

The 12 Apostles of an Ethical Approach towards Gifted Children

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12 Case Studies (generalized) Based on Working with over 100 Gifted Children

1st of 12 APOSTLES	If children feel isolated in mainstream classes: Is it inclusion?	
Peter	Peter (10) sits - listless and resigned - in the corner of the classroom. Teacher & parents are at a loss. Performance is poor, getting worse... At Talenta, Peter prospers. He is brilliant in maths and science (language: ☺), makes friends and feels ...integrated. Today, he is a happy and bright kid at high school.	
MESSAGE	Only the <u>child's feeling</u> can set the <u>standard for inclusion</u> , not some anonymous school system.	

2nd of 12 APOSTLES	The <i>happy bored</i> in mainstream classes are neglected, too!	
Ramon	The start at school has been one big letdown for Ramon (7). Nevertheless, he tries to come to terms with it (being 5 years ahead in maths...). But he remains direct & demanding. In a Talenta course, he shows his talents. Later, as a Talenta kid, he really gets going. Now, he will enter high school 2 years ahead of his pals.	
MESSAGE	Being challenged (= <u>adequate provision</u>) is the right of any child & the <u>raison d'être</u> of schools!	

3rd of 12 APOSTLES	If children are aggressive or depressive, they may lack challenge	
Jessica	Jessica (9) settles 2-3 things at a time, manages her family & helps in the store. She is vivid and outspoken. Neglected at school, she becomes a real troublemaker. Even at Talenta, she is very aggressive & bites her teacher! Due to the challenge, she ends up as a happy teenager, as a star in a movie & as a star at high school.	
MESSAGE	Massive problems may root in <u>hidden conflicts</u> (no challenge). <u>Trace them back</u> & solve them!	

4th of 12 APOSTLES	A pest at home, a lamb at school (or vice versa): Join fragments!	
Maud	Maud (9) who is heavily underchallenged at school, has had a good upbringing = a high risk: She adapts and behaves well in class, but at home she is a terrible pest. Yelling & outbursts! The school takes no action („nice girl“) and blames the parents. After only 2 weeks at Talenta, Maud's problems are for ever „gone with the wind.“	
MESSAGE	If you want to understand children at risk, you must <u>assess the whole situation & life balance</u> .	

5th of 12 APOSTLES	If a pullout a week doesn't keep the doctor away: Take action!	
Jasmin	Jasmin (strong verbal talent) runs into conflicts. But her talents are accepted: She is offered a special gifted lesson a week. Yet, problems & mobbing go on: Yasmin needs psychotherapy. As a solution, the school offers 2 lessons a week. The parents take action: Talenta. Soon, psychotherapy is cancelled. But the parents pay for all...	
MESSAGE	Gifted provision in <u>weekly rations</u> : That's a start. But thus, you will <u>never feed all</u> gifted children.	

6th of 12 APOSTLES	Not only gifted children are at risk: Their parents often join in	
Tina	A pampering, overattending, yet autocratic and dominating mother: gifted Tina suffers from severe depressions. School denies professional advice. Last resort : Talenta. But things do not improve. Only when the mother concedes therapeutic aid for herself (<u>threat</u> : Tina has to leave Talenta), Tina slowly recovers and enjoys her talents.	
MESSAGE	In many cases, lasting solutions call for professional support & <u>changes on the parent side</u> .	

