

GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL ABILITIES

POLICY 1: CURRICULUM GUIDELINE 5



RATIONALE

At St. Benedict's School we believe that every child who is gifted or talented academically receives support and is encouraged to reach their full potential.

PURPOSES

To ensure those students with special abilities are identified and subsequently provided with maximum opportunities to foster and develop their special abilities.

GUIDELINES

- At the beginning of each year teachers will look at the definitions, characteristics and identification of gifted and talented students.
- After a variety of appropriate testing is completed, provision for identified students will be stated by teachers to their Syndicate Leader in their March class review. Relevant information is given to the Principal.
- Provision for students should be incorporated into the classroom programme where at all possible.
- Curriculum planning sheets will include reference to any additional, enrichment or extension activities, which may be necessary.
- The learning environment should be learner centred rather than teacher centred.
- On occasions, when staffing allows, special activities may be arranged to benefit a particular student or group of students who meet specific criteria.
- Where possible professional development should be made available to assist teachers in providing the best opportunities for these students.
- For some students support from outside agencies and experts may be required and will be applied for.
- For some students, acceleration will be considered. Discussion between the parents and the teachers will occur so that the best decision for a child is made.
- Where a difficulty in the provision of a suitable learning environment is encountered, then it may be necessary to set up an IEP (Individual Education Plan) for an individual student.
- When necessary, the Board of Trustees will endeavour to provide appropriate extra resources.

CONCLUSION

St. Benedict's School is committed to identifying and providing the very best in opportunities to students who display special abilities.