

I have two sons. My eldest son who is 7 is profoundly gifted and a MENSA member. My youngest son is 4 and not yet tested but our Psychologist believes he too is more than likely gifted. We have always struggled with providing appropriate education for our son and this is despite him attending a 'good' public primary school. Despite his WISC testing of 140+ across all testing areas they will not formally grade accelerate or subject accelerate. What is made worse is that he is also the eldest in his class. What is most concerning is that now he is underachieving. He consistently complains of boredom and has emotional outbursts at home but due to his character and urge to please this is not how he presents at school. He is immensely popular, extremely friendly, empathetic and emotional. These factors are apart of his giftedness in addition to his WISC score. We are deeply concerned moving forward that he will be dissatisfied with school. My husband who is also gifted (untested) coasted through school, getting top marks and developed intense perfectionism. He was not challenged enough and did not build resilience. When it came to university he could not decide and therefore has always been significantly dissatisfied with his career path. We do not want this for our sons. They have the right to an appropriate education for their needs just as children who are at the opposite end of the spectrum do. This can only happen with correct and adequate teacher training. We provide the correct talent development for our sporting and music students why is this not done for our gifted children?? These children and their 'out of the box' thinking is exactly what our world and its future needs. Please act now to provide and enforce the correct curriculum and training for educators so they can be prepared to teach and provide the best education possible for our gifted children.