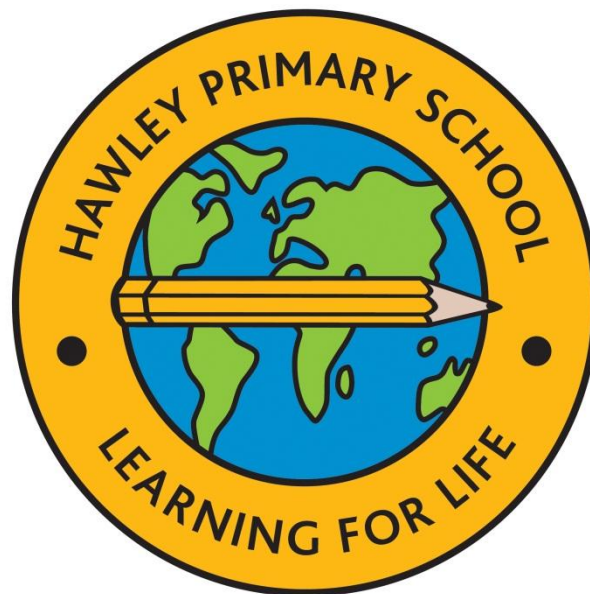


HAWLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL



High Attainers and Talented Children

AGREED BY HEATEACHER: Spring 2026

LATEST REVIEW: Spring 2026

NEXT REVIEW: Spring 2028

HAWLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

POLICY FOR HIGH ATTAINING AND TALENTED CHILDREN

RATIONALE

As identified in the National Curriculum 2014, teachers must 'set high expectations for every pupil' and 'plan stretching work for children whose attainment is significantly above the expected standards'. We recognise that at any time Hawley Primary School may have children whose performance or potential is significantly greater than that of their peers. These children may be identified as 'High Attaining' children or 'Talented' children, and we have the responsibility to meet the needs of all. Our policy endeavours to ensure are learners are appropriately and effectively provided for through the teaching and learning approaches at school.

AIMS

At Hawley Primary School we aim to:

- Create a learning climate in which everyone is valued and individual differences are celebrated.
- Identify children with abilities, gifts and talents at the earliest possible time in order to provide appropriately for their learning needs.
- Provide appropriate challenge through high quality enriching tasks which grow from the topic being studied.
- Ensure planning is sufficiently flexible to enable adaptations and changes to be made to meet the needs of the learner.
- Provide a variety of approaches and strategies to ensure all children are stimulated and engage enthusiastically in their learning – to include ability grouping, a cross-curricular creative curriculum, individual or group projects, opportunities for children to take the lead and a variety of teaching/learning styles
- Encourage independence through the tasks provided.
- Encourage participation in wider school activities such as School Council, Eco Chiefs group, sports and musical events, dance competitions etc.
- Use assessment to inform planning for individual needs.
- Encourage self evaluation.
- Provide stimulating resources to engage the learner.
- Celebrate success and achievements.
- Monitor provision through lesson observation and pupil progress meetings to ensure practice and provision is constantly improving.

DEFINITIONS

At Hawley Primary School the following definitions have been agreed in relation to children considered to be Most Able, Gifted and Talented:

A High Attaining pupil can:

- Achieve or can achieve at a significantly higher level of ability than most children of the same age group within Maths, Writing and Reading.
- Demonstrate the characteristics of learning consistently
- Demonstrate high level interpersonal skills
- Demonstrate high order leadership skills
- Present their creative thinking or practical skills

A Talented Child is one who:

- Excels or who has the potential to excel in one or more creative or expressive art or sport such as Art, Design, Music, RE, PE or Performing Arts.

IDENTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT

A wide range of strategies can be used in the identification of able children. The identification process is continuous and is evaluated as appropriate to the needs of the children. All staff have a crucial role in identifying children, as information is gathered from a variety of sources. Identification of able children is undertaken through staff meeting time and pupil progress discussions as well as through ongoing liaison between staff and the High Attainers and Talented Lead at Hawley.

