



Downe House  
Muscat

## **High Ability Students and Scholarships**

### **Aims**

At Downe House Muscat we are committed to providing a secure and stimulating learning environment for all our students. We value excellence, recognise achievement and celebrate the success and effort of all our children, encouraging strong role models. Our excellent teaching and learning aims to maximise opportunities and develop the children's confidence, so they can challenge themselves and take risks.

Gifted and talented learners are:

"Those children and young people with one or more abilities developed to a level significantly ahead of their year group (or with potential to develop those abilities)."

They can be identified in any year and amount to 7-10% of the school population. Able learners are defined as those who have abilities in one or more subjects in the statutory school curriculum, other than art and design, music and PE.

They have the capacity for, or demonstrate, high levels of performance in an academic area. This also includes children who are leaders or role models and who display outstanding leadership and/or social skills.

### **Identification of High Ability Students**

Identification must also be based on ability, not just on achievement.

High Ability students are identified within the first term from CAT4s, baseline testing and in class observations.

### **Provision for High Ability Students**

At Downe House Muscat the main focus is to improve provision for able students in day-to-day teaching and learning. There are three basic ways of meeting the needs of high ability students: acceleration, enrichment and extension.

Acceleration consists of enabling students to access work which would typically be for older students. This can occur through children collaborating with children in different year group or through simply giving them work which would usually be given to older students.

Enrichment consists of broadening a student's education. This can consist of enabling a student to study aspects of topic that there would not normally be time to study, or it can consist of adding extra subjects to the curriculum.

Extension occurs when students are encouraged to develop more sophisticated thinking and reasoning skills. Opportunities for extension and enrichment are built into all our schemes of work across all curriculum areas.

## **Scholarship**

The Scholarship process goes live in February of each year and is open to applications until the end of the Spring term.

Scholars can be chosen from existing students and new admissions.

## **Process for Review and Development**

School teachers, with the support of the Head of Learning Support are responsible for:

- Updating and reviewing class information on any children identified as gifted or talented
- Ensuring liaison with parents where necessary
- Monitoring provision
- Identification of any suitable mentors for students
- Provision of any necessary resources
- Keeping up to date with information and feeding back to the staff when necessary
- Consulting with the SLT