Cluster grouping is implemented to purposefully place students of similar learning needs in a classroom with specifically trained teachers in order to reach optimal achievement outcomes.

For Elementary and Intermediate campuses, cluster groups should consist of approximately 5 students and should not comprise more than 50% of any classroom.

Cluster grouping allows for:

- Targeted instruction according to students' needs and abilities
- Consistent differentiation of content, pace, process, and products
- Social-emotional teacher and peer support
- Increased overall achievement for all

GT students must be clustered with a teacher who has completed 30 hours of GT professional development or a GT certified/endorsed teacher. GT cluster teachers must maintain a 6 hour GT yearly update.

ESL students must be clustered with an ESL certified teacher.

If a student qualifies for GT or ESL services after placement in a non-cluster classroom, the campus administrator will determine if the student placement should be changed to a cluster classroom for the remainder of the year.

Middle and High School Campus GT Program:
According to the State GT plan and Texas Code, "Gifted/talented students are ensured opportunities to work together as a group, work with other students, and work independently during the school day as well as the entire school year as a direct result of gifted/talented service options" (19 TAC 89.3(1))

Keller ISD recognizes the need for GT students to be allowed opportunities to work together with like ability peers in designated core content areas. As a result, KISD will allow identified GT students the option to participate in a homogeneous-grouped class for Language Arts and Science. Only identified GT students will be allowed enrollment in GT designated ELA and Science classes, which carry the same gpa designation as PAP/AP courses.

Timeline for Implementation:

School year	**Grade Level**	**Campuses**	**Program Design**
2015-2016	7th grade	All middle school campuses	7th grade Pre-AP GT Language Arts

2016-2017	7th - 8th grades	All middle school campuses	7th and 8th grade Pre-AP GT Language Arts
2017-2018	7-9th grades	All middle and high school campuses	7th-9th Pre-AP GT Language Arts; 7-8th Pre-AP Science
2018-2019	7-10th grades	All middle and high school campuses	7th-10th Pre-AP GT Language Arts; 7-8th Pre-AP Science
2019-2020	7-11th grades	All middle and high school campuses	7th-10th Pre-AP GT Language Arts; 7-8th Pre-AP Science; 11th grade AP GT Lang
2020-2021	7-12th grades	All middle and high school campuses	7th-10th Pre-AP GT Language Arts; 7-8th Pre-AP Science; 11th grade AP GT Lang; 12th grade AP GT Lit.

10th -12th grade GT students are served through College Board's AP program options.