

Gifted and Talented Policy



ST ANDREWS
CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

INSPIRED BY
FAITH

DISTINGUISHED BY
CHARACTER

LEADERS BY
INFLUENCE



Gifted and Talented Policy

PREAMBLE

All policy, protocols and procedures flow from the St Andrews Christian College Mission Statement:

“To educate our students so that they are well skilled, understand life on the basis of biblical truth, and are motivated to walk with God and serve Him in their lives, so that they will be a positive Christian influence in the world.”

POLICY DOCUMENT INFORMATION

TITLE:	Gifted and Talented Policy
AUTHORS:	C. Wansbrough; P. Olney
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:	
PURPOSE:	To provide policy and direction for all the College Community.
RELATED DOCUMENTS:	Additional Needs Policy & Procedures Teaching and Learning Philosophy

KEY DATES

ISSUE DATE:	August 2016
REVIEW DATE:	2019



1. RATIONALE

St Andrews Christian College supports the rights of all children to access a rich and challenging education in order to give the opportunity to fully realise their God-given potential.

2. AIMS

The College aims to:

- Provide a challenging and comprehensive curriculum for all students, including those that are identified as gifted and talented.
- Encourage all students, including those identified as gifted and talented, to achieve the highest standard of which they are capable.
- Meet the needs of gifted and talented students as fully as possible through the provision of a challenging curriculum and a range of programme options and extra-curricular activities.

3. DEFINITIONS

- A **gifted** child is one who *has the ability to perform* at a significantly higher level than their chronologically aged peers in any of the following areas: intellectual, creative, socio-emotional, sensory-motor or any other valid area.
- A **talented** child is one who *achieves* at a significantly higher level than their chronologically aged peers in any of the following areas: intellectual, creative, socio-emotional, sensory-motor or any other valid area.
- A **twice-exceptional** child (or 2E child) is a child who is gifted and has another exceptionality; for instance, ESL background, learning difficulty, physical disability.

4. IMPLEMENTATION

- A staff member skilled in identifying and responding to students with special talents will be appointed to coordinate the College's Gifted and Talented Program.
- The Gifted and Talented Program Coordinator will be responsible for liaising with staff and parents to ensure adequate support for both parties.
- A variety of identification tools will be utilised to ascertain students of above average ability, which may include input from teachers, parents, peers, students and professional consultants.
- The College, where possible, will provide flexible extension and enrichment programs for gifted and talented students that may include: acceleration (subject, curriculum content, or year level), special ability groupings, out of hours programs, individual learning contracts, mentoring, classroom enrichment and extension, and the provision of varied teaching strategies (*de Bono, Bloom's Taxonomy, Gardner's Multiple Intelligences* etc.).
- In cases where students are twice-exceptional, a student's program will focus where possible on supporting both their exceptionalities; for instance by providing work that is intellectually challenging, but also by employing strategies to support the learning difficulties. Reference will be made to other policies where relevant (Special Needs, etc.).
- Gifted student programs and activities outside the classroom will also be provided to enhance and extend the educational program of individual students.
- The Gifted and Talented Program budget will be developed by the program coordinator in consultation with the Principal and the Business Manager.
- Staff professional development needs will be ascertained annually in order to best cater for the identification of and provision for individual differences in our students.