Gifted and Talented Education Policy

Definition:
- Gifted individuals are those who show a distinctively above average level of natural aptitude in one or more areas of human ability such as intellectual, creative, social and physical.
- Talented individuals are those students whose skills are distinctively above average in one or more areas of human performance.

Rationale:
- All students have a right to develop to their full potential. Under this policy, O’Loughlin Catholic College is committed to giving its gifted and talented students the opportunity to develop their special gifts or talents through opportunities within the school curriculum or its extra curricula programs.

Policy:
- O’Loughlin Catholic College shall, to the best of its ability, identify and provide learning opportunities for gifted and talented students within its curricula and extra curricula programs.

Aims:
- To identify students who are gifted or talented and to ensure that the school responds to, and provides for their individual needs.
- To provide an educational culture where all levels of giftedness and talent are valued and promoted.

Implementation:
- Appoint staff skilled in identifying and responding to students with special talents to coordinate the school’s gifted and talented students’ program. This is to be a collaborative effort between individual teachers, Heads of Faculty (HoF) and the Director of Pedagogy and Curriculum (Dtr P&C).
- Develop strategies to identify any students entering the College who show gifted or talented qualities. It is recommended that this be completed by week 4 of Term 1 each year.
- Provide educators with professional support to assist gifted and talented students in their classes.
- A variety of identification tools should be utilised to identify students of above average ability, which may include input from teachers, parents, peers, students and professional consultants.
- In our school gifted learners will be taught in mainstream classes using a differentiated program. The higher the level of giftedness, the greater the need for support structures to assist both the learner and the teacher. Additional programs or withdrawal programs are to be approved by the Dtr P&C.
- Gifted students programs and activities outside the classroom will also be provided to enhance and extend the educational program of individual students.
- A budget for a ‘Gifted and Talented Students program’ will be allocated. The coordinator shall consult with HoFs, Dtr of P&C, classroom teachers and program support group members to prioritise the spending.
- Staff professional development needs will be ascertained annually to ensure individual differences in our students are identified and catered for as best we can.

Evaluation:
This policy was ratified by the College Executive and Advisory Board in... September 2016
This policy is due for review in... September 2019