Strategies used to identify children include:

- Teacher nomination following teacher's assessment or standard of vocabulary used during class discussions
- Teaching Assistant recognition
- Test results
- Wider school community enrichment activities, including clubs which promote creativity and performing arts
- Children' work
- Pupil conferencing
- Identification of Learning Characteristics
- Information provided by Parents

Assessment used to identify children include:

- Teacher observation
- Teaching Assistant observations
- Benchmark tests – end of KS tests
- Enjoy increased challenge – open ended tasks for ongoing assessment
- Ability to problem solve
- Conversations and questioning: be highly motivated and quick to respond
- Book scrutiny
- Response from external agencies

Once a pupil is identified, the Lead will work alongside the Class Teacher to validate the nomination and assessment data. The child is then placed on the school's register for High Attainers and Talented children. Children identified on the High Attainers register are discussed as part of the school's pupil progress meetings to ensure they are continuing to demonstrate skills and characteristics required to remain a High Attainer.

CURRICULUM ORGANISATION AND PLANNING FOR LEARNING

At Hawley Primary School we believe that the organisation of the school's curriculum is crucial in ensuring all children are interested and engaged learners and are given the life skills they need for the future. Our school curriculum is therefore organised to provide cross-curricular learning opportunities and delivered as a comprehensive creative curriculum.

Informed by Arbor, teachers are expected to plan for the wide range of abilities in their classes and to offer extension and enrichment opportunities for those children identified on the High Attainers and Talented register. Planning is monitored by the High Attaining and Talented Lead and the Leadership Team to ensure children's needs are being met and to support teachers where necessary.

All learners remain in the classroom working alongside their peers and supported by the Lead as appropriate. Some extended activities, such as work with other children across other schools, group projects or challenge competitions, take place off the school site where appropriate.

IN THE CLASSROOM

In the classroom, we consider the learning environment carefully to ensure it is conducive to the learning needs of individual children. We encourage learners to contribute to class discussions and debates where creative, original ideas are celebrated. Through effective assessment for learning, teachers prepare resources designed to stretch and challenge all learners. Creative task design and lesson structure provides learners with new and dynamic learning opportunities where higher order thinking skills are accessed, and independence is promoted.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES & INCLUSION

Our aim is to provide equal opportunities across all aspects of the curriculum for all children. The needs of each child are considered when planning the curriculum to ensure an inclusive environment so that each child reaches his/her potential.

THE ROLE OF THE HIGH ATTAINING AND TALENTED CHILDREN LEAD

The role and responsibilities of the Coordinator for High Attaining and Talented Children are:

- To advise and keep staff informed of changes in current practice – school level, local LA level and national level;
- To liaise with class teachers to be able to establish the school's register for High Attaining and Talented Children;
- To assist teachers with day-to-day planning for use in the classroom;
- To monitor assessments carried out by teachers and provide ongoing support with matching provision;
- To ensure information is shared with parents during parent consultation meetings to explain how their child's needs are being met.
- To analyse data and liaise with teachers and the Leadership Team to keep Senior Leaders informed of overall pupil progress – results, identified issues, impact of work undertaken with individuals and groups etc.
- To liaise with external agencies to provide extended learning opportunities for children on the register.
- To ensure appropriate resources are available – resources for teachers to use in the classroom, assessment materials, etc.
- Maintain and develop assessment systems in accordance with Staff agreements on assessment;
- To organise and lead training for all staff to ensure all staff are informed and effective in planning effectively for children in their class.
- To conduct pupil conferencing with children on the school's High Attaining and Talented register to ensure they understand how they are challenged and supported to achieve.
- To monitor the policy for Most Able and Gifted and Talented Children and how effective the policy is in meeting pupil's needs.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The Policy for High Attaining and Talented Children and related practices will be monitored and evaluated by the Coordinator and the Leadership Team to ensure procedures and processes are maintained and developed appropriately for the benefit of the children.