

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE NO. 212

GIFTED EDUCATION

Background

The Red Deer Catholic Regional Division, in recognition of the responsibility for the education of students with special needs, will identify general intellectually able students as gifted and talented and will provide appropriate differentiated programming in meeting their cognitive and affective needs.

Definition

Alberta Education's definition of giftedness supports seven abilities each requiring identification and programming options, (Alberta Education Book 7, GT.17). The Division has chosen to consider general intellectual ability as its target gifted and talented population. Being cognizant of resources that are available to our Division, it was determined that intellectually able students will be the first to be identified. The definition is:

General Intellectually able students will be considered for gifted and talented identification and programming, with the understanding that exceptional potential and/or performance in this area will be acknowledged.

Procedures

1. The Principal will ensure that gifted education services are an integral part of the school program.
2. Target Grade Levels
 - 2.1. Specific programming options will be provided to students in pre-kindergarten to grade 9.
 - 2.2. Classroom based enrichment and differentiated instruction will be encouraged for all students.
 - 2.3. School based enrichment opportunities may be available at specific school sites, dependent on site-based decisions.
3. Identification of Students (Grade 3 – 9)

The identification process may include:

 - 3.1. Teacher Referral Package
 - 3.2. Parent questionnaire and referral package
 - 3.3. Canadian Test of Cognitive Skills results or a similar cognitive assessment battery.

4. Identification of Children (ECS Programs)
 - age of eligibility for funding ECS children is 3 years 6 months.
 - 4.1. Parent referral package including developmental questionnaire.
 - 4.2. Checklist of the Characteristics of Giftedness
 - a guide but not definitive measure of giftedness, assists in identifying students who are talented in different domains.
 - 4.3. Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test (Fourth edition)
 - 4.4. Test of Early Reading Ability (Third edition)

5. Programming

Red Deer Catholic Regional Division identified children may access inclusive programming through:

 - Pre-kindergarten (4 years of age by December 31)
 - Kindergarten (5 years of age by December 31)
 - 5.1. Pull-out programs
 - 5.2. Inclusive Strategies incorporated within the classroom, which could include any of the following:
 - 5.2.1. Compacting
 - 5.2.2. Tiered assignments
 - 5.2.3. Independent projects
 - 5.2.4. Interest centres/groups
 - 5.2.5. Flexible skills grouping
 - 5.2.6. Differentiated learning
 - 5.3. On-Line Learning for grades 4 – 9 math
 - available through St. Gabriel's Cyber School for students meeting criteria for above grade level learning.

6. IPP's

Children and students who have been identified as gifted and talented, coded 80 and receive programming, require an Individualized Program Plan (IPP). IPP's are working documents that are carefully planned and implemented by the parent(s), teacher(s) and other related educational personnel.

Reference: Alberta Education Policy 1.6.1 & 1.6.2
 Alberta Education Book 7