

G&T coaches meet the parents

An introduction to our approach to
working with G&T students

9. February 2022

Dr Nicole Meiners and G&T team



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- What is giftedness?
- The ESH definiton of giftedness
- Presentation of our G&T coaches and their specialisms
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The G&T programme at the European School of The Hague

Principles of the programme

1) Highly inclusive

Students stay in subject classes most of the time and get appropriate challenges there.

2) Voluntariness

Students decide for themselves, if they want extra challenges to promote their procativity.

3) Additional time with qualified G&T coaches

Assigned coaches help G&T students to develop their talents and tackle challenges typical to being gifted and talented.





What is giftedness?

Scientific research on giftedness started with Francis GALTON in the 19th century and his definition of "genius" in 1869 as "an ability that was exceptionally high and at the same time inborn" ("Hereditary Genius")

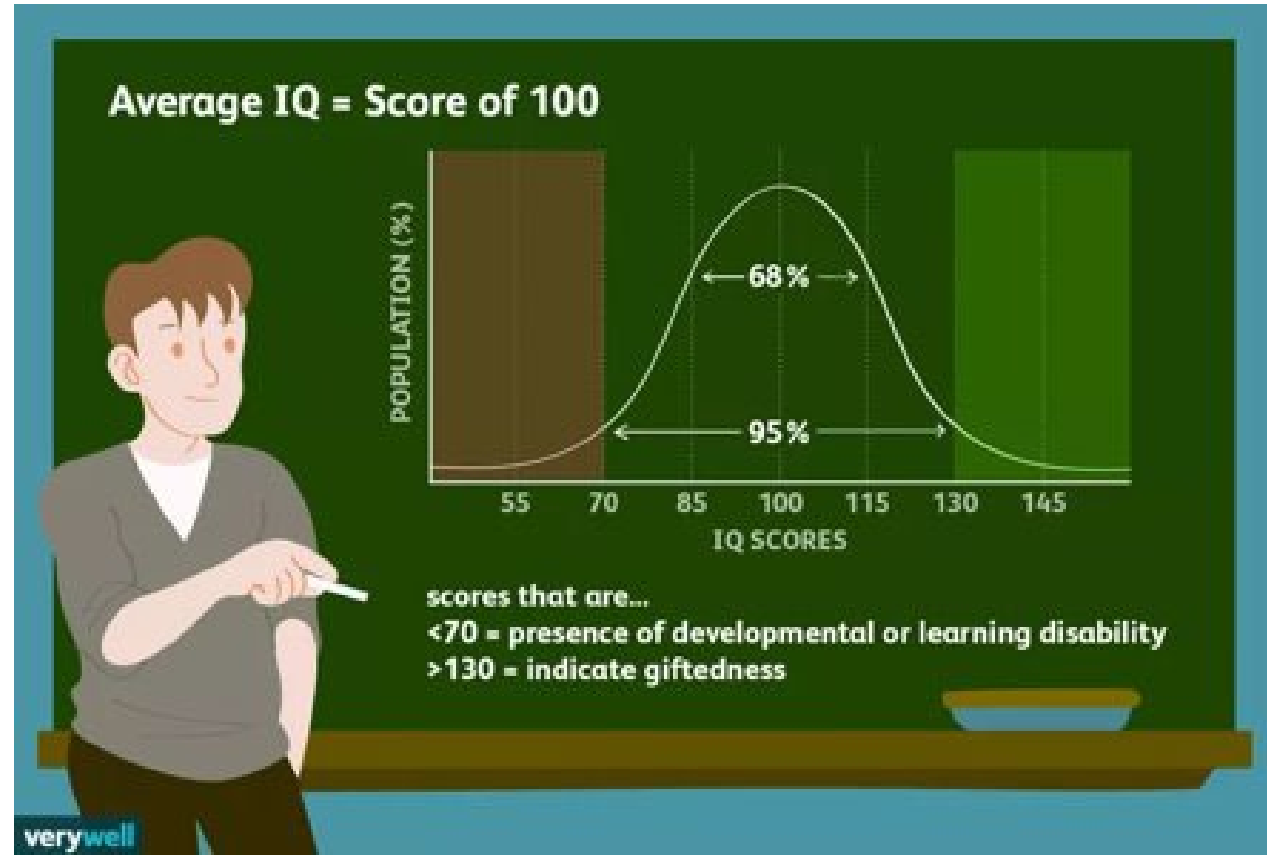


Lots of today's common ideas about giftedness derive from the 19th and start of the 20th century.

