



Rhodes School
for the Performing Arts

August 24, 2025

2025-2026 GATE Parent Referral

Dear Parent,

We are currently accepting referrals for students who may be eligible for Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) for the 2025-2026 school year.

The purpose of GATE is to enable identified students to reach their intellectual potential by providing them with opportunities and experiences that will challenge and further develop their thinking, reasoning, and problem-solving skills (both in and out of the classroom).

There is a significant difference between the "bright" child and the "gifted" child. Please see the table below for these significant differences and characteristics that may help you ascertain whether or not your student might meet the characteristics to be tested.

Bright Child	Gifted Learner
Knows what it takes to succeed	Demonstrates advanced aptitude
Focused on the end product	Focused on the journey
Readily grasps meaning	Draws additional inferences
Absorbs info	Manipulates information
Enjoys School	Loves to learn
Knows answers	Poses questions
Words hard to perform well	Performs without significant effort
Works to get top grades	Not motivated by grades
Loves rules	Own ideas of how things should be done
Straightforward/sequential thinker	Wants basic guidelines; Thrives off complexity
6-8 repetitions for mastery	1-2 repetitions for mastery
Memorizes	Makes connections
Pleased with progress; extrinsic motivation	Self-critical; intrinsically motivated
Enjoys peers	Look for older or adult companionship

If your child demonstrates signs of intellectual giftedness and may benefit from GATE, please fill out the Permission to Test and return to the student's homeroom teacher. The identification process (see back) is made up of a matrix of points accumulated from an Achievement Test, an Ability Test, the student's Report Card and Teacher Evaluation.

Cooperatively,

Mrs. Bennett-Edwards, Gifted and Talented Administrator

Email: kbennett@rhodesschool.org

GATE Identification Process Campus Timeline

Process	Description	Dates
Referral		
Referral Window	Parent & Teacher referrals accepted	September 16 – October 6, 2025
Profile Created	GATE Administrator creates a "GATE Identification Profile" for each referred student and adds Teacher Recommendation results to "Identification Profile"	1st week of November 2025
Testing		
NNAT-2 Testing Window	Referred students will be tested using NNAT-2 assessment.	December 2, 2025
NWEA Testing Window	All students grades 3-8	September 8-12th 2025
Notification		
Report Cards Distributed	GATE Administrator adds report card results to "Identification Profile" for tested students	January 16, 2026
Profile Updated	GATE Administrator adds testing results to "Identification Profile" for tested students	January 16, 2026
Parent Notification Letters	GATE Administrator mails final results of Identification Profile verifying acceptance or denial in GATE	January 23, 2026



Rhodes School
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Permission to Test

September 16, 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian of _____,

Please select one of the choices below to test if your child exemplifies the characteristics of a gifted learner. The testing is made up of a matrix of points accumulated from an Achievement Test, an Ability Test, the student's Report Card, and Teacher Evaluation.

☐ I give permission to RSPA to test my child for GATE.

☐ I deny permission to RSPA to test my child for GATE.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. You will receive a letter in the last week of May with the results from the cumulative testing!

Deadline for Permission Forms is October 6, 2025.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Bennett-Edwards

GATE Administrator

Print Name

Email Address

Signature

Phone Number

Upon return of this form to your child's homeroom teacher, you will receive an email receipt from the GATE Administrator.