

Holymead Primary School

Able Interested and Motivated (AIM) Policy

Rationale

At Holymead Primary School we believe that all children should be given opportunities to achieve their best in every aspect of school life. All children have the right to a broad, balanced and relevant education which provides continuity and progression and takes individual differences into account. In our school, we foster a learning community in which skills and knowledge are valued and talents are recognised, respected and celebrated. We aim to provide an inspiring curriculum that meets the needs and develops the abilities of all our pupils, enabling each child to reach the highest level of personal achievement. Children with particular, specific abilities or talents should be identified as early as possible so that they may be challenged at a level which is appropriate for them and motivated to explore these abilities and talents further.

Aims

Our aims are:

- to identify children who demonstrate a specific ability or talent in any area of the curriculum or in their personal life.
- to provide an effective learning environment that nurtures and stimulates, giving opportunities to celebrate success.

We will provide opportunities to:

- : encourage all children to perform to the best of their abilities and reach their full potential
- : encourage the development of specific abilities and talents
- : extend and enrich pupils' thinking skills
- : develop children's problem solving and decision-making
- : stimulate emotional, cultural, social, physical and spiritual development
- : develop cross-curricular links.

Definitions

According to the Department of Education (2008), gifted learners are those who have abilities in subjects in the statutory curriculum other than art and design, music and PE. These pupils display one or more abilities developed to a level significantly ahead of their year group (or with the potential to develop these abilities). Talented learners are those who have abilities in subjects in art and design, music, PE or performing arts such as dance and drama or abilities in personal or social skills. At Holymead we use the term Able, Interested and Motivated (AIM) alongside the DfE's terms Gifted and Talented as we feel it is more reflective of the child as a learner.

Identification of able, interested and motivated

We use a range of strategies to identify AIM children. The identification process is on-going and begins when a child joins our school and involves staff, parents and carers. No identification strategy is perfect

and different abilities and talents emerge at different stages and under different circumstances in a child's life. As a result a child's potential is never fixed.

Holymead Primary uses the following methods of identification:

- Evidence from children's work
- Information from pre-schools and nurseries and previous school
- Teacher observation and assessment e.g children's approach to their learning, their use of initiative and questioning
- Foundation stage assessments
- Summative and Formative assessment
- Evidence from school-based extra-curricular activities
- Parental information
- Achievements outside school.

A list of Able, Interested and Motivated children will be kept and used for reference. An Early Developers List will be held for Foundation Stage children. These lists will provide information on the support provided to the children identified and will be amended when necessary. We will refer to these lists when identifying pupils to attend extracurricular events and additional school events where places are limited (e.g. Science Workshops, Maths Competitions, AIM Cluster Events).

Reference:

DfE,(2008) Identifying gifted and talented pupils.

Reviewed: Jan 2022

Next review: Jan 2024 Mr A. Jones/Mrs J Head (AIM leaders)



Article 29

Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.