



Wollongong West Public School Enrichment Program Policy

Rationale:

The Enrichment Program targets students who are highly motivated, conscientious and display academic aptitude. The aim of the program is to provide an atmosphere that is both engaging and highly challenging by using specialised teaching methods and learning environments.

Key Reasons

Enrichment refers to the broadening of the curriculum to a degree of complexity that is suitable to a students' developmental level (Braggett, 1997 in NSW DEC, 2004).

The research indicates that differentiation of the curriculum through modifications of the content, processes or skills is essential to any enrichment program (Van Tassel-Baska, 2000 in NSW DEC, 2004). These modifications assist those who learn at faster rates, act to find or solve problems more readily, or manipulate and connect ideas to an advanced degree (NSW DEC, 2004). By providing an Enrichment Program, students will be provided with more opportunities to participate in learning experiences that meet their intellectual and learning needs.

Selection Process

A comprehensive identification process, comprising of a balance of subjective and objective strategies, has been developed to aid in the selection of the most appropriate students for inclusion in this program.

The selection process for the Enrichment Program involves:

- Identification of actual and potential achievements recognised through formative, summative and diagnostic assessment provided by the school and external sources
- Recommendation by a classroom teacher
- Positive attitudes exhibited by the student towards learning in a self directed and flexible learning space
- Respectful, responsible and safe behaviour within all areas of the school and the community

References:

NSW DEC, 2004, *Policy and implementation strategies of the education of gifted and talented students*, Department of Education and Training, Curriculum K-12 Directorate, Sydney