



JUNIOR SCHOOL

EXCELLENCE, ENRICHMENT & EXTENSION POLICY

1. Definitions

We use the term Excellence & Enrichment because our programme is designed to inspire excellence for all pupils and seeks to enrich the education of our boys by providing relevant, stimulating and challenging opportunities beyond the traditional curriculum.

2. Aims and Objectives

The Junior School Excellence, Enrichment & Extension Policy has been drawn up in accordance with the College aims.

The Dulwich College aims are:

- To offer an academic challenge which enables each child to realise his potential
- To create an environment which promotes an independent work ethic and encourages all pupils to acquire a love of learning
- To provide a wide range of sporting, cultural and adventurous activities for pupils where they can learn to work co-operatively and take a lead.
- To nurture a supportive community which encourages a sense of social responsibility and spiritual and personal development
- To ensure that pupils from a variety of backgrounds can feel secure and equally valued.

Specifically, our aims for our Excellence, Enrichment & Extension Programmes are as follows:

- To provide an appropriate academic challenge, which enables each pupil to realise his full potential.
- To enable our pupils to work at a high cognitive level.
- To provide relevant and meaningful challenges which require deep thinking and creative learning.
- To provide our pupils with the opportunity to develop and extend specific skills or talents.
- To support pupils' interests and talents through a varied and enriching extra-curricular programme.

2. Provision for gifted and talented pupils

Our excellence & Enrichment programme includes our provision for Gifted & Talented Pupils We avoid 'labelling' gifted or talented pupils, preferring to use the term high ability. We do not single them out, or use this label to the pupils or to their parents as our ethos is inclusion, offering opportunity for all.

However, for clarity, where the terms gifted and talented are used, they can be defined as follows:

- 'Gifted' identifies pupils who have very high cognitive abilities, which will usually manifest themselves in one or more academic subjects in the school curriculum.
- 'Talented' identifies pupils as those who have exceptional abilities in areas other than the academic. These will generally be in areas such as art and design, music, performing arts such as dance or drama, or sport.

3. Identification of gifted and talented pupils

Pupils are not labelled Gifted and Talented but all teachers are aware of the most able learners in the groups they teach as a result of:

- Observing boys systematically in a range of learning contexts, both within and outside the classroom, to identify those who demonstrate advanced cognitive skills or abilities.
- Identifying pupils' with high scores in standardised tests.
- Using internal and external benchmarks to determine whether boys are significantly achieving beyond the attainment level expected for their age e.g. in music exams, local and national tournaments and competitions.

4. Strategies for teaching.

Strategies for teaching the more able in the classroom include:

- Ability grouping across the year group in Maths.
- Extension Maths lessons with TGAG
- Extension English set in Y6
- Ability grouping within the classroom.
- Differentiated work, but with an element of pupil choice- so that there is no ceiling.
- Open ended activities, challenges and thinking skills within lessons and homework to promote independent thinking, deep learning and the opportunity for pupils to extend their own learning.
- Extension activities that will challenge, stimulate and stretch the pupils.

Revised May 2017

To be reviewed May 2019

Strategies for the talented include:

- Specialist one to one teaching e.g. Music lessons
- Specialist coaching e.g. for sport or chess.
- The opportunity to join a group of older children to extend their talent e.g. a music group or orchestra.
- Competitive activities such as Quizzes, matches, competitions or graded exams e.g. in Music and chess. Submitting pupils' Art work to exhibitions and competitions.

Excellence and Enrichment Provision

We are an inclusive school and we encourage a growth mind set. We offer a programme of Excellence and Enrichment to stimulate, challenge and extend our most able pupils, but these opportunities are open to all 'to have a go.'

Extension and enrichment activities are built into schemes of work. All pupils will be encouraged to tackle these challenges and given the opportunity to strive for excellence. House competitions and other co-curricular activities such as Quiz Club challenges and the National Primary Maths challenge provide further opportunities for the most able pupils. We are increasingly offering specific activities designed to offer more opportunities.

Excellence and Enrichment Opportunities

1. **Philosophy and Current Affairs** are recent additions to the timetable (from September 2017) and these lessons are structured to develop deeper questioning and thinking skills through enquiry.
2. **Activities in the classroom** specifically designed to enrich and extend curriculum subjects, such as projects, model making, presentations, research questions, problem solving and experiments.
3. **Trips, visitors, workshops, performances** and concerts that support curriculum topics and enrich the pupils' experience. These are carefully chosen for each year group to enrich the pupils' learning experience.
4. **The Symposium**- this is an annual themed day in conjunction with the girls from JAPS. The children take part in a series of workshops throughout the day on the two school sites. Sessions are run by staff from both Junior and Senior Schools with some external providers. The activities promote creative, cognitive, mathematical, scientific and philosophical thinking through an exciting day of discovery.
5. **The annual 'Dulwich' week**, in conjunction with the Senior School. This is a themed week where a huge range of activities is offered across the age range. Since its introduction the themes have included Dulwich Creative, Dulwich Scientific, Dulwich linguistic, and in November 2017 Dulwich Political. Junior School pupils participate in Senior School events and have JS specific activities as well, throughout the week.

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6. **The Year 6 post exam curriculum.** From January 2018 the year 6 Curriculum will be revised to offer a cross curricular approach with a theme. The aim of this is to foster free learning, critical thinking, creativity and independence. We will encourage the boys to make choices about their learning; to try different methods of researching and presenting their findings. They will produce projects that might include extended writing, oral and visual presentations, models, and art work. The learning process will be just as important as the end product. We want them to ask questions such as, 'how', 'why,' 'what if,' and to take their questions from the initial starting point to a deeper level. This will culminate in an exhibition at the end of the year for parents and visitors.
7. **Themed days-** these will be introduced from Lent term 2018. These will offer days off timetable where pupils are offered a wide range of activities in school to enrich their learning. Initially these will be based on units of work in the humanities but may be extended to other subjects.

8. Celebrating Excellence and Enrichment

We celebrate excellence and enrichment through:

- Our rewards system, in particular the Head's award.
- Inclusion of examples of work in each year group's Excellence and Enrichment portfolio
- Photographs of all aspects of excellent and enrichment activities around the school, in the weekly newsletter to parents, the Junior Alleynian and on the school website.

8. The Role of the Excellence & Enrichment Coordinator

The role of the Excellence & Enrichment Coordinator is:

- To take the lead on continually developing the excellence and enrichment programme.
- To support staff in including excellence, enrichment and extension activities in their planning and teaching.
- To provide resources and ideas for staff to use in their teaching.
- To provide staff INSET.
- To coordinate the excellence and enrichment portfolios in conjunction with the year group coordinators.
- To keep abreast of new initiatives and ideas.

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