What is giftedness?

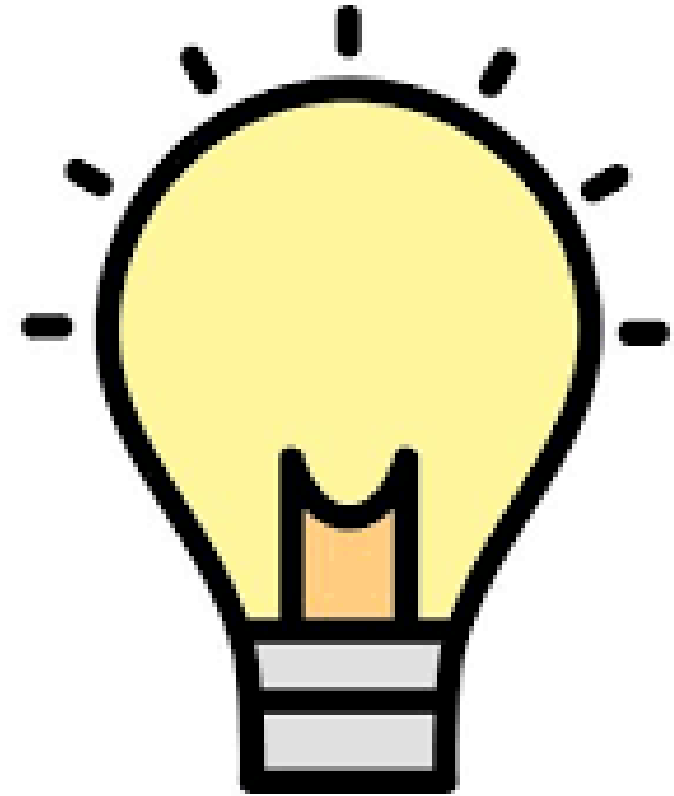
Lewis M. TERMAN (1925) introduced the IQ (Intelligence Quotient), being a ratio of chronological age to mental age times 100 and was especially interested in research on children.

A person with an IQ above 130 is since then considered "gifted".



What is giftedness?

- Galton and Terman saw **intelligence as completely inborn and fixed.**
- This **static definiton changed** in the mid 20th and the 21st century.



What is giftedness?

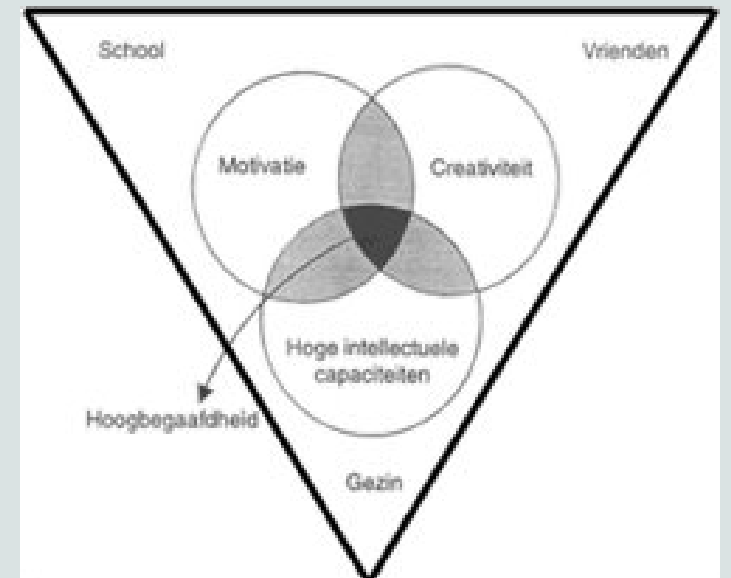


During mid 20th century the approach changed considerably towards **c o n t e x t u a l i t y**.

