

I want to provide feedback on the lack of training in regards to gifted education. The past, present and future curriculum doesn't support gifted children and teachers are left ill equipped in supporting gifted children in schools. Other countries value gifted children but not Australia.

As a parent with an profoundly gifted child it baffles me that she has no support in the public system and that teachers and schools have no idea what they can do for her to meet her needs. This is not their fault as there is a failure at the top level that they are not trained and educated in gifted education. They have no idea how to identify a child who is gifted. If my daughter was to have learning difficulties she would be supported with teachers aids, resources etc. but because she is on the other end of the spectrum she is left to be bored, repeat learned work, held back and given 'extension' that is not extension but a version of what an untrained teacher believes is extension. But more often that not gifted children are just left to sit and read on a beanbag while the other students catch up on work they already know. My daughter's school psychologist said a gifted child not being catered to is like a year 6 child being forced to sit through prep/kindy work over and over again all day. Understandably you can image how frustrated a child could get and ultimately lose interest in learning.

I shouldn't have to send my child to a private school to get the education she deserves. The education departments across the country have and continue to fail children like my daughter. No wonder so many gifted children end up being homeschooled.

Why the government wouldn't want to support students like my daughter so they can be nurtured to reach their potential not just for their own personal goals but the greater good of the community is mind blowing. These are the kinds of minds that can be responsible for figuring out solutions to future global issues and their educational trajectory is solely left up to the parent who may not know what to do. As a result kids become despondent, badly behaved and just flat out wasted. I never thought getting a profoundly gifted diagnosis would bring on such difficulties to meet my daughters educational needs.