

## IGNITE THE SPARK 2021: DEVELOPING TALENT

Differentiating for high potential and gifted students across all domains  
Friday 10 September 2021, UNSW Kensington & online (blended conference)

9AM – 4PM

**Ignite the Spark** is a collaboration between the NSW Department of Education and GERRIC at the UNSW School of Education. This annual conference focuses on approaches to differentiation in the classroom, whole school, and community of schools' contexts to support students' learning.

### Call for presentations:

We invite proposals from researchers, educators, policymakers, and practitioners in the area of high potential and gifted education around the theme 'Developing Talent'.

- Talent development is the process by which a student's potential is developed into high achievement in one or more domains of human endeavour (creative, intellectual, social-emotional and physical).
- A combination of factors determines how high potential and gifted students develop their abilities into talent. These may include contextual factors (e.g. school, home, community) along with factors such as opportunities to learn, deliberate practice, mindset or beliefs, interest, motivation, mind-set and stage of development.
- Early exposure to appropriate educational interventions is important for the development of talent in young children. Furthermore, some of the keys to optimal talent development may include motivation, engagement and a supportive learning environment.

### Submission formats

*Proposals will be peer-reviewed. To ensure a balanced program, we may request a change in format prior to acceptance.*

**RESEARCH PAPER OR PRACTICAL PROJECT PRESENTATION:** A 45-minute session including 30-minute paper and 15-minute discussion.

**PRE-FORMED PANEL:** Please include expected number of participants, names and affiliations of participants, expected outcomes and contribution to conference theme.

**POSTER:** Please describe the project your poster will show. Technical specifications will be provided on acceptance.

**PECHA KUCHA:** Fast-paced, multiple speaker formats in which each presenter has 20 slides presented for 20 seconds each for a total presentation length of six minutes and 40 seconds. Presentations will be separated by audience discussion/Q&A to facilitate learning. Please articulate clearly in your proposal how you plan to capture the audience’s attention and engage them in your presentation.

**Audience**

Presentations must also clearly address a specific audience across three dimensions:

<b>1. LEVEL OF EXPERTISE of audience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Novice</b> (new to Gifted and High Potential research and/or less than 4 years teaching experience)</li> <li>• <b>Intermediate</b> (some study in this area such as COGE and/or teaching experience 4-10 years)</li> <li>• <b>Expert</b> (Masters level study or significant professional experience of more than 10 years)</li> </ul>
<b>2. SCHOOL LEVEL of audience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early Childhood</li> <li>• Primary</li> <li>• Secondary</li> <li>• K-12</li> </ul>
<b>3. ROLE of audience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Classroom teacher</li> <li>• School leader</li> <li>• Academic/researcher</li> </ul>

Please send an abstract of 200 words and a short bio of 150-200 words to [education.events@unsw.edu.au](mailto:education.events@unsw.edu.au) no later than **Friday 4 June, 2021**.

- All submissions must clearly indicate the proposed title, format, and target audience.
- All presentations, and handouts where applicable, must be non-commercial and any information provided can be used by attendees without the purchase of any materials or products. While it is acceptable to note the source of supporting materials, the presentation cannot be a sales pitch or a product showcase.
- Presenters have the option and are encouraged to submit an electronic copy of their presentation and/or handout materials which will be provided for attendees after the conference.