



Passend **Education**



Giftedness Defined: Giftedness signifies an inherent ability to surpassingly learn or master one or more domains. It is characterized by deep curiosity, rapid absorption, and a blend of creative and intense focus. However, these traits can also lead to challenges like misdiagnosed (ADHD or Autism), boredom-induced disruptions, asynchronous development and dropout.

Challenges for the Gifted: Gifted individuals may experience challenges in the following fields:

- **Academic habits:** A lack of grit due to not encountering early academic challenges.
- **Social:** Difficulty in blending in, leading to feelings of isolation.
- **Emotional:** A heightened sensitivity causing emotional extremes.
- **Performance:** Potential underperformance due to disengagement from traditional curriculum.

Identifying Giftedness: Passend employs a systematic approach, gathering insights from the child, teachers, and parents. This is followed by dynamic assessments, trial peer class participation, and if necessary, clinical assessments.

Holistic Curriculum: Beyond the traditional STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Languages, Math) approach, Passend incorporates SAGE (Sports, Academics, Games, Emotions and Empathy) ensuring comprehensive exposure.

Passend Education: Drawing inspiration from the Dutch education model, renowned for producing some of the happiest yet academically successful children, Passend Education aims to provide a tailored and inclusive learning experience. Stemming from Bright Kids Netherlands, Passend adheres to the European Council of High Ability principles.

Solutions & Offerings: Passend Education integrates:

- Game-based learning to cultivate GRIT (Growth Mindset, Resilience, Indomitability, Thoroughness).
- Affective Learning Modules for emotional growth.
- Simulated playground experiences for social development.
- Project-based differentiation to cater to gifted children's unique learning needs.

Benefits to Schools: Partnering with Passend offers faculty training, peer class support, and implements effective education techniques that not only uplift gifted students but also enhance the overall school environment. The approach aligns with the 2025 Education Blueprint for Gifted Education by MoE.

Mission: Passend's aspiration is to revolutionize education in Malaysia, ensuring gifted children thrive and recognizing schools as the pivotal change agents in their lives.

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What is giftedness

Giftedness refers to an innate ability to learn one or more domains in a way that significantly exceeds the norm for an individual's age. It's a unique cognitive ability that influences how an individual perceives, processes, and responds to information. Traditionally this was measured by an IQ 130+ but this is no longer the only measure. We at Passend define the ability to do or learn a skill to expert level faster than 90% of the population.

Characteristics

- Gifted individuals often exhibit a deep curiosity, rapid learning ability, and a high degree of creativity. Their intense focus, combined with heightened sensitivity, sometimes leads to asynchronous development where intellectual growth outpaces emotional or social development.
- Often they are misdiagnosed as ADHD or Autism due to similar behavior patterns. However the root cause is academic and thus needs a different approach.
- Boredom and (Social)Anxieties often cause them to behave disruptively in class or makes them underachieve on purpose. Making once star pupils the frustration of the class teacher.
- High levels of perfectionism and or fixed mindsets make it hard for them to deal with finishing tasks or starting them.
- Often gifted students will pick up a new subject fast, but lose interest just as quickly.

Why do they need our Guidance:

Lack of grit and learning habits:

Many gifted children, due to their innate abilities, rarely face academic challenges early on. This can hinder the development of perseverance and adaptive learning strategies needed for long-term success.

Social development:

Gifted children might feel out of sync with peers, leading to feelings of isolation or being misunderstood. These social mismatches can affect their ability to form meaningful connections with age-mates.

Emotional development:

Their heightened sensitivity and intensity can make them more prone to emotional extremes. Navigating these intense emotions requires guidance to ensure emotional well-being.

Disengagement and Underperformance:

A lack of challenge or misalignment with traditional curriculum can lead to boredom and disengagement. This can mask their abilities, leading to unrecognized potential and underachievement. Sometimes this leads to depression, drop-out of school or worse

How do we identify giftedness

Dynamic assessment:

This is a method that looks not just at a child's current abilities but also their potential. By analyzing how a child learns and adapts during the assessment, we gain insights into their innate capabilities.

Gifted Profiles:

Beyond standard metrics, there are recognizable profiles or patterns of behavior and cognition in gifted individuals. These profiles help in understanding the diverse ways giftedness can manifest. Examples are Betts and Neihart profiles

Parents and Teachers observations:

Often, those who interact with the child daily can provide invaluable insights. Their observations about the child's behaviors, interests, and challenges can be crucial in the identification process.

Clinical assessments:

These are standardized tests conducted by trained professionals to measure cognitive abilities. They provide a structured approach to identifying areas of strength and potential.

Passend Approach to Assessment

Generally, Passend uses information from the trifecta of the Child, the Teacher and the Parents to identify potential markers of giftedness. Upon which, a Dynamic assessment will be done with the child, followed by a trial participation in the Peer class. Finally, if this is not conclusive Clinical Assessments will be recommended if needed.



