



**Abraham  
Darby  
Academy**

**Departmental  
Provision for  
Gifted & Talented  
Students**

**Welcome to our  
Academy**

“We are  
committed to  
quality  
education in  
a happy,  
positive and  
productive  
environment”

# **Abraham Darby Departmental Provision for Gifted and Talented (G & T) Students**

**Update – May 2009.**

## **Art & Design**

- Schemes of Learning focus on multiple intelligences and are written to enable a high level of independent study and extension
- Schemes of Learning involve differentiated activities
- After school and lunch time period 7 sessions offered
- Specific G&T extra curricula clubs – KS3 – ceramics and Glass  
KS4 – Textiles based focus
- Residential G&T weekend – now going to be an annual event
- Possibility of an over seas visit in 2009 (currently being looked in to)
- University visits
- Art resources are 'A' Level and Degree level standard
- Artist workshops – KS3 & KS4
- Year 9 options focus group – Spring 2 and Summer term specific GCSE SOL supported by an extra curricula session
- EIP workshop sessions – Tile museum and Christmas card design

## **Business Studies:**

- G & T provision in Business Studies is determined at lesson level i.e. each lesson, where appropriate, provides extension tasks for G & T.
- Introduction of the new course, OCR National Level 2, is designed to meet the needs of G & T by offering them the opportunity to achieve 2 GCSE type qualifications in the time allotted for 1 GCSE.
- Opportunity to run their own business as part of the Applied Business GCSE course. (This is available to all students as their practical, business ability is not always directly linked to their academic ability.)

## **Dance:**

- G&T students are given differentiated and extended tasks within the schemes of work to ensure that they have the opportunity to extend and challenge themselves
- Theatre trips to watch professional companies
- Workshops with outside artists and agencies
- Students have extension opportunities including extra contact time for KS3 AND KS4 rehearsals after school and at weekends
- Extra curricular activities are offered to G&T students – lunchtime clubs, creating own work towards public performance
- Specific tasks for G&T students include:

Leading others in warm ups, cool downs and choreographic tasks

Extended improvisation tasks and selection and refinement of ideas

The ability to make critical self assessment

## **Design Technology:**

All schemes of work in Technology have differentiation for G&T, with detail for every lesson written into the planning. The differentiated activity depends on the lesson content.

G&T students in all areas are encouraged to display a high level of individuality in their practical products.

Young Enterprise gives the G&T students opportunity to develop skills in running their business enterprise

## **Drama:**

- G&T students in Drama follow the same schemes as others; students are given differentiated tasks as well as extension activities to enable them to achieve higher grades.
- Lessons are delivered to develop G&T skills such as:
  - The ability to take direction
  - The ability to focus and develop the 'details'
  - To be a reflective and self critical learner
  - To use sensitive and balanced peer assessment
  - To be creative, inventive, imaginative and at all times use experimental ideas
  - The ability to take the 'eye' of the Director
- Theatre trips, workshops with professionals are organised available for G&T. The opportunity to work within a Theatre Company, The Young REP after school.
- Extra contact time is offered after school for rehearsals etc.
- Extra curricular activities I.e. 'Poult's Performers' (KS3) and 'Arts Achiever's (KS4). G&T students attend to extend knowledge, understanding and skills. Also, G&T students are used to lead others, modelling good work etc.
- Plan to set up an "Arts Council" that would be lead by G&T students.
- Plan to set up Arts Award, aimed at G&T.

## **English**

### **KS3**

- Extension activities included in all modules of work for G & T students.
- Modules of work aimed at higher ability only.
- Selected year 8 students involved in Telford Culture Zone Project.
- Students offered the chance to enter many competitions e.g. Halloween story writing, journalist writing and creative writing.

- G & T students able to monitor own progress through continual review of folder work.
- Assessment focuses displayed in all English classrooms to encourage self-evaluation.
- G & T club available for year 8 students.

#### **KS4**

- Extension activities included in all modules of work for G & T students.
- Differentiated modules for G & T students.
- G & T students from year 10 and year 11 given the opportunity to improve their speaking and listening skills by competing in an annual public speaking competition.
- Year 11s provided with the opportunity to enter GCSE English early in November with further opportunity to resit the exam in May.
- Comprehensive revision programmes offered to year 11 students during Easter half-term.
- Past exam papers available for students.
- Opportunities for G & T students to mark and peer mark their own coursework using GCSE criteria.

### **Geography**

#### **KS3**

Differentiated text books have been purchased for the more able

Within these are further extension tasks

Unit booklets include extension tasks linked to the topics

Assessments are stepped and incorporate levels for pupils to estimate progress

Pupils are encouraged to complete their own research for projects e.g. Japan or earthquakes. Computers available for independent use.

Differentiated assessments

Pupils have attended Hurricane simulation exercise at classroom of the future – higher level thinking skills.

#### **KS4**

Higher tiered papers at GCSE allow pupils to access highest grades.

Coursework task outlines are accessible on school OLE and pupils shown exemplar materials at A\* grade. Differentiation is by outcome. All pupils encouraged to exceed their target grade with coursework.

Pupils are given extension tasks where appropriate.

### **History**

#### **KS4**

- Year 10 G+T offered the chance to study G.C.S.E. Humanities in their own time
- Differentiated tasks for the top end
- Full access for G+T pupils to mark their own work using G.C.S.E. criteria. (RMB examiner)

#### **KS3**

- Differentiated text books for the more able
- Year 7 extended independent study tasks for G+T pupils
- Differentiated assessments

- G+T pupils encouraged to complete their own research using History department resources

### **Health and Social Care**

All students including G&T follow the same GCSE course. Work is differentiated to enable the higher abilities / G&T students to achieve the higher grades.

