



Cleeve School, Cheltenham, is the first secondary school in the South West to achieve the prestigious NACE Challenge Award for excellence in provision for able, gifted and talented pupils.

‘At Cleeve School there is a whole school culture that promotes hard work, a pride in one’s own achievements and a belief that hard work will lead to success. There is a delight in learning here and pupils are encouraged to make the most of their abilities.

Pupils show extremely positive attitudes to learning. They speak eloquently of the way in which teachers set challenging learning activities and targets to help them to achieve very high standards. They enjoy the challenge of the fast-track approach within the school and say that being included on the register of able, gifted and talented pupils, “ makes me work harder in all subjects because teachers know what I can achieve.”

Parents believe that the school has, “ encouraged them every step of the way”, has developed a love of learning in their children and has boosted their confidence.

Challenge Award Assessment Report, May 2007

Cleeve School is the first secondary school in the South-West Essex and the twenty-third secondary school in the UK to achieve the prestigious Challenge Award for Able, Gifted and Talented Pupils. This Award is given for high quality work by the whole school, teachers and governors, in challenging all pupils, including those with high abilities, to achieve their best.

The Award is given by NACE: the National Association for Able Pupils, a leading national education organisation and registered charity established for 24 years. The Association exists to help the daily work of teachers providing for pupils with high abilities whilst enabling all pupils to flourish. It provides advice, training and resources for teachers, including The Challenge Award Self-Evaluation Framework which Cleeve School has used to audit and plan what it provides for able, gifted and talented pupils. Many thousands of primary and secondary schools are using The Challenge Award Framework to develop their work.

Assessors, who spent a day in the school, were impressed by the wide range of enrichment and extension activities plus the well-developed self-evaluation and monitoring procedures. Teachers inspire students in many lessons but particular mention must be made of the English and Art Departments.

Assessors judged the quality of the school’s work by observing lessons, interviewing the pupils, teachers, parents and governors and by looking at the pupils’ work. The Award is given when schools demonstrate that they meet the criteria of the Award and are committed to continuing high-quality provision for able, gifted and talented pupils.

Julie Fitzpatrick. Chief Executive. June 2007

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