



# Factsheet: Years K-6 Apollo ProgrAM @ Amaroo School



## What is the Apollo ProgrAM?

The Apollo ProgrAM is Amaroo School's Gifted and Talented Program and is available to students from Kindergarten through to Year 10.

## What does 'gifted' and 'talented' mean?

**Giftedness:** designates the possession and use of outstanding natural abilities, called aptitudes, in at least one ability domain to a degree that places an individual among the 10% of age peers.

**Talent:** designates the outstanding mastery of systematically developed abilities, called competencies (knowledge and skills), in at least one field of human activity to a degree that places an individual at least among the top 10% of age peers who are, or have been, active in that field.

## Why is the program called 'Apollo'?

The name of our program represents the ancient Greek God Apollo, the God of Light and Learning, and therefore, represents literature and the humanities. It also represents the sciences and mathematics, as the name Apollo is associated with the first successful lunar landing. These learning areas represent our program's academic focus on English, Humanities, Science and Mathematics.

## Why does Amaroo School run this program?

The ACT Education Directorate's Gifted and Talented Policy aims to ensure gifted and talented students receive developmentally appropriate provisions and strategies. Research over the past 30 years has indicated that it is important for gifted learners to have the opportunity to work with other students who think like them. When gifted students experience ability groupings, they experience substantial academic gains and improvements in attitude and motivation.

## How does this program work?

The Apollo ProgrAM aims to develop identified students through strategic class placements (clustering of like-minded peers) and differentiation of the curriculum and instruction.

## How do you decide if a student should be in your Apollo ProgrAM?

Our program identifies students through a range of objective and subjective measures which inform our judgement about the most appropriate placements for students' learning.

Students identified for our program will be grouped according to giftedness as well as giftedness and talent (see above for definitions). This is important because we recognise that some students are gifted but do not necessarily demonstrate their talents.

## What programs are available in the Primary School based on the results of this identification?

- o Students identified through external tests and teacher identification in K-2 are clustered with like-minded peers.
- o Primary classes, from Year 3 - Year 6, will be grouped according to giftedness or giftedness and talent in one class or in clusters across mainstream classes.

## How can I find out more?

You can find out more information by contacting:

### William Johnston

Principal - Primary School

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Phone | 02 6142 1266 Fax | 02 6142 1295

Amaroo School | [www.amaroos.act.edu.au](http://www.amaroos.act.edu.au)

Education Directorate | ACT Government

Katherine Avenue, Amaroo ACT, 2914

## **Where can I get further information?**

For further information about gifted and talented education, we encourage you to consult the [ACT Education Directorate's Gifted and Talented Policy](#).

## **Parent Fact Sheets**

[Giftedness refers to a student's outstanding natural abilities or aptitudes](#)

[Myths and Facts](#)

[Social-emotional needs](#)

[Education and Training Directorate](#)

[GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION - Identification](#)

[GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION - Dual Exceptionality](#)

[GIFTED AND TALENTED - Grouping](#)

[GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION - Subject Acceleration](#)

[GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION - Whole Grade Acceleration](#)

[Communicating effectively with schools about meeting the specific learning needs](#)

## **Articles for Parents and the Community**

[How does the debate on learning preferences influence how we plan curriculum for gifted learners?](#)

[Quality Assessment for Gifted Learners](#)

[Understanding the different curriculum needs of gifted learners](#)

[Understanding the Gifted Learners in our Classrooms](#)

[Who are our twice-exceptional learners?](#)

## **Please note:**

Subject acceleration and year level acceleration are rare, however, in some instances, the school may suggest this as an option to cater for the needs of an individual student. This may also be used as a strategy instead of clustering the student with like-minded peers. Students in this situation will have a targeted Individual Learning Plan (ILP).