



## Our Commitment to Quality Gifted Education

A guiding principle of Catholic Education is to meet the needs of all students in an inclusive Catholic setting. Our Catholic Worldview celebrates the unique "gifts" that each of us have been given.

The "Gifted Education Statement for the Broken Bay Diocesan School System" was developed to support school communities in their response to educating gifted students in an inclusive setting. It includes detailed support documents for schools outlining identification and differentiation processes for gifted/high ability students K-12.

The Catholic Schools Office also supports parents by:

- providing information on the Diocesan Parent Council website
- facilitating parent information sessions and workshops
- attending meetings with schools

## Further Information

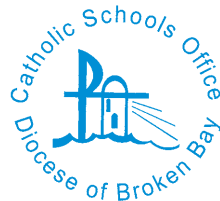
Catholic Schools Office Diocese of Broken Bay  
<http://www.csodbb.catholic.edu.au>

Broken Bay Diocesan Parent Council  
<http://www.brokenbayparentcouncil.com>

NSWAGTC  
NSW Association for Gifted & Talented Children  
<http://www.nswagtc.org.au>

GERRIC  
Gifted Education Research Resource and Information Centre  
<http://gerric.arts.unsw.edu.au>

The CSO Broken Bay has a designated Education Officer to support gifted/ high ability students K-12 across the Diocese.



### Catholic Schools Office

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# Gifted Education

A GUIDE FOR PARENTS

# Who are the Gifted/High Ability students?

**Gifted/high ability** students are those who display quick comprehension of complex ideas, ease and speed of learning and abstract thinking.

These students also display natural ability in at least one domain (eg. academic, creative, sporting, social) which places them in approximately the top 10% of age peers.

**Talented** students are high ability students who also display other characteristics such as volition, self-direction, effort and perseverance. These students are performing in at least one domain (eg. academic, creative, sporting, social) which places them in approximately the top 10% of age peers.

It is important to note that giftedness/high ability can be represented in degree (differing levels) and kind (differing types).

Gifted/high ability students are found across all cultures and socio-economic backgrounds and are considered unique with their own abilities, needs and personal context.



*Giftedness* is about who I am, not just about what I can do.

## Identification

Information can be collected from a wide range of sources that assists in building up a picture of a student's strengths and talents in areas of both academic and social-emotional needs.

- Parents - particularly in early identification of giftedness
- School based and external assessments
- Anecdotal records – eg. Interview notes
- Identification checklists and rating scales
- IQ Assessments

## Giftedness is complex

Families, schools and society in general require a realistic understanding, acceptance and respect for differences amongst gifted individuals such as learning style, ability, gender, culture, and interests.

# Gifted Education in the Diocese of Broken Bay

Our Diocesan Catholic Community recognises that gifted students have particular learning needs.

Gifted students learn differently and therefore require a differentiated program to ensure that they are learning at a level that challenges and extends them and provides flexible pathways.

## School strategies may include:

- Differentiated curriculum
- Extension tasks
- Enrichment programs
- Acceleration
- Online learning
- Extra-curricular activities
- External support from the CSO
- Professional Learning for teachers

## Catholic educational communities foster learning by establishing:

- Effective home school partnerships
- Regular communication with parents and caregivers about student progress and achievement
- A range of connections for parents to learn more about gifted/high ability students