



Tuition, Medical and Behaviour Support Service

Most Able Students Policy

Adopted:	24 January 2019
Reviewed:	April 2025
Next Review:	April 2026
Governing Committee:	24 January 2019
Responsibility:	Lisa Bloomer

Principles

At TMBSS we believe that all students should be given the opportunity to achieve their full potential. For this principle to be fulfilled, we need to have the highest expectations of the most able students and challenge and support them sufficiently.

For the purpose of this policy students exceeding age related expectations and those predicted to achieve grades 7 -9 in their GCSE examinations will be classified as the most able students.

'The DfE published guidance in 2013 on alternative provision (AP), which is applicable to PRUs. In paragraph 30, it says:

All pupils must receive a good education, regardless of their circumstances or the settings in which they find themselves.

It says that while provision will differ between pupils, there are some common elements that AP should aim to achieve. These include:

Good academic attainment on par with mainstream schools, particularly in English, maths and science (including ICT), with appropriate accreditation and qualifications. That the specific personal, social and academic needs of pupils are properly identified and met in order to help them to overcome any barriers to attainment.' (The Key: 22 November 2016)

At TMBSS we pride ourselves with the fact that we offer a wider and broader curriculum which exceeds the minimum requirements outline by the DfE published guidance in 2013.

The leadership team at TMBSS are determined to improve standards for all students and have high expectations for the most able students and their families.

The senior leadership team at TMBSS have high expectations of the teachers and support staff to deliver quality first teaching, to deliver an appropriate and challenging curriculum and to instil ambition in the most able students.

Aims:

- To instil in our most able students the confidence and high ambition to achieve their potential while at TMBSS and beyond.
- To provide an appropriate and challenging curriculum to the most able students.
- To ensure, from early on, that students know what opportunities are open to them and develop the confidence to make the most of these.
- To engage more effectively with the parents or carers of our most able students to help them to overcome cultural barriers to attending higher education.

How we intend to fulfil our aims:

- The governors and senior leadership team will strive to recruit highly qualified and committed staff and deploy them as specialists;
- Identify the most able students at the earliest opportunity so that an appropriate and challenging curriculum can be tailored to meet their needs;
- Provide flexibility in the curriculum, allowing the most able students to be challenged and extended;
- Ensure the quality of teaching, learning and assessment of the most able students;
- Regularly check on progress and identify any slippage early, this will enable interventions to be put into place quickly;
- Provide purposeful homework where appropriate in line with the homework policy;
- The senior leadership team will conduct regular monitoring checks, including lesson observations, work scrutiny, analyses of data and reviews of teachers' planning;
- Provide support and guidance for the most able students, particularly when they were choosing subjects and preparing for further education and eventually university;
- Give the parents and carers of the most able students better and more frequent information about what their children should achieve and raise their expectations where necessary;
- Provide ongoing support to the students and their families to ensure smooth transition to their next destination.

Bibliography

(The Key: 22 November 2016) Curriculum provision and teaching hours in student referral units. Ref: 6367)

<https://schoolleaders.thekeysupport.com/curriculum-and-learning/curriculum-guidance-all-phases/structuring-curriculum/the-curriculum-in-student-referral-units-prus/?marker=full-search-q-student%20referral%20units%20curriculum%20requirements-result-1>)

Ofsted's Chief Inspector, Sir Michael Wilshaw, comments on the most able students, saying that there is still too much talent going to waste. Published 10 June 2016. (<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/hmcis-monthly-commentary-june-2016>)