RENZULLI (1986) defined **gifted b e h a v i o r = above average ability in a s p e c f i c domain, creativity and motivation** (task commitment)

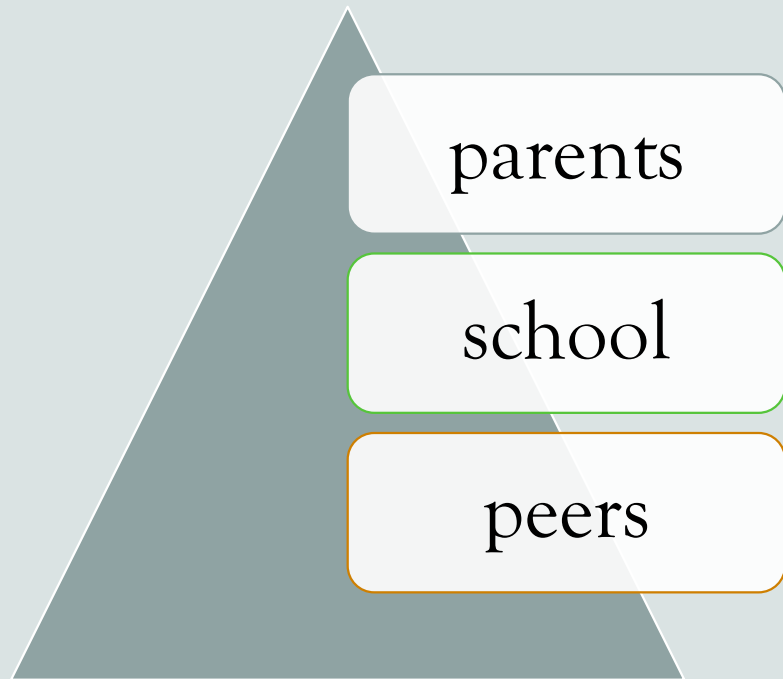
MÖNKS (1986) expanded Renzulli's model with **exterior factors** (family, school, peers)

ZIEGLER & HELLER (2000) made clear that giftedness manifests **if predisposition, intrapersonal factors and environment are beneficial.**

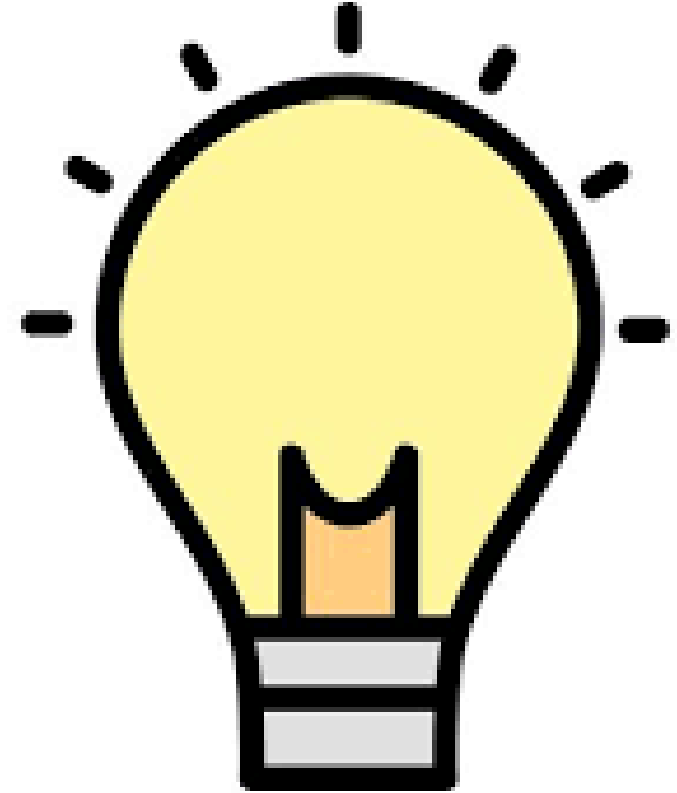


What is giftedness?

The influence of



is very important for the development of gifted
behaviour!



What is giftedness?

