

Academically Adrift Limited Learning On College Campuses Full Version

Academically adrift limited learning on college campuses has become a pressing concern for educators, policymakers, students, and parents alike. Despite the widespread assumption that higher education serves as a gateway to knowledge, critical thinking skills, and career readiness, recent research suggests that many college students are not experiencing the depth of learning and intellectual engagement that once characterized higher education. This phenomenon raises questions about the effectiveness of current college practices, the changing landscape of student motivation, and the broader implications for society's future workforce. In this article, we explore the roots of limited learning in college settings, examine its consequences, and discuss potential strategies for fostering a more meaningful and transformative college experience.

Understanding the Phenomenon of Limited Learning in Higher Education

Historical Perspective: The Expectations of College Education

Traditionally, college education has been viewed as a rigorous environment where students are challenged to develop critical thinking, analytical skills, and a broad understanding of their discipline. The ideal was that students would engage deeply with coursework, participate actively in discussions, and undertake independent research that would prepare them for professional and civic responsibilities.

However, over the past few decades, this ideal has been challenged by shifts in educational priorities and societal expectations. The rise of a consumer-driven approach to education, increased emphasis on credentials, and economic pressures have reshaped students' experiences and motivations. As a result, the focus often shifts from learning for its own sake to completing degrees as a means to secure employment.

Research Findings: Evidence of Limited Engagement and Learning

Several studies have documented the extent of limited learning among college students. One notable report from the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) indicates that many students spend relatively little time on academically challenging activities such as reading, writing, and problem-solving. For example:

- Only about 30% of students report engaging in meaningful discussions or analytical thinking tasks regularly.
- Many students allocate more time to social activities, part-time jobs, or leisure than to studying or academic pursuits.
- Standardized assessments reveal only modest gains in critical thinking and problem-solving skills during college years, suggesting a plateau or decline in learning outcomes.

Furthermore, the phenomenon of 'learning loss' has been observed, whereby students do not develop the skills and knowledge expected after several years of higher education, raising concerns about the quality and depth of their learning experiences.

Factors Contributing to Limited Learning on College Campuses

1. Shift Toward Surface Learning and Rote Memorization

Many students and instructors focus on surface-level learning strategies such as memorization and rote recall, often driven by the demands of standardized testing and grading criteria. This approach emphasizes short-term retention over deep understanding, critical analysis, and application of knowledge.

2. Reduced Student Engagement and Motivation

Engagement is a key predictor of learning success. Several factors diminish student engagement:

- Lack of relevance: Students often find coursework disconnected from real-world applications.
- Overemphasis on grades: The pressure to achieve high grades can discourage risk-taking and genuine intellectual exploration.
- External distractions: The pervasive presence of social media, entertainment, and part-time employment can divert attention from academic pursuits.

3. Institutional and Structural Challenges

Institutional practices and structural issues also play a role:

- Large class sizes limit personalized instruction and meaningful interaction.
- Curricula may be overcrowded or poorly aligned with skill development goals.
- Assessment methods often prioritize multiple-choice exams over essays, projects, or research papers that foster critical thinking.

4. Faculty Workload and Incentive Structures

Faculty members face their own set of challenges, including high teaching loads, research pressures, and limited resources. These factors can constrain their ability to implement innovative teaching methods that promote active learning and student engagement.

Consequences of Limited Learning in Higher Education

1. Workforce Readiness and Skill Gaps

One of the most immediate concerns is whether graduates possess the necessary skills for the modern workforce. Evidence suggests that many students lack critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, and adaptability skills, which are essential in a rapidly changing job market.

2. Societal and Civic Implications

Beyond individual career prospects, limited learning can impact societal well-being. An undereducated populace may struggle with civic responsibilities, understanding complex social issues, or participating effectively in democracy.

3. Economic Consequences

The economic return on investment in higher education depends on the development of relevant skills. When learning is limited, the economic benefits of higher education diminish, leading to higher student debt burdens without commensurate career advantages.

