

# More Able Children at St John's College School

St John's seeks to foster the individual aptitudes and meet the individual needs of each child, irrespective of ability. The school is committed to discovering the gifts and talents of each child and to helping each child discover that he or she has a gift or talent in some or many areas.

We use the term 'more able' to refer to children who are performing at the top of the cohort in any single area of the curriculum or across a range of areas.

St John's is also aware of the value and significance of **social and moral talents**, of the importance of developing these and of the contribution they make to the overall welfare and well-being of a class and of the school as a whole.

## **Responsibilities**

Identifying, making provision for and monitoring the needs of all the more able children is the responsibility of all staff. All teaching staff have a responsibility to ensure that all children are being adequately challenged by, for example, extension tasks or opportunities to perform.

The Director of Studies, in conjunction with Heads of Department and Heads of Year as appropriate, is responsible for the implementation of the school's policy, including managing the identification of and provision for the more able children, developing resources and maintaining and communicating an awareness of national developments.

## **Aims**

The School's aims for the more able children are the same as those for any others, as set out above.

We are aware that gifts and talents may reveal themselves in widely differing ways in different children and are

The more able children may be rapid, efficient learners, with a high capacity to integrate new knowledge and with exceptional powers of synthesis and analysis. They may have some or many of the following positive learning qualities, characteristics and attitudes:

- ability to perceive analogies and to think laterally
- interest in abstract, conceptual thinking
- aptitude for inductive and deductive reasoning
- intellectual flexibility
- strength in problem solving and collaborative learning
- socially very well developed
- at ease with open-ended questioning
- intellectual maturity beyond their years



Schools Festival' competition. Children with talents in drama also have opportunities to take part in poetry evenings and reading in Chapel.

- x Lighting and sound: a specialist works with children backstage for each drama production to develop their understanding of lighting and sound and this is especially good for developing the abilities of