



WILLOUGHBY GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL

GIFTED AND TALENTED POLICY

1. Objectives – Policy statement

1.1 The School community has a responsibility to identify gifted and talented students and to provide a range of opportunities for gifted and talented students at the school.

1.2 Teachers, with support, have a responsibility to identify the gifted and talented students in their classes and to select and implement a variety of teaching strategies for inclusion in programs for the range of gifted and talented students in their classes.

1.3 The School has a responsibility to provide opportunities for staff development in the education of gifted and talented students.

1.4 The School has a responsibility to foster collaborative home-school partnerships to support gifted and talented students.

2. Audience and applicability

2.1 This policy is relevant to staff, students, parents and carers.

3. Context

3.1 Gifted and talented students are found in all communities regardless of their ethnic, cultural or socio-economic characteristics. The gifted population includes students who are underachieving and who have disabilities.

3.2 Giftedness refers to the potential distinctly beyond the average for the student's age and encompasses a broad range of abilities in the intellectual, creative, socio-emotional and physical domains. Talent denotes achievement distinctly beyond the average for a student's age as a result of training and practice.

3.3 The Gifted and Talented Committee (GAT Committee) will include an upper executive member, the school counsellor, the Gifted and Talented Coordinator, and other staff as appropriate. The GAT Committee will be responsible for

- monitoring and evaluating the school's Gifted and Talented program
- determining appropriate identification processes to be used for groups or individual students
- making determinations about the level of giftedness or talent of an individual student based on referrals, testing and other information collected about the student
- make recommendations of appropriate options and strategies for individual students

3.4 The Gifted and Talented Committee will be supported by a broader Gifted and Talented Learning Group consisting of teacher representatives from all faculties. The role of the Gifted and Talented Learning Group will include:

- Monitoring the progress of individual gifted and talented students
- Promoting opportunities for all gifted and talented students

- Supporting teacher professional learning in the pedagogy that underpins gifted education

3.5 The School will provide a range of opportunities for gifted and talented students that will include:

- Extension classes for certain academic subjects;
- Integration of differentiation strategies into programs and classroom practices
- A range of extra-curricular activities to extend opportunities beyond the classroom
- Acceleration of students where appropriate.

3.6 A Personal Learning Plan (PLP) will be developed for each student identified as gifted and/or talented. The PLP will be developed in consultation with the student and the parents/carers and will include identification of appropriate options and strategies to support the student within and beyond the classroom to perform at her full potential.

3.7 This policy should be read and interpreted in conjunction with the following:

- DEC Code of Conduct Policy
- Values in NSW Public Schools Policy
- DEC Gifted and Talented Policy
- DEC Policy and Implementation Strategies for the Education of Gifted and Talented Students
- DEC Guidelines for the Use of Strategies to Support Gifted and Talented Students

4. Responsibilities and Delegations

4.1 The Principal is responsible for the implementation of this policy and guidelines developed to support the policy in the School and is required to ensure that this policy is followed by staff.

4.2 The Principal may delegate responsibility for the regular operation of the policy to the GAT Committee and GAT Coordinator.

5. Monitoring, evaluation and reporting requirements

5.1 The GAT Committee will supervise the implementation of this policy and will report, as required, to the Principal.

5.2 This policy and guidelines will be evaluated and updated as required.

Appendix A: Process for Identification and Monitoring of GAT Students