4. Erosion of Academic Integrity and Prestige

If students perceive that colleges do not challenge them or foster genuine learning, the reputation of higher education institutions may suffer, potentially leading to decreased enrollment and public trust.

Strategies to Address Limited Learning on College Campuses

1. Promoting Active and Experiential Learning

Active learning strategies, such as case studies, group projects, internships, and service-learning, can enhance engagement and facilitate deeper understanding. Colleges should invest in training faculty to incorporate these methods into their curricula.

2. Redesigning Curriculum and Assessment

Curricula should prioritize critical thinking, problem-solving, and interdisciplinary approaches. Assessments should move beyond multiple-choice tests to include essays, presentations, research projects, and portfolio assessments that better capture student learning.

3. Enhancing Faculty Support and Incentives

Institutions can encourage innovative teaching by providing professional development, recognition, and rewards for pedagogical excellence. Reducing faculty workloads dedicated solely to research can also allow more time for teaching innovation.

4. Fostering a Culture of Engagement and Relevance

Creating a campus environment that values intellectual curiosity, collaboration, and real-world applications can motivate students. Connecting coursework to current societal issues and career pathways can increase perceived relevance.

5. Leveraging Technology and Online Resources

Digital tools, online simulations, and open educational resources can supplement traditional instruction, offering personalized and flexible learning experiences that cater to diverse student needs.

The Role of Policymakers and Educational Leaders

Policymakers must prioritize funding for instructional innovation, research on effective teaching practices, and student support services. Accreditation agencies can also emphasize learning outcomes over mere enrollment and graduation metrics, encouraging institutions to focus on quality.

Educational leaders should promote a shared vision of transformative learning, invest in faculty development, and create accountability mechanisms that measure genuine student engagement and skill development.

Conclusion: Moving Toward a More Engaged and Effective Higher Education System

While the phenomenon of academically adrift and limited learning on college campuses presents significant challenges, it also offers an opportunity for reflection and reform. By understanding the factors that contribute to superficial learning and actively implementing strategies to foster deeper engagement, higher education institutions can reclaim their role as catalysts for intellectual growth and societal progress. Ultimately, reimagining college experiences to prioritize critical thinking, real-world application, and student-centered learning will better prepare graduates for the

complexities of the modern world and ensure that the investment in higher education yields meaningful and lasting benefits.

Academically Adrift: Limited Learning on College Campuses

In recent years, the phrase academically adrift has gained prominence in conversations about higher education, highlighting a concerning gap between students' expectations of college and the reality of their academic experiences. This term encapsulates the troubling trend where many college students are not engaging in meaningful learning, critical thinking, or intellectual development during their years on campus. As college costs soar and the pressure to produce job-ready graduates intensifies, understanding the phenomenon of limited learning in higher education has become more urgent than ever.

The Concept of Academic Drift: What Does It Mean?

Defining "Academically Adrift"

Initially popularized by Richard Arum and Josipa Roksa in their 2011 book *Academically Adrift: Limited Learning on College Campuses*, the term refers to the observation that a significant proportion of college students show little to no improvement in essential skills such as critical reading, complex reasoning, and analytical writing during their time in higher education. The core concern is that students are enrolling in college with certain skills but are not developing or refining those skills substantially during their studies.

Why Is This a Worry?

Limited learning has multiple implications:

- Reduced employability: Without strong critical thinking and problem-solving skills, graduates may struggle in a competitive job market.
- Eroded value of higher education: If college does not lead to meaningful intellectual development, its role as a catalyst for personal and societal growth diminishes.
- Widening inequality: Students from disadvantaged backgrounds may be even less likely to experience substantive learning, exacerbating social divides.

