

Identification and Provision of GaTE

Identifying Gifted and Talented students

The identification of gifted and talented students is flexible and ongoing and will take place through a range of techniques that may include:

- school enrolment data
- school assessment data
- student/parent/teacher interviews
- analysis of creative work
- teacher observation
- teacher, parent, peer and self nomination.

In order to best support and challenge our students information gathering is ongoing. Gifted and talented abilities may emerge at different times of a student's education and in different circumstances. At Opaheke we offer a responsive learning environment so that we can be sensitive in addressing the varying needs of our students. We acknowledge that at times the provision to cater for needs is completed outside of school eg specialised sports coaching or music tuition. We know that one size does not fit all and each case is treated on an individual basis with the most current information available.

The provision we offer includes:

- differentiation within the class setting to provide high level interest learning.
- development and use of higher order thinking tools
- cross-grouping
- withdrawal programme
- mentors where applicable
- acceleration as required
- a range of enrichment and extra curricula programmes
- cultural relevance will be considered.

Parents will be informed of all special programmes that students are involved in.

Staffing and Managing Gifted and Talented Education Programmes

We are currently engaged in professional development for staff to help identify and provide for Gifted and Talented Education. Staff will continue to be given appropriate assistance with planning to meet differentiated needs. The strengths and interests of staff as well as mentors from the wider community will be utilised to maximise the learning opportunities provided.

Our systems for GaTE will be regularly reviewed. At Opaheke the staff foster open communication and work collaboratively and consultatively with parents and the wider community to develop strong relationships. There is a team made up of staff from across the school to help manage and oversee Gifted and Talented Education in the school. A database of students will be kept so that we can track and adjust the provision we offer.