Fields of Excellence

Recent focus on STEM or STEAM are not enough to define potential fields children can excel at. We at Passend Education have the following Acronyms to include all fields defined by F. Gagne., (2010), a renowned scholar in the field of gifted education. SAGE reflects on those often overlooked fields.

S.T.E.A.M & S.A.G.E

- **Science**
- **Technology**
- **Engineering**
- **Arts and Languages**
- **Math**

- **Sports**
- **Academics (Like Literature & History)**
- **Games**
- **Emotions and Empathy**

Good gifted curriculums touch on as many different fields in each lesson plan to allow for true discovery of giftedness.

"Giftedness is not a disability or a curse. I had to fight this prejudice and ignorance at all turns. I truly believe it is Fun to be Highly Gifted and I am proud to see my work get a chance to flourish in Malaysia for my grandchildren's and other gifted children's sake."

- Willeke Rol Founder Brightkids and Passend Education





Who is Passend Education

There is something that **Malaysia** and the **Netherlands** have in common. We have simple words that **mean many things** and can't be translated easily. Like the word "**Lah**". "**Passend**" is such a word in the Netherlands. It means; Tailored, Fitting, Adequate, Correct, Inclusive, Challenging, Fair, Equal, Sufficient and Progressive.

Our Mission

To make the world a better place by making children more happy through **Passend Education** and Support.



Our vision

To embody a **holistic** education for highly gifted kids that inspire others.

Our values

To guide highly gifted children to appreciate themselves and let them discover the role they can play in the world by helping them actualize their inherent talents and be proud of who they are and who they can be.

Standing on the Shoulder of Giants

Passend Education is the daughter of **Bright Kids Netherlands**. Bright Kids is a **pioneer** in gifted education in the Netherlands, having guided **thousands of gifted children** through their learning journey **successfully**.



Passend follows the **European Council of High Ability (ECHA)** principles. This organization founded by, among others, Franz Möns, is a gold standard in gifted education guidelines. Bright Kids Founder **Willeke Rol**, is a thrice published **author**, where **her books** "Challenging, Challenging Toddlers" and "Gifted Enrichment classes for Primary Schools" **are used by thousands of educators** to run their Peer classes in the Netherlands.

Like Bright Kids was a Pioneer in the Netherlands, Passend Education takes up the same challenge to Pioneer Gifted Education in Malaysia.

Going Dutch in education

For more than 40 years the WHO has identified the Happiest children in the world to be the children in the Netherlands. Yet Dutch kids consistently outperforms even the UK and Canada in terms of academic excellence. Proving that Happiness and Academic Success are not an oxymoron.



Smart Games for GRIT

Gifted children can have challenging learning habits like:

- **Procrastination:** Grasping concepts quickly leads to last-minute work.
- **Incomplete Work:** Loss of interest after understanding the main idea.
- **Avoiding Challenge:** Shying away from difficult tasks to appear infallible.
- **Poor Organization:** Over-relying on memory, neglecting systematic methods.
- **Erratic Study Routines:** Skipping regular study, leading to cramming.
- **Over-Reliance:** Depending solely on innate abilities, avoiding external resources.
- **Feedback Resistance:** Dismissing critique, hindering adaptability.

At Passend Education we use “Smart” games as they are far removed from academic pressure but help with:

- **Engagement:** Games keep students engaged, reducing procrastination.
- **Task Completion:** Gamified milestones encourage completion of tasks.
- **Incremental Challenge:** Games introduce escalating challenges, promoting perseverance.
- **Structured Progress:** Games have organized levels/tasks, fostering systematic methods.
- **Routine Playtime:** Regular game interaction instills consistent study habits.
- **Computational Strategic Thinking:** Smart Games often require strategy or collaboration, promoting resourcefulness and paradigm shifts in the child..
- **Feedback Mechanism:** Instant feedback in games helps students adapt and improve.

G.R.I.T through Games

Grit is essential for highly gifted children. It **empowers** them to transcend their innate talents and excel in their pursuits. In the face of formidable challenges, grit cultivates **resilience**, turning setbacks into stepping stones for a **growth mindset**. Grit builds robust, intrinsic self-esteem that values persistence and effort, ensuring that their extraordinary abilities are accompanied by the **thoroughness** and an **indomitable** spirit needed for enduring achievement and personal fulfillment.