Factors Contributing to Limited Learning on College Campuses

- Shallow Approaches to Learning

Many students tend to adopt surface-level learning strategies?such as rote memorization?rather than deep engagement with material. This approach often results from:

- An emphasis on grades over understanding
 - Time management issues
 - Lack of motivation or interest
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- Inadequate Pedagogical Practices

Some college courses focus heavily on lectures and multiple-choice assessments, which may not challenge students to think critically or synthesize information. When teaching methods prioritize information delivery over active learning, students may become passive recipients rather than active participants.

- Minimal Academic Engagement

Research indicates that many students spend limited time studying or engaging with coursework outside of class. Factors include:

- Part-time employment
 - Social distractions
 - Lack of academic support or mentoring
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- Campus Culture and Expectations

The campus environment can influence learning behaviors. For example:

- A culture that emphasizes social activities over academics
 - Limited academic challenge or expectations
 - Excessive focus on extracurriculars or sports
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- Structural and Institutional Issues

Some institutions may lack the resources or commitment to promote rigorous academic standards or

to foster a culture of intellectual growth. This can manifest as:

- Insufficient advising and mentoring
- Lack of rigorous assessment standards
- Limited opportunities for undergraduate research or critical engagement

Evidence Supporting the Problem of Limited Learning

Findings from the Academically Adrift Study

The study by Arum and Roksa analyzed data from nearly 2,400 students across 24 institutions and found that:

- About 45% of students showed no significant improvement in critical thinking, reasoning, or writing after two years.
- Only 36% demonstrated gains in critical thinking after four years.
- Many students reported minimal reading and studying outside of class.

Broader Research and Surveys

Other studies and surveys reinforce these findings:

- The National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) reveals that a significant proportion of students spend less than 15 hours per week on academic work.
- The Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA) indicates that many graduates do not demonstrate substantial gains in higher-order thinking skills.

The Impact of Limited Learning

On Students

- Lack of intellectual growth can lead to dissatisfaction with the college experience.
- Students may graduate with degrees but without the skills needed for real-world challenges.
- Increased frustration and decreased motivation to pursue lifelong learning.

On Society

- A less engaged and less skilled workforce.
- Reduced innovation and problem-solving capacity.
- A potential decline in civic participation and social responsibility.

On Higher Education Institutions

- Erosion of reputation and credibility.
- Challenges in demonstrating the value of college education to policymakers and the public.
- Increased calls for accountability and reform.

Strategies to Address Limited Learning

- Promoting Deep Learning Approaches

Encouraging students to engage critically with material can be facilitated through:

- Assignments that require analysis, synthesis, and evaluation
- Collaborative projects and discussions
- Reflection papers and portfolios

- Improving Pedagogical Practices

Faculty can adopt evidence-based teaching methods such as:

- Active learning techniques (e.g., problem-based learning, case studies)
- Flipped classrooms
- Use of technology to foster engagement

- Strengthening Academic Support

Providing resources like:

- Writing centers
- Tutoring services

- Academic advising and mentoring programs
- Restructuring Assessment and Curriculum

Institutions should:

- Develop assessments that measure higher-order thinking skills
- Integrate interdisciplinary and real-world applications
- Ensure rigorous standards and consistent feedback
- Cultivating a Culture of Intellectual Engagement

Campus initiatives can foster a learning-centered environment by:

- Promoting undergraduate research opportunities
- Encouraging participation in academic societies and conferences
- Supporting faculty development to enhance teaching quality

The Role of Stakeholders in Combating Academic Drift

Higher Education Institutions

- Invest in faculty development
- Rethink curriculum design
- Foster a campus culture that values intellectual growth

Policymakers and Accreditation Bodies

- Set standards that emphasize learning outcomes
- Support research on effective teaching practices
- Provide incentives for institutions that demonstrate meaningful student learning

Students

- Engage actively with coursework
- Seek out opportunities for enrichment
- Advocate for quality education and support services

Employers

- Clearly communicate skill expectations
- Partner with colleges to provide experiential learning opportunities

Conclusion: Moving Toward Meaningful Learning

While the phenomenon of academically adrift raises serious concerns about the state of higher education, it also presents an opportunity for reflection and reform. Addressing limited learning on college campuses requires a concerted effort from educators, administrators, students, and policymakers. By emphasizing deep engagement, innovative pedagogy, and a culture that values intellectual development, colleges can reclaim their role as catalysts for meaningful learning and prepare students not just for jobs, but for lifelong success and societal contribution.

