

Ashburton Borough School

“Labor Omnia Vincit”

Policy Children with Special Abilities

Rationale

Ongoing provision for children with special abilities, including gifted children is a matter of equity and is necessary to enable them to reach their potential.

Purposes

1. To promote a systematic and structured approach in and outside the classroom so that identification is as accurate and early as possible
2. To give clear direction in terms of identification, monitoring, teaching methods, resources, programming and evaluation
3. To provide appropriate professional development and resources for all teachers
4. To establish management systems needed to support programmes including documentation which ensures accurate tracking and continuous evaluation of individual needs.

Definition

The gifted and talented represent a wide range of students with many different abilities and not simply those with high intelligence.

Ashburton Borough School defines giftedness as the possession of natural abilities or aptitudes significantly beyond what may be expected at a certain age. Giftedness is characterised by outstanding potential rather than outstanding performance, recognising the existence of the gifted underachiever.

Talent is defined as high achievement or performance at a level significantly beyond what is expected at a given age. Ashburton Borough School will ensure through quality educational programming that giftedness is translated into talent. (Gagne)

Guidelines

1. Teaching staff will develop a manageable structure to achieve the purposes above.
2. Both withdrawal and in class programmes will be used to develop identified children's potential using available staff strengths and those from the wider community.
3. The provision will be wide ranging and include all aspects of the child's development.
4. A budget needs to support staff training and resource provision.

Identification

1. Identification will be a continuous whole school process. It will not focus exclusively on any current cohort and will make provision for movement into and out of the cohort as necessary
2. Ashburton Borough School will identify its cohort in a range of different areas. Children who score highly across a range of data will be strong

candidates for inclusion in the cohort. However other children with different profiles will also be considered, including:

- Pupils who achieve highly on tests of potential but are failing in school based assessments.
 - Highly creative children
 - Pupils who perform well outside the school environment
 - Children from differing cultural backgrounds
3. Identification data needs to draw on information from a range of sources including formal assessment data, teacher, parent, peer or self nomination, examination of pupils work and observation.
 4. Ashburton Borough School will ensure that the identification process is rigorous, fair and does not discriminate against particular groups (by gender, culture, socioeconomic status, ethnicity or disability).

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CHAIRPERSON

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DATE