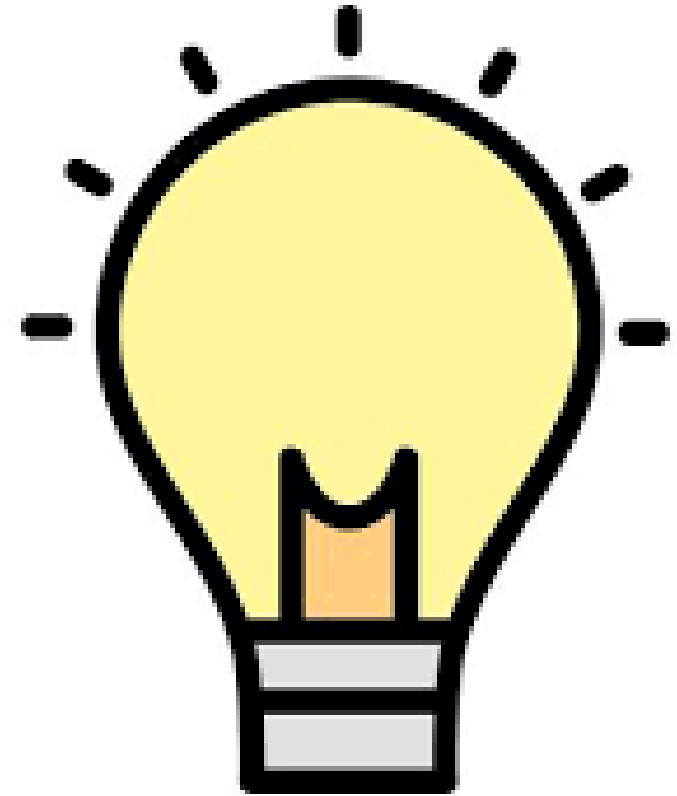


In the 21th century giftedness and talent are seen as multidimensional and malleable.

- SIMONTON (2005) emphasized that **giftedness can fluctuate** due to cultural surroundings, chances society offers and the phase of personal development.
- ERICSSON (2006) states that **exercise and effort are more important than genes** for gifted behavior and talent.
- RENZULLI & REIS (2018) express that gifted behaviour can **manifest with moderately above ability (!) in combination with exceptional creativity and motivation.**

What is giftedness?

Today giftedness is seen as
a malleable predisposition, that is
not only applicable to cognitive
ability.



The ESH definition of giftedness

A scientific definition of giftedness, that is generally accepted, does not exist.
(Gagné, 2018)

ESH identifies with the modern G&T definition of SUBOTIK, OSLEWSKI-KUBILIUS & WORRELL (2018):

"Giftedness is a developmental process that is domain-specific and malleable. Although the path may begin with demonstrated potential, giftedness must be developed and sustained by way of training and interventions in domain-specific skills, programs and deliberate development of the psychological and social skills needed to pursue difficult new paths. The goal... is to transform potential talent ... into outstanding performance and innovation."

Consequences for the G&T programme at ESH



- ESH uses the structural intelligence test to discover exceptional cognitive abilities or relies on external testing of students done in the past.
- Also nominations from primary and teachers are taken into consideration.
- The G&T program is highly inclusive.
- This is completely in line with the Dutch approach of "passend onderwijs" (adequate education).
- Teachers get training in teaching G&T students.

Consequences for the G&T programme at ESH



- A subject teacher can use his/her own knowledge to bring the potential of their gifted and talented students to the next level.
- They offer adequate differentiation for these students in the different subjects, if applicable.
- G&T coaches assist in the intellectual and socio-emotional development of the students. All coaches have different specialisms, but are still able to coach every G&T student. Their approaches may be different.

Our G&T coaches

- Ms. Ellen Palte, specialism mathematics (left)
- Ms. Lizeth Kessels, COUNSELLOR - specialism socio-emotional support
- Ms. Ana Garcia-Saguar, specialism music (right)



Our G&T coaches

- Mr Jasper Fijnvandraat, specialism art (left)
- Mr Alessandro Profeta, specialism sciences (right)



Outlook on future activities

What we are planning to install for the future and has been delayed due to COVID:

- **Space camp experience** – for our future scientists, in Belgium
- **Compacting of curriculum** to engage in field of interest / talent
- Contacts with enterprises to offer **real-life problems** to solve
- **Pre-university classes** option for students of S5, S6 and S7 (only available for Dutch speaking students)



G&T coaches meet the parents





Quality time with your child's coach

30 minutes to get to know
each other a bit
(in a digital context)