Investing in these strategies can help reverse the trend of academic drift, ensuring that higher education fulfills its promise of fostering critical thinkers, creative problem solvers, and engaged citizens.

QuestionAnswer What does the term 'academically adrift' refer to in the context of college campuses? It refers to a growing concern that many college students are not engaging in meaningful learning or developing critical thinking skills, resulting in limited academic growth during their college years. What are the main factors contributing to limited learning among college students? Factors include a lack of engagement with coursework, overemphasis on extracurricular activities, insufficient academic support, and teaching practices that do not promote active learning. How does 'academically adrift' impact students' future career prospects? Limited learning can lead to inadequate skill development, reduced critical thinking abilities, and lower preparedness for the workforce, potentially hindering career advancement. Are certain college majors more affected by limited learning than others? Research suggests that students in majors with less emphasis on active learning and critical engagement may experience more limited growth, though the issue can be widespread across disciplines. What strategies can colleges implement to combat limited learning on campuses? Institutions can promote active learning, redesign curricula to focus on critical thinking, provide faculty training, and increase opportunities for experiential and collaborative learning. Is there evidence that student engagement correlates with better learning outcomes? Yes, numerous studies show that higher levels of student engagement are linked to improved academic performance, deeper understanding, and greater retention of knowledge. What role do technology and online learning play in addressing or exacerbating the issue of limited learning? While

technology can facilitate interactive and personalized learning experiences, overreliance on passive online content may exacerbate limited engagement if not integrated effectively with active learning strategies.

Related keywords: college student engagement, higher education challenges, academic motivation, student retention, college curriculum effectiveness, campus learning environments, educational outcomes, student success factors, university teaching methods, academic performance trends

Gifted Children So Intelligent But They Struggled

Gifted children so intelligent but they struggled? a paradox that often surprises many. While these children exhibit exceptional intellectual abilities and talents, they may simultaneously face significant challenges that hinder their overall development and well-being. Understanding the complexities behind this phenomenon is essential for parents, educators, and caregivers striving to support gifted children effectively.

Understanding Giftedness: Beyond IQ Scores

What Defines a Gifted Child?

Gifted children are typically characterized by their advanced cognitive abilities, creativity, and exceptional talents in specific areas such as mathematics, music, or language. However, intelligence is multifaceted and cannot be solely measured by IQ scores. Other qualities include:

- Rapid learning and comprehension
- High curiosity and deep interest in subjects
- Exceptional problem-solving skills
- Creativity and original thinking

The Myth of the "Easy" Child

Many assume that gifted children automatically excel academically and socially. In reality, their giftedness can sometimes come with unique challenges, including social isolation, emotional sensitivities, and asynchronous development?where different areas of their growth do not progress uniformly.

Challenges Faced by Gifted Children Who Struggle

Emotional and Social Difficulties

Despite their intellectual strengths, gifted children may experience:

- Feelings of loneliness or social isolation
- Difficulty connecting with peers
- Perfectionism leading to anxiety and fear of failure
- High sensitivity to criticism or disappointment

These emotional struggles can impair their confidence and lead to withdrawal or behavioral issues.

Asynchronous Development

Gifted children often develop skills at different rates across domains. For example:

- They may be intellectually advanced but emotionally or physically on a typical developmental timeline
- This mismatch can cause frustration and difficulty adapting to age-appropriate social settings

Learning Difficulties and Underachievement

Ironically, some gifted children struggle academically due to:

- Undiagnosed learning disabilities (e.g., dyslexia, ADHD)
- Boredom with standard curricula
- Lack of appropriate academic challenges
- Difficulty with structured classroom environments

When their needs are unmet, they may become disengaged or perform below their potential.

