

Aim	To establish a whole school policy for gifted and talented provision including pupils with a disability
Outcome	The opportunity for all pupils to be supported in order to participate, progress and succeed to the best of their ability.

**School: Arbour Vale School**

**Type of school: Specialist Sports College, Special School (Ages 2-19), PMLD, SLD, MLD**

Arbour Vale Special School wished to develop a framework/policy based around identification and support for Gifted and Talented pupils with special educational needs, in PE and Sport, which could be used by both their school and others in the Slough area.

As a first step research was undertaken in the whole area of Gifted and Talented pupils. This research took the form of internet research in the area and also attendance at a seminar on Gifted and Talented pupils in PE. As a result two staff members ( a PE teacher and Student Teaching Assistant) undertook inset training on the identification of Gifted and Talented Pupils and Excellence Cluster meetings were attended to gain further understanding.

Information concerning the school's pupils was then collected from a variety of sources, the G&T pupils were identified and issues such as transportation and CPD for staff were then assessed and researched. This research resulted in a transportation system being devised in association with staff and parents and appropriate training courses were identified for staff.

Research was also conducted into the different methods of developing the talent of the identified pupils and from this, it was decided that a multi skill approach would be the most appropriate path due to the varied interest and abilities of the group.

14 pupils were initially identified, 10 of whom are currently participating in the programme, taking part in a variety of sports including basketball, tennis, athletics, badminton and multi skills. These activities are run after school hours in blocks of 7 or 8 weeks for each activity. Pupils have also been involved in fitness training. Attendance at the G&T club has been 100%; pupil's leadership skills have improved, as has pupil behaviour, self esteem and application of skills. An effective transportation system has been established as has a close working relationship with the pupils' parents.

Parental involvement and support was seen as paramount to a successful programme. All the parents of the identified pupils were contacted, mostly face to face, in order to ensure they understood the project and the resulting benefits for their children. Their support was not only key in supporting the pupils' self esteem and confidence but also in terms of the logistics of planning and transporting the pupils to the after school hours activities.

On the basis of this research Arbour Vale developed a comprehensive PE G&T Policy covering all areas of identification, provision of the curriculum and assessment through to staff development and parental involvement.

**Future plans include**

- The development of a disability specific Multi Skill Academy in association with their partner secondary school, which has a unit for pupils with a physical disability.
- The development and establishment of links to clubs in the community, to ensure an avenue for pupils to continue to develop their potential.
- The production of a self-evaluation tool which will be used by the pupils to gain feedback and knowledge on their perception of their own development whilst on the programme.
- An assessment of the possibility of developing a mentoring system to support pupils and to also develop a similar system which would be available for pupils in Key Stage 2.

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