Statement

MacKillop Catholic College is committed to a holistic Catholic education which is student centred. Catholic educators have a pastoral responsibility to cater for the individual needs of all students. Gifted and talented students have specific academic needs and often have social and emotional needs. Without regular encounters with challenging material, gifted students fail to learn how to meet cognitive and academic challenges and have problems developing the study skills and confidence they need for future academic pursuits. Gospel values and principles of equity require that gifted students are identified and given the appropriate specific educational access necessary to help them achieve their potential.

Therefore, MacKillop Catholic College recognises that gifted and talented students have a right to, and will endeavour to provide, appropriate opportunities, stimulation and experiences to develop their potential and satisfy their learning needs.

Definition

**GIFTED** students: Those with the potential to perform at a level of considerably superior to their age peers in one or more areas of endeavour (Gagne, 1985).

**TALENTED** students: Those who show significantly superior achievement or performance in one or more areas of endeavour (Gagne, 1985).

Guidelines

1. The College will develop a process for identifying gifted and talented students and programs for these students.

2. The College will include all students in processes for identifying gifted and talented students.

3. The College support of gifted and talented students will encompass their social, emotional and academic needs, to ensure development of the whole student.

4. The College will work in partnership with parents and the community to provide for gifted and talented students.

5. The College will provide professional development opportunities to enable the needs of gifted and talented students to be met.

6. The College will provide the opportunity to advance through the school stages at a rate suited to individual ability, personal maturity and learning outcomes.

7. The College will ensure the needs of gifted students are incorporated into the school’s overall teaching and learning program.

8. The College will designate a contact person responsible for information about the education of gifted and talented students.