

for students aspiring to join the Gifted Education Programme (GEP)

Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration!



Thomas Edison

# **GEP Identification Exercise**

# **Factsheet**

Screening Exercise	Selection Exercise
"Round One"	"Round Two"
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Month  • August	Month • October
Candidates  Open to all Primary 3 students	Candidates  • Students shortlisted from the Screening Exercise
Pass Rate  • 10%	Pass Rate  • 10% of the students who were shortlisted of the Selection Exercise (1% of national P3 cohort)
Subjects Tested	Subjects Tested



## **Programme Highlights**



# **English and Mathematics**

Onsite lessons covers both English and Mathematics

90 minutes: English

15 minutes: Break

90 minutes: Mathematics

Online lessons cover English and Mathematics in separate 90 minute sessions



# **General Ability**

- Early exposure to General Ability questions
- Students will learn different strategies and approaches in tackling Verbal and Non-Verbal Reasoning questions
- Verbal Reasoning General Ability questions are covered in the English component while
   Non-Verbal Reasoning General Ability questions are covered in the Mathematics component



# **Skills-Based Learning**

- $\circ$  English
  - Students will learn how to do close reading of narrative and expository texts and analyse comprehension question options
  - Students will learn inference skills to are critical to Comprehension and Cloze exercises
  - Students will learn how to decipher the meanings of words through its constituent parts (morphemes) in structured vocabulary exercises
- Mathematics
  - Students will be exposed to commonly-tested topics and taught efficient methods to tackle each question type
  - Students will learn how to solve novel problems through logical and rational thinking rather than rote learning



## **Engaging Lessons**

- Hands-on activities
- Videos & pop quizzes
- Exploratory & investigative learning





# **Supplementary Questions for Self-Directed Learning**

Each week, students will receive a set of supplementary questions with worked solutions for each of the following subjects: English Vocabulary, Mathematics, Verbal General Ability and Non-Verbal General Ability. Students are encouraged to complete these questions as revision.



# **Rigorous Practice**

- Mathematics
  - Students will learn how to tackle questions from over 20 topics and heuristics methods
- English
  - All three examinable components are covered every two weeks
    - Comprehension
    - Cloze
    - Vocabulary
- General Ability
  - Students will be exposed to a wide variety of commonly-tested categories of verbal and non-verbal reasoning questions



#### **Experienced GEP Prep Team**

- The curriculum is developed by Adrian Kuek, who has over 10 years of experience in training and helping more than 400 students gain admission into the GEP.
- The other GEP teachers are

#### Teacher Kian Ming

- MOE teacher and Editor of textbooks and assessment books at a major publishing house
- Co-writer of GEP Mathematics curriculum
- Over 5 years of experience training GEP students

#### **Teacher Jenny**

- Ex-MOE teacher
- MA in English
- Teacher Mentor, Teacher Trainer, English Curriculum Developer & QC Team across diverse educational institutes both local and abroad



#### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### Is my child suitable for GEP?

If we had to choose two qualities in a child that are good predictors of admission into the GEP, they would be 'aptitude' and 'attitude'. Aptitude refers to the ability to learn and apply knowledge, while attitude refers to how much interest a child has in learning. In our experience, children who are selected for the GEP typically exhibit the following qualities:

- Is able to pick up new ideas and concepts and apply them to novel problems readily
- Has good memory
- Enjoys solving challenging problems
- Likes learning for the sake of learning (as opposed to being purely 'grades-driven')

If your precocious youngster exhibits these qualities to a higher degree than his or her peers, there is a good chance that your child is suitable for the GEP.

#### Should I prepare my child for the GEP Screening and Selection Tests?

This really depends on the parents' perspective.

Some parents feel that children should take the tests without any additional help while others feel they should not deprive their children of any opportunity for additional exposure. Yet another group of parents think that preparation is necessary to 'even the playing field'.

It is worth noting that parents who find out about the GEP test late in the year frequently lament about not having a fair chance to prepare their children.

This begs the next question - does preparation really help?

#### Does preparation really help?

The difference between the GEP Identification Exercise and a regular school exam is that questions for the former are not easily found in the public domain, unlike the latter. You can find the three-year-series for past year PSLE papers, but not for past year GEP Screening and Selection Test papers. For this reason, parents who wish to prepare their children for the GEP tests rely on experienced teachers who have sound knowledge of the questions that have appeared throughout the years.

And as with every test, the more you practise, the better the result you'll inevitably obtain over time. In other words, preparation increases a student's chance of acing the GEP tests. Whether it increases it to



an extent sufficient for a child to pass the GEP test though depends on a host of other factors, not least of which include the child's natural aptitude and attitude.

Over the years, we have learnt that nurturing a child's natural inquisitiveness by challenging them to solve problems creatively is more beneficial than drilling them to answer past year questions using prescribed methods. Under the guidance of an experienced teacher, a child's potential can really blossom.

# If I enrol my child in this programme, do I still need to enrol him/her for regular English and Mathematics tuition lessons?

For Mathematics, the answer is generally no. A student who has been taking GEP Mathematics for some time will find mainstream Mathematics relatively simple and not as challenging. That said, students need to exercise caution in school assignments and examinations to ensure that they consistently obtain good scores.

For English however, parents may wish to supplement GEP lessons with regular English enrichment lessons. This is because many major components of the mainstream English paper (such as open-ended comprehension and continuous writing) are not covered in the GEP course (as they are not tested in the GEP Screening and Selection Tests).

#### Can my Primary 3 child survive a 3 hour 15 minute lesson?

Sure! Our teachers are engaging and friendly, so (we unabashedly say that) our students enjoy their lessons. We make it a point to supplement written exercises with hands-on activities and multimedia learning to ensure that students are always engaged. What's more, our pantry is stocked with snacks, which the students find delight in raiding during their 15-minute break.



# Registration Details

Commencement date: January

End date: Mid-October

Duration per session:

Onsite (English + Maths + GA) 3 hours 15 minutes
Online (English + GA / Maths + GA) 1 hour 30 minutes

Maximum class size: 9 students

Programme fee (every 4 lessons) for

Onsite English + Maths + General Ability: \$720
Online English + General Ability: \$360
Online Maths + General Ability: \$360

6264 9193

askjoy@joyouslearning.com.sg