

RESOURCES

Association for Bright Children Ontario
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RENFREW COUNTY
DISTRICT SCHOOL
BOARD

Special Education Department

INFORMATION BROCHURE

GIFTED

Renfrew County District School Board
Special Education Department
Mary Street Education Centre
480 Mary Street, Pembroke, ON K8A 5W9
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Web: www.renfrew.edu.on.ca/speced/RCDSB_SpEd_Home.htm
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*When used in this document, the word
"parent" includes guardian.*

The Renfrew County District School Board provides Special Education programs and services in accordance with the Education Act and Regulations.

DEFINITION

There are many ways of defining a gifted student. The Ministry of Education has defined giftedness as:

an unusually advanced degree of general intellectual ability that requires differentiated learning experiences of a depth and breadth beyond those normally provided in the regular school program to satisfy the level of educational potential indicated.

This advanced degree of “general intellectual ability” is expressed in many ways. You may have noticed your child has creative ideas, advanced reasoning skills or an unusual level of concentration compared to others of the same age group. As educators, we provide modifications to the regular school program to meet your child’s special needs.

HOW A STUDENT IS IDENTIFIED

No action will be taken until the child’s parent/guardian gives written permission for the gathering of

information about the child’s abilities, interests, creativity and desire to learn. This information is compiled by the Special Education Resource Teacher. In addition, parents and classroom teachers are requested to provide information regarding the child’s learning needs and interests.

This information may reveal potential intellectually gifted children and will be used for a recommendation for further testing by the Board appointed Psycho-Educational Resource Staff.

For more information regarding the identification, placement and review process and the rights of parents, please ask your school principal for a copy of the parent guide “Parents As Partners.”

THE BOARD’S CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY

1. The student demonstrates superior intellectual abilities as demonstrated on an individual intellectual assessment (Score of 130+). Please note that the I.Q. score is not the sole indicator of giftedness.
2. Completion of an academic assessment to determine the student’s present achievement levels.

3. The student demonstrates task commitment (not always related to academics).
4. The student demonstrates evidence of higher level thinking skills (critical, divergent, etc.)

HOW THE GIFTED PROGRAM DIFFERS FROM THE REGULAR PROGRAM

Your child’s regular class program will be modified in consideration of his/her interests and abilities. Pupils may receive abbreviated instruction to avoid repetition. Flexible pacing provides mastery of the basic core, as well as opportunities for enrichment. Joint planning and evaluation between the regular classroom teacher and the special education teacher are emphasized.

The Renfrew County District School Board invites intermediate and secondary students to participate in the Enrichment Mini-Course Program held by the universities and colleges in Ottawa. As well students can participate in the Mini-Enrichment courses offered by Queen’s University.