

Joan Otten, Ed.D.

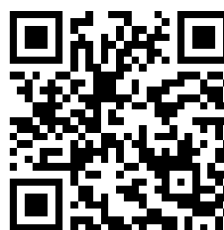
Director of Gifted/Talented and Advanced Academic Studies

Dear Parents of Students in Kindergarten:

The district’s Gifted and Talented screening opportunity for students in kindergarten is open. Your digital signature on the Kindergarten Parent Checklist begins the screening process. It also gives the district permission to test your child and provide services if he/she is identified. The GT “Challenge” program for kindergartners begins the week of March 1st and provides 60 minutes of service each week. Identified students will continue in the Challenge program in first grade, when they will leave the regular classroom one full day per week.

A parent awareness session about kindergarten screening and GT services will be held online **September 10, 2024**. The TEAMS meeting link will be posted on the [Katy ISD GT/Advanced Academics website](#) along with more information about the screening process.

If you would like to refer your child to be screened for GT services, complete and submit the electronic form “Kindergarten Parent Checklist” by **September 19, 2024**. You can access the electronic parent checklist through your Katy ISD Parent Portal at <https://launchpad.classlink.com/katyisd> or scan this QR code:



Log in with your parent username and password. Then type “Gifted” in the search bar, and the tile will appear.

Checklists will NOT be accepted after Thursday, September 19, 2024.

Testing will take place on campus over the course of several days during the months of October-February since multiple measures are required by the Texas Education Agency for identification. Placement decisions for referred students will be sent electronically through the Parent Portal in February. Parents must exercise great care in determining the appropriate placement for very young children. Please note that a bright child is not necessarily a gifted child. As you decide whether or not to refer your child, please consider the attached chart, “High Achieving and Gifted Learners.”

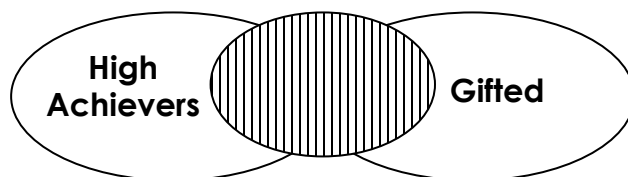
If you have questions, please contact the Challenge teacher at your child’s campus.



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High Achieving and Gifted Learners - Characteristics and Behaviors -



High Achievers

- Knows the answer
- Is receptive to new ideas
- Is interested in Learning
- Copies accurately
- Is attentive in class
- Enjoys school
- "Loves the teacher"
- Absorbs information
- Has good ideas
- Is a technician of ideas
- Answers the questions
- Good memorizer
- Loves to memorize
- Completes assignments
- Enjoys a straightforward, sequential presentation
- Works hard
- Is alert
- A top group student
- Is pleased with his/her own learning
- Listens with interest
- Likes an authority to be in charge
- Loves rules
- Learns with ease
- Learns easily at the knowledge and comprehension level
- 6-8 repetitions for mastery
- Wants the "rules" of the assignment spelled out
- "What do I need to do to get an A?"
- Understands ideas
- Grasps the meaning
- Is focused on the destination or end product

Gifted Learners

- Asks the questions
- Is intense about ideas
- Is highly curious
- Creates a new design or way of doing it
- Is mentally and physically involved
- Enjoys learning
- Loves ideas
- Manipulates information
- Has wild, silly ideas
- Is an inventor of ideas
- Discusses in detail, elaborates
- Good, informed guesser
- Loves to think and ponder
- Initiates projects
- Thrives on complexity
- Loves ambiguity
- Plays around, yet tests well
- Is keenly observant
- Is beyond the group
- Is highly self-critical
- Shows strong feelings and opinions
- Has own idea for how it should be done
- Wants only basic guidelines
- Already knows
- Sees relationships and combines ideas
- Sees the whole picture
- 1-2 repetitions for mastery
- "I want to do it my way."
- Has a better way to do it
- "What is the purpose of this assignment?"
- Constructs abstractions
- Prefers older students or adults
- Draws inferences
- Is focused on the "journey"