



GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION PROGRAMME PREPARATORY SCHOOL AND JUNIOR SCHOOL

The Trinity Grammar School **Gifted and Talented** education programme is designed to meet the learning requirements of intellectually gifted and talented boys. It reflects one of our core education principles "to develop each boy's academic ability to the full." The aim is to provide for academic excellence and cater for the needs of the individual.

Gifted and talented boys have many opportunities to develop within the academic programme at Trinity. At the Preparatory and Junior Schools, boys are offered opportunities to extend their learning through the open-ended, inquiry based global approach to learning in the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme. This framework for delivering curriculum provides a natural pathway to appropriate curriculum differentiation. Students encounter learning experiences that are engaging, relevant, challenging and significant, in learning environments that are stimulating and provocative. Students are encouraged to be curious and inquisitive, to ask questions, explore and interact with the environment physically, socially and intellectually. Students are supported in their quest for mastery and control on their journey to becoming independent, autonomous learners.

In addition, a number of enrichment strategies exist for gifted and talented learners. Classes from Year 2 to Year 6 are grouped for the Number strand in Mathematics and Reading/Literature groups in English according to academic need. The opportunity to extend and enrich learners is a key goal within the units of inquiry undertaken at each year level.

At Trinity the opportunity exists to accelerate students identified with exceptional ability where appropriate. This is a process of investigation with the family and School working together towards the best educational outcomes for the student.

The academic provision for gifted and talented students complements the extensive opportunities offered to boys in the co-curricular programmes, which recognises that gifts and talents are not just restricted to the classroom. Students have the opportunity to develop in the Creative and Performing Arts, Debating, Chess, Music, Leadership and Peer Support. Furthermore, there is a Sporting Programme that caters for talented boys across a range of individual and team sports.

Identifying Gifted and Talented Boys at Trinity

Our identification process is based on current research in the field of gifted education and is multifaceted. We use a variety of methods to better understand the learning needs of the individual. The process is ongoing, supporting boys who develop at different rates. Some of the identification methods include:

- Standardised Aptitude Tests
- Standardised Achievement Tests
- Records of Achievement
- Teacher and parent information
- Independent Psychometric Testing where appropriate

Pathways

The Gifted and Talented academic programme provides different avenues for boys to achieve their potential.

A PYP classroom is a reflective and intelligent place where thoughtful consideration of issues, problems and successes is valued highly. Easy options are seldom sought within the classroom environment and expectations are high. It is an environment in which learning knows no limits. Learners are on a journey, which in the primary years culminates in The Exhibition where students demonstrate engagement with the five essential elements of the programme: knowledge, concepts, skills, attitudes and action.

To complement this, each campus has a trained teacher assigned to work with gifted and talented boys and their teachers, to ensure that their needs are catered for within the academic programme.

In the disciplinary academic approach in the Middle and Senior Schools, Trinity continues to provide gifted students with significant opportunities to be extended. **Year 7** has Honours classes in Core Subjects and from **Year 8 to 10** students have two pathways in an Extension Class or Honours Classes in individual subjects. **In Years 11 and 12** the breadth of curriculum for the HSC, the International Baccalaureate Diploma and the Trinity Enterprise Education Programme enable boys to choose the right pathway for their particular gifts and talents and prepare them for their future academic or career opportunities post school.



Gifted Education Teachers

Mrs Suzanne Floro (Junior School) and Ms Lorraine Sammut (Preparatory School) are both highly respected Gifted Education teachers who oversee and monitor the academic, social and emotional needs of our gifted and talented boys in the primary years.

The Practice of Teaching at Trinity programme (POTT), focusing on developing effective and innovative teaching methodology of academic staff, enables the School to provide learning experiences that meet the needs of gifted and talented boys. Experienced and dedicated teaching staff are at the core of providing educational experiences through curriculum differentiation and extension.

Additionally, Professional development for members of the primary teaching staff in the field of differentiation and provision for gifted students is highly encouraged and opportunities have been provided for staff to increase their knowledge and skills. A number of staff members have pursued further qualifications in this area with the full Certificate of Gifted Education or the Mini-COGE professional development workshop series.

Contact Details

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