



# Bridlewood Elementary School Gifted and Talented Services Handbook

## Contents

I.	GT Objectives .....	2
II.	LISD GT Personnel .....	3
III.	LISD GT Identification .....	4
IV.	Bridlewood GT Service Design .....	6

**Bridlewood Elementary School**

4109 Remington Park Dr.  
Flower Mound, Texas 75028  
Phone: 469-713-5193  
Fax: 972-350-9007

# **I. Gifted and Talented Goals and Objectives**

## **Texas State Plan for the Education of Gifted and Talented**

In 1990, the State Plan for the Education of Gifted/Talented Students was adopted by the Texas State Board of Education and revised in 2009. The most significant revision was very simple. Instead of qualifying students for a GT Program, students now qualify for GT Services. The State Plan forms the basis of GT services and accountability in LISD.

## **State Goal for Gifted/Talented Student Services**

Students who participate in services designed for gifted/talented students will demonstrate skills in self-directed learning, thinking, research, and communications as evidenced by the development of innovative products and performances that reflect individuality and creativity and are advanced in relation to students of similar age, experience, or environment.

## **LISD Gifted and Talented Mission**

Through the establishment of secure and free learning environments, LISD GT students continuously seek out challenges to:

1. Promote scholarly behaviors that discover, develop and leverage capacity (Research)
2. Effectively communicate and collaborate
3. Foster critical thinking by manipulating abstract ideas and making deep connections
4. Promote creativity and innovation
5. Develop self awareness and social consciousness

## **LISD GT Goals and Objectives**

The Gifted student will:

- Become aware of his or her own unique potential and leaning style in order to develop these abilities for the betterment of self and society.
- Utilize higher level thinking skills to develop intellectual curiosity in critical, creative and productive thinking.
- Understand and apply the problem-solving process in a cooperative group setting through analysis and evaluation of a real life situation.
- Develop reference skills for using multiple concepts and resources in synthesizing an advanced product.

## II. LISD GT Personnel

### LISD Administration

The LISD School Board and the LISD district administration ensure that student assessment and services for gifted/talented students comply with the Texas State Plan for the Education of Gifted/Talented. All administrators and counselors who have authority for program decisions must have a minimum of 6 hours GT professional development that includes the nature and needs of GT students and a minimum of 6 hours annual professional development in GT education.

Deborah A. Roby, Supervisor  
LISD Gifted and Talented Education  
469-948-8046  
[robysd@lisd.net](mailto:robysd@lisd.net)

Robin Block, Principal  
Bridlewood Elementary School  
469-713-5193  
[Blockr@lisd.net](mailto:Blockr@lisd.net)

Aaron Hudson Assistant Principal  
Bridlewood Elementary School  
469-713-5193  
[hudsonal@lisd.net](mailto:hudsonal@lisd.net)

Krystal Kuban, Counselor  
Bridlewood Elementary School  
469-713-5193  
[Kubank@lisd.net](mailto:Kubank@lisd.net)

### Bridlewood Elementary School Gifted and Talented Services

The campus GT Facilitator is responsible for campus compliance with the Texas State Plan for Education of GT Students, including GT identification, services delivery, ongoing assessment, staff professional development, and family/community communication. The campus GT Facilitator must have a minimum of 30 hours professional development that includes the nature and needs of GT students and a minimum of 30 hours annual professional development in GT education.

Julie Brown, GT Facilitator  
Bridlewood Elementary School  
469-713-5193  
[brownjb@lisd.net](mailto:brownjb@lisd.net)

GT Cluster Classroom teachers are responsible for providing differentiated curriculum as needed, with support from the campus GT facilitator. All GT Cluster Classroom teachers must have a minimum of 6 hours professional development that includes the nature and needs of GT students and a minimum of 6 hours annual professional development in GT education. Identified Bridlewood GT students will be placed in a grade level GT Cluster Classroom. All Bridlewood classroom teachers are responsible for providing differentiated curriculum for all students as needed.

## II. LISD GT Identification

### **What are Gifted and Talented Services?**

Gifted and Talented Services (GT) provide academic enrichment services for identified students demonstrating superior intellectual giftedness through standardized aptitude and achievement tests, as well as GT characteristics scales, classroom Planned Experiences, and classroom work.

### **Who can request GT identification testing?**

The identification process for GT services is on going and assessment of students occurs at any time the need arises. Testing can be requested by anyone throughout the school year. Students in grades K-2 are strongly encouraged to wait until their GT Planned Experiences and/or non-verbal assessments indicate GT testing readiness. Identification measures are in place within the classroom environment in these grade levels. Students identified as GT in other public school districts, who can provide acceptable testing documentation, will begin GT Services as soon as their documentation is received and approved by the district.

### **How will the GT testing be administered?**

With a completed *Permission to Test* form, students will be pulled out of the regular classroom for 6-9 small group testing sessions. Testing sessions are arranged between the GT facilitator and the classroom teacher and will not exceed one hour in length.

### **How will my student qualify for GT Services?**

After the tests are complete, the facilitator will compile a data sheet (profile), review results with a campus selection committee, and forward service recommendations to the district screening committee for review and placement recommendations.