Perfectionism and Fear of Failure

High-achieving gifted children often set unrealistically high standards for themselves, leading to:

- Fear of making mistakes

- Procrastination and avoidance behaviors
- Stress and anxiety

This emotional burden can further hinder their academic and personal growth.

Identifying Struggles in Gifted Children

Signs to Watch For

Parents and educators should be attentive to behavioral cues indicating that a gifted child is struggling, such as:

- Persistent boredom or disinterest in schoolwork
- Frequent emotional outbursts or withdrawal
- Difficulty with peer relationships
- Low self-esteem despite high abilities
- Difficulty focusing or completing tasks

Early identification allows for targeted interventions to support the child's needs.

Assessment and Evaluation

Comprehensive evaluation by psychologists or specialists can help determine:

- Intellectual strengths and weaknesses
- Possible learning disabilities
- Emotional well-being and social skills

Proper diagnosis informs effective strategies for support and development.

Strategies to Support Gifted Children Who Struggle

Academic Enrichment and Differentiation

To keep gifted children engaged and challenged:

- Provide advanced coursework or independent projects
- Use differentiated instruction tailored to their interests

- Encourage exploration beyond standard curricula

Emotional and Social Support

Building resilience and social skills is vital:

- Offer counseling or therapy to address emotional challenges
- Facilitate peer groups with similar interests
- Encourage participation in extracurricular activities

Addressing Asynchronous Development

Support children in navigating their uneven development by:

- Providing age-appropriate social opportunities
- Teaching emotional regulation and coping skills
- Allowing for flexible pacing in learning and activities

Fostering a Growth Mindset

Encourage children to view mistakes as learning opportunities:

- Celebrate effort and perseverance
- Teach resilience in the face of setbacks
- Model positive attitudes toward challenges

The Role of Parents and Educators

Creating a Supportive Environment

A nurturing environment involves:

- Recognizing the child's unique needs
- Providing opportunities for intellectual and emotional growth
- Maintaining open communication
- Advocating for appropriate educational placements

Collaborating with Professionals

Working with psychologists, counselors, and special educators ensures:

- Accurate diagnosis of learning or emotional issues
- Development of individualized education plans (IEPs)
- Ongoing monitoring of progress and well-being

Empowering the Child

Helping gifted children develop self-awareness and self-advocacy skills enables them to:

- Express their needs confidently
- Set realistic goals
- Build resilience and independence

Conclusion: Embracing the Complexity of Giftedness

Gifted children so intelligent but they struggled exemplify the complexity of human development. Their exceptional abilities do not immunize them from emotional, social, or learning challenges. Recognizing and addressing these struggles through comprehensive support can help gifted children flourish academically, emotionally, and socially. It's essential for caregivers, educators, and communities to adopt a holistic approach that celebrates their talents while providing the necessary scaffolding to overcome obstacles. Only then can we truly nurture their potential and ensure they lead fulfilling, balanced lives.

Gifted Children Who Struggle: Understanding the Complexities of Highly Intelligent but Troubled Young Minds

Gifted children are often celebrated for their extraordinary intellect, creativity, and potential. However, beneath the surface of brilliance, many of these children face unique challenges that can hinder their social, emotional, and academic development. Recognizing and understanding these struggles is crucial for parents, educators, and mental health professionals to provide appropriate support and foster their well-being.

Understanding Giftedness: Beyond IQ Scores

Defining Giftedness

Giftedness is commonly associated with high intelligence, but it encompasses more than just IQ scores. It involves a combination of cognitive abilities, creativity, motivation, and emotional traits. Typically, a child is considered gifted if they demonstrate:

- Exceptional intellectual abilities (IQ scores often above 130)
- Advanced reasoning and problem-solving skills
- High levels of creativity and originality
- Rapid learning pace and curiosity
- Deep comprehension of complex ideas

Multiple Intelligences and Giftedness

Howard Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences broadens the perspective on giftedness, recognizing domains such as:

- Logical-mathematical
- Linguistic
- Musical
- Spatial
- Bodily-kinesthetic
- Interpersonal
- Intrapersonal
- Naturalistic

A gifted child might excel in one or more of these areas, and their struggles may be specific to their particular profile.

