



**Hanson School is the first school in Bradford to achieve the prestigious NACE Challenge Award for excellence in provision for able, gifted and talented pupils.**

**‘Hanson School is committed to providing well for all its students, including the gifted and talented. Departments throughout the school have effective means to identify high abilities in different subjects and to develop talents in sport, music, drama and art.**

**There is a well established atmosphere of respect in the classroom and in the best lessons the most able students were highly challenged. In drama, for example, students demonstrated a remarkable level of skill. Students enjoy the range of challenging learning opportunities the school provides, such as Chinese and AS Critical Thinking, and working to aspirational targets.**

**A strength of the school is its use of data to track students’ progress and the way in which staff address any underachievement. Parents are encouraged to nominate their children for particular high abilities and there is effective two-way communication with the families.’**

Extract from Challenge Award Assessment Report Nov 2007

Hanson School is the first school in Bradford and the thirty-fourth 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 Children in Education, a leading national education organisation and registered charity established for 25 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 Hanson 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 school’s commitment to gifted and talented education, well supported by the leadership team, effective staffing and long-term financial backing; also the constructive feedback given to students to help them to improve and their ability to lead and develop their own learning.

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.

2008 Julie Fitzpatrick. Chief Executive

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