

HOW DO I KNOW IF MY CHILD IS GIFTED?

It is important to remember that not all gifted children perform well at school. Sometimes we can recognise giftedness through performance, but sometimes we can only recognise it through how a child behaves and responds. Sometimes children behave very differently in the familiar environment at home from how they behave at school. Completing this checklist will help you and your child's teacher to understand your child and his or her needs. It may help to decide whether your child has gifted needs.

Wherever you have ticked a box, try to think of an example of the behaviour you have ticked, as this will assist the teacher when you are discussing this together.

Child's name _____ Age now _____ Date today / / .

1. *Performance*

- My child has shown exceptional ability and understanding in some activity I've seen at home or in an out-of-school activity.

2. *Behaviour (any one or more or maybe none of these)*

My child:

- Tells me about feeling frustrated or bored or finding work at school too easy or too repetitious.
- Is *either* overly meticulous *or* does not seem to care at all about the standard of his/her work.
- Seems to have difficulty making friends at school.
- Apparently appears passive and compliant at school but is a very different child at home.
- Is a daydreamer or fiddler but still seems to know what is going on.

3. *Characteristics*

My child *strongly* demonstrates *several* of the following characteristics:

- preschool, reached developmental milestones very early
- notices detail, is very observant
- at home, is very articulate, has lots to say
- has a witty sense of humour or a strong sense of the ridiculous
- is curious: asks lots of questions
- asks unexpected questions
- likes to share what she/he knows or is interested in and takes it for granted others will be interested too
- takes pride in knowing his/her whakapapa
- is passionate about issues of fairness and justice
- is very caring towards others; displays manaakitanga
- seems to have an astonishing amount of information on topics that interest her/him
- needs to see a reason or a purpose for doing things
- thinks outside the square
- hates repetitive work
- has an exceptional memory
- can be self-contained, not reveal true self, when with other children
- supports others in the group, takes a leadership role, displays rangitiratanga.