

AG&T (Able, Gifted & Talented) at George Fentham

What 'gifted and talented' means

'Gifted and talented' describes children and young people with an ability to develop to a level significantly ahead of their year group (or with the potential to develop those abilities):

- 'gifted' learners are those who have abilities in one or more academic subjects, like maths and English
- 'talented' learners are those who have practical skills in areas like sport, music, design or creative and performing arts

Skills like leadership, decision-making and organisation are also taken into account when identifying and providing for gifted and talented children.

Identifying gifted and talented children

George Fentham aims to provide for the individual needs of all children. Therefore, it is important that the needs of Able, Gifted and Talented children should be recognised and strategies developed for their identification and support. We use a rigorous method of tracking and assessing all children's attainment and progress, which includes vulnerable groups such as the able, gifted & talented.

No one single method can be entirely accurate. We use a range of strategies to identify gifted and talented children. It is an on-going process and begins when the child joins our school. Children can be identified at any age, as they develop at different rates. It is important to note that as other children can catch them up, they may later cease to be seen as exceptional and therefore, cease to be seen as Gifted and Talented.

Children that do generally well in Key Stage Tests, are referred to as 'more able'. Often, a list of these children will include the Gifted and Talented, but not always. Because different children will be gifted or talented in different areas of the curriculum, the overall percentage of the school population identified may be in excess of 10%, perhaps up to around 25%. DCSF guidance states that schools are free to determine the size of their gifted and talented population, but should be able to justify this in terms of improved standards for all learners identified.

Support for gifted and talented pupils

The central aim of George Fentham is to provide all of our children with educational experiences and opportunities, which will enable them to discover and fulfil their own potential. All programs of work will have opportunities for enrichment and extension activities.

The Inclusion Co-ordinator will confer with class teachers to ensure that children identified as academically 'gifted' or 'more able' are provided with a curriculum that is sufficiently challenging to encourage their continued development.

The Inclusion Co-ordinator will ensure that 'talented' children on the G&T register are encouraged to develop their interests and skills. This may be achieved by encouraging such children to participate in present provision. It may involve referring them towards local provision outside school and liaising with external providers