



# St Mary's Catholic Primary School

*At St Mary's we live and learn sharing God's love*

## Able, Gifted and Talented

September 2020

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### *Mission Statement*

'As a Catholic school community, we strive to live as a Christian family showing our love for God in the way we treat each other with dignity and respect and by promoting the development of each child as a unique individual.'

### *Rationale*

As our Mission Statement says, at St Mary's we promote the development of each child as a unique individual. We believe that all pupils are entitled to receive the support and challenge necessary to help them to develop their full potential. The needs of the most able pupils are acknowledged as part of our overall inclusion policy. We recognise the importance of identifying a wide range of abilities and talents, and of providing opportunities to nurture them. In addition we are committed to developing pupils' social and emotional skills as essential elements in the development of the whole person.

### *Definition – who we mean by “most able”*

We use the general term “most able” to refer to pupils who demonstrate or have the potential to work at a level above their peers in this school. This may be in one or more areas of the curriculum or in areas outside school.

Our focus is on those who have ability in academic subjects e.g. history, and those who have ability and talent in the areas of dance, drama, music, art or sport. Although others may use the term more generally, we identify pupils as “gifted” if they demonstrate exceptional ability in one or more areas, and represent 0.5% of the national population.

## *Aims – what we intend to achieve*

- To use a broad range of qualitative and quantitative data to identify our most able pupils.
- To recognise those pupils who may have the potential but currently underachieve.
- To ensure that all staff receive appropriate support and training in identifying and providing for most able pupils.
- To provide appropriate support and challenge in the classroom, within an ethos of high expectations.
- To ensure that where necessary individuals receive academic or pastoral support to overcome identified barriers to learning.
- To build on existing systems of monitoring and evaluation to track the progress of these pupils.
- To work with parents to help pupils achieve their potential and to be ambitious.
- To provide a range of additional opportunities to develop the experiences of our most able.

## *Conclusion*

The success of the policy will impact on the school's ethos. We want our pupils to believe it is "cool to be clever" and to strive to achieve their full potential. We want our staff to feel confident in offering appropriate levels of challenge for our most able. We will measure success by both academic performance and an increase in the confidence and independence of our learners.

Reviewed: September 2020

Next review date: September 2021