

Gifted and Talented Provision at Lydiard Millicent CE Primary School

How are Gifted and Talented children identified?

During the first term every year, teachers highlight around 10% of their class who they know, through assessments and work scrutiny, that are working at a higher level than other children in the class.

Why might my child be identified?

The reasons children are identified as Gifted and Talented might be for their ability in subjects such as Literacy, Numeracy or Science. It could be that a child displays high levels of talent in PE or art or music. It could also be that they have a clear affinity to leadership and relationships with others, perhaps they could be a leader of the future. They could of course be identified for more than one gift or talent.

Why is my child not on the register?

There are occasions when children have not been highlighted as G&T by the class teacher, but as a parent you feel they should be. Please contact the school to make an appointment with your child's class teacher, where you can discuss your concerns and share any gifts and talents the school might not be aware of.

What criteria are used for identification?

Schools have the discretion to decide how best to identify their gifted and talented pupils, but we use the Wiltshire Council & DFES guidance with a set list of criteria.

Will my child always be on the register?

Sometimes children are on the register one year and not the next. This is usually due to children changing over time and a child's progress is not always consistent. It might also be that they are not in the 10%, as the make up of the class has changed - but remember our aim is for all children to make progress and work is always planned to stretch children.

What will happen when they go to secondary school?

When children go to secondary school they still identify children in the same way and will provide opportunities for children with specific gifts and talents.

What will teachers do to support my child?

After the identification process, every teacher has a very clear knowledge of those children in their class who have been identified as well as the reasons for this identification. When teachers plan, every lesson has specific activities, questions or expectations for those children who are on the Gifted and Talented register, as well as for other specific groups of children such as SEN (Special Education Needs) or EAL (English as an Additional Language). Key findings of Ofsted state that "The schools which focused on progress for **all** pupils were more likely to plan lessons that challenged their gifted and talented children". We are confident that our highly effective planning supports our Gifted and Talented children during lessons.

Who should I contact if I don't feel my child is getting enough support?

If after speaking to your child's class teacher you still feel that they are not receiving the appropriate support, please make an appointment to speak to Mrs Dougill or Miss Selby to discuss the issues.

Is provision different in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2?

The provision in class is the same at Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. The children who have been identified are set specific tasks to challenges to support their learning both in class and as homework. Talk to your child's class teacher if you have any concerns about this.

What will the school do to support my child?

We also seek to provide additional opportunities for all children. These activities might include liaison with Bradon Forest, Royal Wootton Bassett Academy or Lydiard Park Academy Schools. In the past children have had opportunities to be taught by specialist teachers in subjects such as ICT, technology, French and Drama. This provides those children on the Gifted and Talented register with a broad base of experience. We arrange for theatre or music groups to perform in school or run workshops. Our peripatetic music lessons provide opportunities for gifted musicians too. We currently employ a teacher who works with some of our more able pupils to boost their learning power!

What are the provisions outside the school setting?

Braeside, in Devizes provides a range of workshops designed for G&T, however spaces are limited so we work closely with our secondary schools (see above) Please see the links on the main page for Braeside information.

What should I do as a parent of a child on the G&T register?

Parents of children on the Gifted and Talented Register should first talk to their child's class teacher about the provision within the classroom as well as any other opportunities within school. As always, an open dialogue between home and school is essential. If you are concerned about anything, make an appointment to see your child's class teacher to discuss your concerns.

Should I do extra work at home?

As each child is an individual, it is best to speak with your child's class teacher for suggestions. For some children additional work can very easily de-motivate them, for others additional work is seen as a challenge which they thoroughly enjoy. A joint decision between school and home needs to be made.

Where can I get more information?

Please speak to Mrs Hyde who leads A,G & T or to Miss Selby or Mrs Dougill.