

To: Headteacher colleagues

Dear Colleague

Re: Launch of the LEA's Guidance document - Gifted and Talented Pupils - Policy and Procedures.

One of the LEA's major initiatives over the next twelve months is the promotion of the Gifted and Talented Strand of the LEA's Education Development Plan. The Gifted and Talented development represents one of the major planks of the LEA's Inclusion Strategy. This letter is to invite you to a launch of the guidance and to hear views on how we see the strategy developing and for you to contribute to the plans for developing provision in the light of the publication. This will be sent to schools in late February/early March 2003.

I see this work as one of the most important parts of our school improvement strategy and I hope your school will embrace it fully. In essence the strategy is about excellence in teaching and learning, while its focus is on a very broadly defined band of gifted and talented learners its aim is too benefit all learners. I look forward to seeing the impact of the guidance in the coming years.

You, or your deputy, are invited to one of ten launches taking place across the LEA during March and April 2003. We will be following up the launch with an RDA audit of the present Gifted and Talented provision during the summer term. Further advice and training will be available from members of the Advisory Service. I hope you will fully support these developments in your school and I believe it will impact positively on standards across all age ranges and in all schools.

Please return the attached proforma by Monday, 3rd March 2003. If you have any queries about this development please contact Dave Bullard (Senior Adviser and lead officer for Gifted and Talented Developments).

Yours sincerely

Bryan Slater
Director of Education