### **How will I be notified of the GT identification testing results?**

At the end of the testing round, after the district selection committee has met, you will receive a sealed letter informing you of their placement recommendation. If your student qualifies for GT Services, they will receive an individualized GT Services Plan and begin receiving GT services as soon as a *Permission to Serve* form has been returned. If your student does not qualify, they must wait at least one year before retesting.

### **If my student qualifies for GT Services, how will they be served?**

GT Services are designed to develop critical and creative thinking skills, problem solving skills, and reference skills for students demonstrating gifted abilities. The specific services each student receives vary, depending on the student's placement recommendation and emerging educational, social, and emotional needs.

### **How do I start the GT identification process?**

You may either contact your child's teacher or Mrs. Brown, Bridlewood's GT Facilitator, to request a **GT Testing Referral** form. Simply fill out the form and questions and return it to the campus GT Facilitator.

## **Gifted and Talented Characteristics**

Students with gifted and talented abilities often display some of the following characteristics:

### **1. Advanced Language**

Uses advanced language compared to peers. Enjoys telling detailed stories. Has large storehouse of information and extensive vocabulary. Expressive. Makes comparisons to explain relationships.

### **2. Analytical Thinking**

Has a high level of problem solving and reasoning skills. Aware. Observes surroundings intensely and is attentive to details in the environment. Understands complex ideas and thoughts. Sees patterns. Thinks deeply.

### **3. Meaning Motivation**

Curious. Asks questions to make sense of rules and relationships. Generates original solutions to problems. Persistent in areas of interest. Creates unique products and innovations. Makes unexpected connections.

### **4. Perspective**

Understands different points of view. Insightful. Values fairness. Sees the “bigger picture.” Creative when solving problems or looking for solutions. Demonstrates complex perspective in work.

### **5. Sense of Humor**

Understands and uses subtle nuances of language. Highly creative, fun loving, witty. Experiments with language figuratively for humorous effect. Unusual imagination.

### **6. Sensitivity**

Empathetic. Internalizes others feelings and emotions. Shows awareness of problems that others may not recognize. Exhibits concern for world issues. Cares deeply. Extensive memory about people and conversations.

### **7. Accelerated Learning**

Learns quickly. Large storehouse of information. Sees patterns in procedures, experiences, ideas. Sees logical and common sense answers. Performs better with more challenging or complex tasks.

### III. Bridlewood Gifted and Talented Service Design

#### Kindergarten

All Bridlewood Kindergarten students are automatically considered for gifted/talented and other advanced level services. All students will receive the following GT services:

- LISD Planned Experiences, lead and assessed by GT facilitator in regular classrooms
- Non Verbal ability assessment (January)
- Curriculum differentiation as needed
- Ongoing classroom visits and observations for collaborative data collection
- Students with evidence of emerging GT potential in Kindergarten Planned Experiences and/or Non Verbal ability assessments will be placed on a "Watch List" for continued observation as they progress through Bridlewood Elementary.
- Parents of students placed on the "Watch List" will be notified and asked to complete a *Parent Observation Survey* as additional data.

#### Grade 1

All students will receive the following GT services:

- LISD Planned Experiences, facilitated and assessed by GT Facilitator in regular classrooms
- Curriculum differentiation as needed
- Ongoing classroom visits and observations for collaborative data collection
- "Watch Lists" will be updated and monitored
- Opportunities for GT identification testing will be available. Parents or teachers of students with evidence of GT potential and testing readiness may request GT identification testing.
- Parents and teachers of students referred for testing will be asked to complete a *Parent Observation Survey* as additional data.
- Students identified through testing will continue to be served in their regular classrooms through observations, small group instruction and teacher collaboration.
- Students identified through testing in 1<sup>st</sup> grade will be placed in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade GT Cluster Classrooms at the beginning of the following school year.

#### Grade 2

All students will receive the following GT services

- LISD Planned Experiences, facilitated and assessed by GT Facilitator in regular classrooms
- Curriculum differentiation as needed
- Ongoing classroom visits and observations for collaborative data collection
- "Watch Lists" will be updated and monitored
- Opportunities for GT identification testing throughout the year.
- Parents and teachers of students referred for testing will be asked to complete a *Parent Observation Survey* as additional data.
- Students with evidence of GT potential and testing readiness will be notified of opportunities for GT identification testing
- Students identified through testing in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade will be placed in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade GT Cluster Classrooms at the beginning of the following school year.

### **Grade 3**

All Bridlewood students will receive the following GT Services:

- Standardized Non Verbal ability assessment during the fall semester

### **Grades 3-5**

All students will receive the following GT services:

- Curriculum differentiation as needed
- Opportunities for GT identification testing throughout the year
- Students identified through testing in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grades will be placed in GT Cluster Classrooms at the beginning of the following school year.

### **Grades 2-5 Identified Gifted and Talented Students**

Identified GT students will receive an annual individualized GT Service Plan, designed by the campus GT facilitator with input from the student's parents/guardians and classroom teacher, indicating the GT services that will be provided to best meet the student's educational, social, and emotional needs. The flexible system offers service options that provide a research based learning continuum that is developed to meet the needs and reinforce the strengths and interests of GT students. Services may be adjusted at the end of the semester and/or school year, if needs change.