

4th March 2015

Press Release 4th March 2015 in response to **The Ofsted Report 'The most able students: an update on progress since June 2013'**

The National Association for Able Children in Education (NACE) welcomes the latest report from Ofsted, 'The Most Able Students: an update on progress since June 2013'. NACE concurs with both the findings and the need for urgent action to be taken to remove the barriers to high achievement for ALL pupils in primary and secondary schools.

NACE works with many schools who are doing very well by their able students but the organisation is well aware that nationally there is a long way to go before all able children are achieving in line with their abilities.

NACE membership, conferences and professional development programmes provide many opportunities for teachers to develop their skills to challenge their most able students and indeed have a focus on many of the critical areas mentioned in this report, such as specialist training, improving challenge, particularly for disadvantaged able students, and raising aspirations. These areas are also a major focus of the NACE Challenge Award Framework, the leading school review and improvement approach supporting high quality provision for the more able.

Hilary Lowe, NACE Challenge Award Adviser, recognises that addressing these matters involves learning from what is already successful, working in partnership with schools and other organisations and providing high quality systematic training for beginning teachers as well as the more experienced. In light of this, NACE looks forward to accelerating its work and widening the scope of its support for Ofsted's drive for rapid and bold improvements to maximise the chance for our most able students to fulfil their potential.

The NACE Challenge Award Conference taking place in London on 26th June 2015 will provide a timely platform for the launch of NACE's future work to support the Ofsted report's recommendations.

For further details contact Fiona Perkins at NACE on 01235 828280 or email fionaperkins@nace.co.uk, NACE Website www.nace.co.uk , Twitter @naceuk

Notes to Editors:

NACE is a not for profit organisation set up in 1983 specialising in working with schools and teachers to improve learning for More Able and Talented children.

It is recognised nationally and internationally as the UK's leading independent education organisation in the field of education for able learners.

NACE membership is made up of teachers and schools. Through this network NACE is able to provide high quality guidance, support and training to enable teachers to get the best from able learners in the everyday classroom while helping all learners to flourish and achieve.