



**ALL SAINTS RC SCHOOL, YORK**  
Diocese of Middlesbrough



**ABLE, GIFTED AND TALENTED SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**  
**POLICY**

*“To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability.”*  
(Matthew 25:15)

**1. Criteria for identifying Able/Gifted/Talented**

A **gifted** pupil is defined as one whose abilities in science are developed to a level significantly ahead of their year group.

An **able** pupil is defined as one who has potential to develop these abilities in science.

A **talented** pupil is defined as one whose practical abilities in science are developed to a level significantly ahead of their year group.

Pupils are identified by class teachers and added to the department AG&T register based on the following criteria:

- Previous attainment in SAT results, MIDYIS and YELLIS (top 10%)
- Pupils gifted in Science are likely to be imaginative, widely read, inquisitive, logical, questioning, analytical or accurate. They may have scientific hobbies, give plausible explanations for phenomena, put forward objective arguments or consider alternative suggestions or strategies for investigations. They may spot patterns easily, take pleasure in using apparatus as accurately as possible, think abstractly at an earlier age than usual, be good at mathematics, enjoy challenges and problem solving or show a keen interest in a particular area of science
- Pupils gifted in Science may also be easily bored by over-repetition of basic ideas and approach undemanding work casually and carelessly.

A gifted pupil will have several of these characteristics but each pupil is unique.

**2. Provision**

**Internal**

Departmental databases continually identify which pupils are performing above or below their targets so that we can readily spot pupils who require further intervention.

**KS3**

- Schemes of work identify expectations for the most able pupils and where appropriate *alternative* activities or worksheets are provided for them.
- Pupils are set into ability groups in Year 9.
- Lunchtime Science Club runs each week and gifted pupils are encouraged to attend.

- Trips are organised during the year which are targeted at gifted pupils or those with a keen interest in science.

#### **KS4**

- Pupils are set into ability groups with a separate scheme of work for those pupils completing the higher tier paper.
- Pupils who achieved a level 6 or higher at KS3 can opt to take Triple Science and are taught as a high ability group.

#### **KS5**

- Smaller group sizes allow more individual attention to be given to the most able pupils who, in addition, are able to sit the Advanced Extension Papers.

#### **External**

The most able pupils are encouraged to take part in external events and activities including York City Master Classes for Science and NAGTY events.

### **3. Department ethos (values and support)**

Teachers in the department aim to support gifted and talented pupils by:

- Sharing and encouraging pupils' curiosity by allowing them to speculate without necessarily needing the correct answer
- Challenging pupils to provide explanations and connections as well as information
- Giving pupils access to more demanding work
- Enriching and extending their breadth of knowledge by drawing on a wide variety of ideas, some from beyond the curriculum
- Targeting gifted pupils with more difficult questions during whole-class questioning
- Asking them more challenging questions during individual questioning
- In group work, sometimes putting gifted pupils together so they have the opportunity to carry out more in-depth analytical or evaluative group tasks.
- At other times, gifted pupils are set to work in mixed-ability groups to offer them the challenge of explaining ideas and connections to others which can help improve their own understanding.