

SPARKLE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST



ORCHARDS INFANT & JUNIOR SCHOOL

POLICY FOR ELO



REVIEWED SEPTEMBER 2026



1. Rationale/Vision

At Orchards Infant & Junior School we celebrate the individual diversity of all children in our care and recognise the need to provide equal opportunity for all our pupils, whatever their abilities (see Equal Opportunities Policy).

We are committed to empowering all our children to achieve their intellectual, social, physical, creative and emotional potential.

We believe that it is the entitlement of all our children to receive an educational experience based on high expectations that stimulate, extend and challenge them.

We appreciate the need for a differentiated curriculum which facilitates and enables all pupils, including our most able pupils, to achieve excellence and feel challenged and fulfilled.

Giftedness can be described as the capacity to achieve high levels of expertise or performance. In childhood this could be thought of as 'expertise in its development phase'.

Giftedness is developmental and is developed through appropriate opportunities and support. Direct intervention can reverse the effect of socio-economic disadvantage or other lack of support.

2. Definition

Extended Learning Opportunities apply to those pupils who excel, or are capable of excelling, in academic or creative subjects and who are ahead of their year group (or with the potential to develop those abilities).

Pupils may also exhibit strengths in interpersonal, spiritual or intrapersonal thinking.

3. Identification

We aim to identify all pupils with outstanding potential through:

- Nomination by Parent/Carers
- Close liaison with Previous School
- Teacher assessment and observation (including testing, tracking, peer and self-nomination)

Pupils with exceptional ability will be identified as EG+T, and a plan will be created for the individual child and then is communicated each year to ensure continued progress.

4. Responsibility

Governors:

- The allocation of necessary funding from the school budget as appropriate

Headteacher:

- Strategic management of provision through the School Improvement Plan
- Allocation of necessary funding from the school budget
- Facilitation of clear communication and agreement amongst staff re G&T pupils and Extended Learning Opportunities offered

Learning Leader:

- Ensure the strategic direction of provision for Extended Learning Opportunities
- Act as an advocate for the needs of Extended Learning Opportunities pupils
- Ensure that Extended Learning Opportunities pupils receive appropriate recognition, support and challenge throughout the school
- Establish effective relationships with the wider learning community to provide opportunities for Extended Learning Opportunities pupils to extend their learning

Class Teachers:

- Act as facilitators to learning. They provide a carefully planned series of learning opportunities which should be personalised, consistent and sequential
- Provide opportunities for pupils to work within cross-year groupings, to appropriate levels
- Establish clear learning objectives and ensure that planning provides opportunities for pupils to reflect on their progress
- Encourage learners to be empowered by their learning experience. They will be engaged and develop an independent learning style which allows them to set their own learning challenges
- Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of teaching and learning
- Understand the range of support required. Teachers will provide support for all G&T pupils, including able achievers, those with multiple exceptionality and pupils from culturally diverse backgrounds.
- Plan ELO external learning trips and identify which G+T pupils should attend
- Encourage G&T pupils to attend appropriate extra-curricular activities e.g. sports clubs

5. Provision

Identification and provision will not only be directed towards supporting pupils who have already shown themselves as able, but also towards providing regular opportunities for new talent to emerge.

Attention will be paid to identifying pupils with dual exceptionality, e.g. EAL, SEN, LAC. Staff will review identification procedures to ensure various groups within the school are accurately represented.

Pupils with exceptional ability will be encouraged to identify further areas of development through EG+T action plan.

Overall provision for Extended Learning Opportunities learners will be made within school and through the local G+T school network. It will however be firmly established within the classroom.

In Class

Planning:

- Able children are catered for in our class planning by differentiation
- Where appropriate, G+T pupils will be challenged through enrichment/extension activities
- Teachers consider and plan for different learning styles, and set high expectations for our G+T pupils. The aim is to provide intellectual challenge through the quality expected and challenge of the work
- Provide opportunities for interdependent and independent working
- Developing thinking skills which incorporates problem solving, decision making, analysis, synthesis, speculation and evaluation
- Plan for in-depth topic days, specific modules of work, homework projects and ELO trips

Enrichment and Extension:

- Lesson planning will make provision for extension (broaden understanding) and enrichment (increase depth of understanding) activities
- Independent and interdependent learning is encouraged
- Higher order thinking and questioning is integral to lesson planning
- Pupils will have opportunities to work in a variety of learning environments, these will include accelerated learning sets, cross-age interest groups and cross-curricular projects
- Encourage pupils to use their initiative, formulate questions and solve problems to enhance and develop their higher order thinking skills

Out of Class

- A full range of after school clubs is offered, these cover a range of opportunities. They are managed by teaching staff and teaching assistants
- The Infant & Junior Governors act as a school council and are involved in formulating and influencing school policy
- School productions throughout the year provide opportunities for pupils to develop skills of performance, production and management. These include the Annual Arts Festival, Move IT, Christmas Concert and Summer Dramatic Performance
- Residential trips occur in all year groups and provide opportunities for pupils to develop areas of interest, social skills and team work
- Sporting opportunities are provided through a range of coaching schemes. These enrich individual talent and encourage identification of potential ability
- Leadership opportunities have been developed in the school to allow pupils with sporting, IT, language and cooking talents to take a lead through becoming a Sports Leader, Head and Deputy boy and girl, Prefects, Media Team Member, Young Interpreter or Little Chef

6. Monitoring and Evaluation

- Ensure marking and feedback are appropriate for each pupils ability
- Pupils reflect on their own targets and are involved in designing their own targets and tasks
- Regular progress reviews conducted twice during the academic year
- Enrichment opportunities will be evaluated by both staff and pupils
- Provision for Extended Learning Opportunities will be monitored through lesson observations and scrutiny of lesson planning