

**St Monica’s Catholic Primary School**

**Hoxton Square, London N1 6NT.**

**More Able Policy**

**Agreed by the Governing Body on:**

**June 2015**

**Review Date: June 2017**

**Person(s) Responsible**:

**Deputy Headteacher**

**Introduction**

What does St Monica’s mean by ‘More Able?’

Within every school, culture and socio-economic group, one can find pupils with a range of abilities; unique strengths; that places them in the upper-end of the ability range in most of their classes. These pupils are defined as *those children and young people with one or more abilities developed to a level significantly ahead of their year group [or with the potential to develop those abilities]*. Some will reveal their talents at an early age; others may take longer to develop. It is important that we recognize these pupils as individuals, and whilst they may be very able in some areas, they may not be so in others. Schools must ensure that the abilities of more able pupils; particularly those from the most vulnerable groups; are effectively nurtured in order to avoid underachievement. Incidentally, these children could also appear on the Special Educational Needs register for behavioural, social, physical, sensory and/or specific learning difficulties.

**Strategic Goal**

Our main aim is to provide opportunities for children to be given the access and tools to support them in developing their learning, and to accompany them on this journey. To this end, we aim to provide robust and vigorous learning opportunities for more able pupils, creating high levels of intellectual challenge which will ultimately increase performance across the board; lift the aspirations of pupils, teachers and support staff, through the promotion of an environment where working to one’s best is celebrated.

**Consequences**

In implementing this More Able Policy, St Monica’s Catholic Primary School, in partnership with our parents and other stakeholders will consider:

* the unique ways in which learning is experienced by individual pupils.

Therefore, we shall provide opportunities for all pupils identified as ‘more able’ to:

* experience an enriched, personalised curriculum;
* foster their passion for a particular subject or subjects, and facilitate their pursuit of them;
* master rules of a curriculum area easily and transfer their insights to new areas of learning and experiences;
* analyze their own learning behaviour and therefore employ a greater range of learning strategies;
* make connections between different areas of learning;
* produce original and creative responses to problems or challenges;
* actively engage in debate and discussion on particular subjects or topics

**Procedures and Practices**

At St Monica’s Catholic Primary School we shall strive to ensure that identification of more able pupils is a continuous, whole-school process which:

* is fair and transparent;
* does not discriminate against a particular group or groups of children;
* is flexible to include pupils who enrol part way through the academic year, or those who are early or late developers.

Recognizing that children develop at different rates, we shall draw on a wide range of information for identification purposes:

* quantitative data including, but not limited to: test data, results from teacher assessment;
* qualitative information, including but not limited to: staff assessment and nomination, pupil, peer and parent/carer nomination, examples of pupils’ work;
* rate of progress: value-added data, and reference to prior attainment and achievement.

**Experiences and Expectations**

Across the whole school children will be identified and provided experiences including, but not limited to:

* **The Arts:** visual and performing arts including: Hackney Music Festival and Hackney Dance Festival
* **Sports:** in-house, inter-borough and -school activities and competitions
* **Academic pursuit:** debating, mathematics competitions, school magazine
* **Cultural activities:** visits to art galleries and/or museums
* **Out-of-School activities:** visits to places of work; university and secondary school ‘taster days’