G - Growth Mindset **R** - Resilience **I** - Indomitability **T** - Thoroughness

“I know these games are hard for me sometimes, but I also know that if I learn to not give up here it can help me at school too”
- Evan



Affective Lessons for Emotional Growth

Gifted kids often struggle social emotionally because:

- **Asynchronous Development:** Cognitive abilities outpace emotional or social maturity.
- **Peer Differences:** Advanced interests make relating to age-mates challenging.
- **Heightened Sensitivities:** Intense reactions to stimuli or perceived injustices.
- **Perfectionism:** High self-expectations can lead to frustration or self-criticism.
- **Isolation:** Feeling different or misunderstood by peers.
- **Overthinking:** Analysis paralysis or anxiety from excessive introspection.
- **Unmet Emotional Needs:** Lack of similarly gifted peers or supportive environment.

Passend Education uses extensive Affective Learning Modules based on ECHA principles, that offer and practice:

- **Tailored Pacing:** Modules accommodate asynchronous development, balancing cognitive and emotional growth.
- **Relatable Peers:** Connects gifted children with like-minded individuals, fostering understanding and friendships.
- **Emotional Regulation:** Teaches coping strategies for heightened sensitivities and intense reactions.
- **Embrace Imperfection:** Activities emphasize process over perfection, reducing self-pressure.
- **Shared Experiences:** Provides a sense of belonging, reducing feelings of isolation.
- **Mindfulness Techniques:** Helps in managing overthinking, promoting present-focused awareness.
- **Supportive Environment:** Affirms and validates their experiences, meeting unique emotional needs.

Our Affective learning models are designed to safely **encounter** and **explore** emotions. This includes extensive class management practices, as well as values and norms modules..

"I used to feel the world is so unfair, and I could get really angry at everything. I am now able to help my friends with their issues and help them feel much better too."

- Isaac



Social Development through Playground Experience

Gifted children often fall behind socially as they struggle to **connect** with other kids their age. Their main challenges are:

- **Sensitivity:** Overwhelmed by rough or loud play.
- **Social Awkwardness:** Struggling with age-appropriate social cues.
- **Intense Emotions:** Misunderstandings can lead to overreactions.
- **Preference for Solitude:** Often content with independent activities.
- **Social Overthinking:** Over-analyzing social interactions.
- **Peer Rejection:** Seen as "different" or "know-it-all".
- **Relatability Issues:** Difficulty finding common ground.

At **Passend Education** we use “**Simulated and (Un)supervised**” play to help practice and develop the following skills and experiences:

- **Diverse Interactions:** Encourages mingling with peers of varied abilities and interests.
- **Conflict Resolution:** Real-time practice in navigating disagreements and finding solutions.
- **Sensory Exploration:** Tactile experiences nurture their heightened sensitivities positively.
- **Collaborative Play:** Fosters teamwork, understanding roles and leadership skills.
- **Creativity Boost:** Unstructured play sparks imagination and inventive play scenarios.
- **Age-appropriate Challenges:** Engages them at their level while still being with age peers.
- **Self-awareness:** Helps in recognizing and valuing their unique strengths and challenges.

Through designing their own playground games and with **group round table discussion**, we help gifted kids **analyze** and **practice** how to play in the playground in their normal school environments.

I used to get frustrated that I could not seem to join in and play football at my school, in my Plus Class they helped me practice how to join and I finally got to play my first game with my classmates. - Jordi



Projects for Differentiation

Gifted children struggle in class daily. Most of their **anxieties**, **aggression** or even **depression** stems from issues in a normal curriculum because of:

- **Under-stimulation:** Curriculum often lacks depth and complexity for their pace.
- **Boredom:** Repetition and slow progress lead to disengagement.
- **Mismatched Pace:** Forced to wait for classmates can cause frustration.
- **Lack of Challenge:** Few opportunities to tackle advanced topics or skills.
- **Overlooked Needs:** Achievements overshadow socio-emotional struggles.
- **Unmet Potential:** Limited exposure to advanced or diverse subjects.
- **Lack of Peer Understanding:** Difficulty in group tasks due to disparate thought processes or goals.

Passend Education uses individual and group based projects as the cornerstone of gifted education. It helps achieve:

- **Depth and Complexity:** Allows deep exploration of topics.
- **Differentiation and Self-Directed Learning:** Fosters autonomy and initiative.
- **Purpose and Real-World Application:** Bridges theory with practicality.
- **Critical Thinking:** Encourages problem-solving and innovation.
- **Collaboration:** Enhances interpersonal skills with peers.
- **Engagement:** Taps into intrinsic motivation and passion.
- **Flexibility:** Adaptable to diverse learning styles and paces.

Project based Learning is the **superfood for the brain** and the gold standard for differentiation in curriculum. We see children disengaged from school transform, when they finally have their own say in what and how to learn. Equally important is that projects help gifted children accept challenges like perfectionism..



Portfolios

Why Portfolios are important

Gifted students (if given the opportunity) can outperform normal curriculum measurement standards. Portfolios are an **ideal way to showcase** these abilities. The point of most education is to learn. Equally important is the achievements obtained in the form of grades to gain admission into universities or jobs.

