH gifted and talented register and are offered appropriate provision.

PROVISION

QEH offers a varied and rich provision for its gifted and talented boys including:

- Invitation to membership of gifted and talented associations, currently IGGY (International Gateway for Gifted Youth)
- Future Problem Solving
- Participation in subject based competitions

- Invitations to opportunities beyond school
- Setting in mathematics, English and French
- Clubs attached to academic departments
- Language, Science and Maths Olympiads
- Seminars for sixth formers given by members of the teaching staff
- Expeditions
- Language trips
- Opportunity to study Ancient Greek
- Oxbridge lessons

Pupils whose talent areas are within Music, Art and Sport receive excellent opportunities for extension, competition and opportunities for public performance or exhibition.

- Specialist coaching in sports
- International sporting trips
- Drama productions
- Exhibitions in Art
- Choirs, bands, instrumental groups

MENTOR GROUP

This programme is designed to support the needs of exceptional Gifted and Talented learners who meet the criteria of high intellectual aptitude as well as showing consistent evident strengths in several academic areas. The Mentor Programme is additional to the regular Gifted and Talented provision and will run concurrently with the current range of provisions for Gifted and Talented students at QEH.

Selection: A combination of:

- Score of 130 or above overall MidYIS combined with a score of 140 or above in a sub-test area (top 1% nationally).
- Recommendation from a number of departments

Students in the Mentor Programme will meet individually with the school's Academic Mentor. The Academic Mentor's primary role will be to monitor each student's learning and to act as a liaison between students, subject teachers, Heads of Department, the Head of Learning Enhancement and parents. The role of Academic Mentor is designed to provide continual support for learning, primarily to ensure that Mentor Programme students remain fully engaged and challenged in their selected subjects.

Day retreats and overnight retreats will be offered, providing an opportunity to bring these boys together for motivational and intellectual stimulation.

Boys, in consultation with the Academic Mentor, identify up to three subject areas in which to specialise. For each of these subjects, the subject teacher and the Head of Department will suggest specific learning activities to help stretch the student's achievement in that area. The Academic Mentor will monitor their progress to help ensure that they remain engaged and challenged through the school year.