

Resource 3: Checklist for identifying potentially very able children who are underachieving

Child:	
Behaviour	Displays this behaviour? Y/N
poor test performance	
orally knowledgeable but poor in written work	
superior comprehension and retention of concepts when interested	
apparently bored	
achieving below expectations in basic subjects	
restless or inattentive	
daily work often incomplete or poorly done	
dislikes practice work	
absorbed in private world	
tactless and impatient of slower minds	
prefers friendships with older pupils or adults	
excessively self-critical	
unable to make good relationships with peer group and teachers	
emotionally unstable – low self-esteem, withdrawn and sometimes aggressive	
has wide range of interests and possibly an area of real expertise	