Being a straight 'A' student often no longer sets a student apart. Portfolios can do this exceptionally well.

Reasons to have portfolios are:

- **Showcase Depth:** Portfolios allow gifted students to display their depth of understanding and the breadth of their explorations in various subjects.
- **Document Progress:** They provide a chronological record of a student's growth, illustrating their learning trajectory over time.
- **Customized Learning:** Given their unique learning pace, portfolios offer a tailored representation of their achievements, beyond standardized tests.
- **Reflection:** Creating a portfolio encourages introspection, helping students understand their strengths, challenges, and areas of passion.
- **Validation:** A tangible collection of their work validates their efforts and accomplishments, fostering self-confidence.
- **Practical Application:** Portfolios serve as a tool for real-world opportunities, such as admissions or competitions, showcasing their capabilities.
- **Holistic Representation:** Unlike test scores, portfolios provide a comprehensive view of a student's abilities, including creativity, problem-solving, and critical thinking.

Passend Education helps create **extensive portfolios** from group or individual work. These can be used to showcase and convince the admission commissions of the student's unique talents and help the children **reflect** on their learning too.

"I like having a good portfolio because it helps me get into the university of my choice."

- Jack



Trips and Camp

Day Trips

Once every semester Passend organizes a day trip. These trips are tied to the themes in the projects and are designed to allow for more choice in the child's learning experience. We will have interactive sessions with the staff to focus on STEAM SAGE. Examples of trips are

- Planetarium negara
- Zoo Negara
- Museum Negara,
- Pusat Sains negara
- Industry visits (
- University Visits

Camps

The annual camps are the highlight of the year for most children. An opportunity to make close friends. Learn to be independent and deal with the adversities of camping in a constructive way. The camps are a blend of STEAM SAGE activities, outdoor activities, campfires, and BBQ's.



Benefits for Schools

What do we offer Schools

- **Faculty training based on ECHA principles**
 - Crucial knowledge about gifted teaching and learning
 - Identification of Giftedness
 - Classroom management
 - Differentiation techniques
 - Social Emotional modules
 - Positive Discipline modules
 - Growth Mindset modules
 - Project based learning modules
 - Study planning modules
 - Dutch Style education principles
- **Gifted Peer Class Integration support**
 - Dutch Plus Class for Gifted Peer groups methods
 - Curriculum development modules
 - Training of dedicated teachers for Peer class(es).
- **In house Peer classes run through Passend Education**



Why should your School consider Passend Education?

- Turn dropouts into happy engaged students .
- Increase non gifted students performance through osmosis
- Foster a more fair and equal learning environment
- Foster lifelong learning and Growth Mindset
- Increase academic achievement.
- Embrace the Dutch Happy yet Successful Education model
- Conform to the 2025 Education Blueprint for Gifted Education by the MoE

Many modern schools **miss the opportunities** to support the Bill Gates and Walt Disney's of the future. Let us help you **discover, support** and **help** these **gifted children** thrive and remember their times in your school as the turning point of their lives.

"Gifted education is very close to my heart. If done right it can lead to wonderful things for everyone involved. Schools that embrace gifted education save lives literally. The effects on the entire student body are profound. Every high achieving nation has extensive gifted programs, it's time we start them here in Malaysia too."

- TJ van der Molen Founding Director

For more information contact us:

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Director's Message

Dear Parents,

It has been an absolute pleasure and honor to help many gifted children cope with their unique challenges this year. We have seen success stories, with acceleration, behavioral growth, and all-around happier children.

To make the work we do more impactful, we will be moving towards a yearly structure like we have been doing in the Netherlands. Now that we are confident the curriculum is ready for Malaysian needs. This will allow us to keep the groups more stable and consistent, which in turn should help with better habit building for the kids.

Our camp was a whirlwind of excitement with tough challenges for the kids due to rough weather, but despite this, all the children let us know it was some of the best times they have had in their lives. We built a working water wheel, made beautiful art for the new center to come, and designed a new Frisbee game. On top of that, the kids whipped up a full 3-course lunch with lemonade for 23 parents in 1.5 hours!

I am very proud of their achievements and am looking forward to welcoming them in the new year.

Tot Snel! (Jumpa Lagi!)

TJ van der Molen

Annual Structure

- Signup is for the year.
- 4 terms of 3 months will be conducted

Term Structure

One term lasting 3 months will provide the following sessions:

- 9 x 3 hour Lesson Sessions with
 - Smart Games
 - Affective lessons
 - Playground Session / Social session for teens
 - Project work
- 1 Day trip
 - Additional charges for admittance might apply
- 1 Parent support sessions or Parent Teacher meet.
- Once per year 3D2N camp
 - Additional charges for food and lodging will be applied

We will provide in these sessions:

- 2 Projects
- 1 Field trip Project
- Portfolio additions