Students have recently been given the opportunity to go on work experience in a care setting, and these are selected appropriate to their abilities.

### **ICT:**

- KS3 projects available on School OLE
- KS4 revision focus programme; past examination questions & exemplar answers; online tutorials for key examination topics - all available on ICT section of School's OLE

Selected Year 9 & Year 10 & Year 11 pupils involved in Telford Culture Zone Project developing a website and other promotional materials for Telford Culture Zone - Tuesday evenings after school. This is in conjunction with representatives from Born Communications, Wolverhampton.

### **Mathematics**

- G&T provision is outlined in each separate scheme of work for each module as extension tasks.
- Setting within the department identifies the more able Maths students and these are taught in set A1 in KS3
- Students have attended activities outside school as arranged by SWP.
- In KS4 G&T students are entered for the more challenging Higher Tier papers.
- More able students are given the opportunity to take part in UKMT Maths Challenges which can lead to European competitions.

### **Modern Foreign Languages**

- Express groups in Years 7, 8, 9 G&T workbook complements the textbook and provides extension/supplementary work for homework and class work.
- Year 9 Express groups use Higher Level textbooks and additional resources
- A number of Year 9 students will be taking the GCSE exam this summer -2 years early.
- The Year 10 option group use G&T workbooks
- Year 11 option group have extension exercises set G&T workbooks on the different topics.
- Year 11 G&T students go to The Grove School for an Intensive French Day, periodically.
- Group of Year 10 +11 students go to New College for taster sessions of Japanese and Mandarin Chinese, periodically.
- Since Sept 07 each Tuesday after school as part of the Travel to Learn programme 3 Year 10 students and 5 Year 11 students have been studying Mandarin and Japanese respectively.
- The Dept has also organised a visit to Paris in April 08 for Year 9 + 10 students.

## **Music**

### **CURRICULUM**

All schemes of work throughout KS3 & KS4 have differentiated activities depending on the tasks given. All G&T pupils are expected to produce high and individual standards in their work. Students are expected to complete any extension tasks given in performing, composing, listening and appraising.

Many pupils who study GCSE music achieve very high grades (A\*, A and B's) as many of them are G&T pupils who are strong performers.

G&T music has had progress hindered in recent years due to the constraints of the timetable. The curriculum used to allow a G&T year 9 group who opted to take GCSE early entry. This proved successful as many high grades were gained affording the opportunity for students in year 11 to study AS level work. The opportunity may well be re-instated in the new Academy.

### **EXTRA-CURRICULAR**

Approx. 80% students who are on the G&T register participate in the many extra-curricular musical activities we have available. Many of them play at least two instruments as well. Pupils across all year groups are members of the training bands through to the senior bands such as the Showband which performs at advanced levels (grade 7/8) standard. Many of the G&T pupils have represented the school at both national and international levels, performing in concert halls such as Symphony Hall, Birmingham, Royal Albert Hall, London and Carnegie Hall, New York.

## **Physical Education**

- Differentiation during lessons to stretch the most able students
- Leadership opportunities within the lesson
- Opportunities to gain leadership qualifications within certain sports
- G & T workshop days
- Extra Curricular clubs available for students in a range of sports

County performers from KS3 are chosen to attend Junior athlete education programme workshops aimed at giving students skills to manage their lifestyle.

G & T Education Improvement Partnership trips, held at Cosford. There are separate trips for KS3 and KS4; they provide opportunities to take part in RAF activities and fitness testing, alongside talented students from other Telford & Wrekin Schools.

## **Religious Education**

- Learning environment to improve knowledge
- Frequent opportunities to express opinions
- Opportunities to reflect and give informed, reasoned responses
- Recognition of good prior knowledge
- Greater emphasis on enquiry, discovery, interpretation, evaluation than description
- Wide range of sources to compare and contrast

Opportunities to develop thinking skills are essential in RE, and support the transfer of learning to and from different contexts.

Effective teaching is characterised by:

- Building on prior skills, knowledge and understanding
- Open questions to which there is no single correct answer
- Opportunities to question and challenge opinions sensitively

### **Religious Education Continued ..**

- Modelling of a range of activities and skills in thinking and writing
- Opportunities for able pupils to extend and develop ideas and to suggest hypotheses
- Opportunities to develop as independent and collaborative learners
- Encouragement to use complex and advanced subject terminology
- Recognition of pupil's sense of personal and cultural identity
- Use of a variety of demanding resources that help pupils engage with difficult or complex ideas

### **Science**

#### **KS3**

- Differentiated Schemes according to learners needs. Scheme includes extension material and extending literacy activities.
- Enrichment activities on days of timetable designed to extend and challenge basis of understanding abstract concepts.
- Pupil levels and targets inform planning and pupils are guided towards meeting own targets using assessment for learning sheets.
- Science club runs to attract interested learners.

#### **KS4**

- High ability students are identified in department and this informs planning.
- Questioning styles are adapted to extend gifted pupils.
- Course is differentiated and pupil entries are based on ability level.
- Lesson delivery is modified to cover a range of learning styles.
- Enrichment activities on days of timetable designed to extend and challenge basis of understanding abstract concepts.
- Crest awards run to provide additional extension of investigation skills and enrich science experience.
- Opportunity to enter Physics Olympiad in conjunction with Physics Experts at Adam's Grammar.