The Hidden Struggles of Gifted Children

While giftedness can lead to academic success, it can also be accompanied by significant difficulties. These challenges often go unnoticed or misunderstood, leading to frustration, behavioral issues, or emotional distress.

1. Emotional Sensitivity and Intensity

Many gifted children exhibit heightened emotional sensitivity, which can manifest as:

- Intense reactions to criticism or perceived failure

- Deep empathy or emotional awareness
- Mood swings and emotional exhaustion
- Overwhelm from complex feelings

This emotional intensity can make social interactions more complicated and increase vulnerability to anxiety and depression.

2. Asynchronous Development

Asynchronous development refers to uneven growth across different domains:

- Intellectual maturity outpaces social or emotional development
- Advanced reasoning may clash with developmental age
- This mismatch can lead to social isolation or frustration

For example, an intellectually gifted child might be interested in adult topics but struggle to relate to peers, leading to feelings of alienation.

3. Perfectionism and Fear of Failure

Gifted children often set high standards for themselves, which can result in:

- Paralyzing perfectionism
- Avoidance of challenges to prevent failure
- Anxiety over performance
- Self-criticism and low self-esteem when expectations aren't met

These tendencies can hinder learning and contribute to mental health issues.

4. Boredom and Underachievement

Highly intelligent children may become easily bored in traditional classroom settings that do not challenge them sufficiently:

- Loss of interest in academic tasks
- Disruptive behaviors or withdrawal
- Underachievement relative to their potential

This boredom can lead to frustration for both children and teachers, further affecting their academic trajectory.

5. Social Challenges and Peer Relationships

Gifted children might face difficulties forming peer relationships due to:

- Different interests or conversational levels
- Feeling misunderstood or alienated
- Bullying or social exclusion
- Difficulty relating to age-mates

These social struggles can contribute to loneliness and emotional distress.

6. Anxiety and Mood Disorders

Research indicates that gifted children are at higher risk for certain mental health issues, including:

- Generalized anxiety disorder
- Depression
- Obsessive-compulsive tendencies
- Stress related to their own high expectations

Early recognition and intervention are essential to prevent long-term consequences.

Identifying and Supporting Gifted Children Who Struggle

Early Identification

Recognizing the signs of struggle in gifted children involves attentive observation. Indicators include:

- Persistent boredom or frustration
- Social withdrawal or difficulty making friends
- Emotional volatility or heightened sensitivity
- Avoidance of academic work or perfectionism
- Signs of anxiety or depression

Standardized testing, behavioral assessments, and input from parents and teachers can aid in early

detection.

Customized Educational Strategies

To address their unique needs, gifted children require tailored educational approaches:

- Acceleration (grade skipping or subject acceleration)
- Enrichment programs that deepen understanding
- Differentiated instruction to challenge their abilities
- Opportunities for independent projects or research

Fostering Emotional and Social Development

Supporting their emotional well-being involves:

- Encouraging open communication about feelings
- Teaching coping skills and resilience
- Providing opportunities for social interaction with like-minded peers
- Promoting extracurricular activities that build confidence

Addressing Mental Health

Given their increased risk for emotional struggles, mental health support should be integrated into their care:

- Counseling or psychotherapy when needed
- Mindfulness and stress management techniques
- Parental education on recognizing signs of anxiety and depression
- Collaboration between educators, parents, and mental health professionals

Creating Supportive Environments

A nurturing environment that recognizes their talents and struggles is vital:

- Schools with gifted programs and counseling services
- Support groups for gifted children and their families
- Parental advocacy for appropriate accommodations

- Encouraging a growth mindset to reduce fear of failure

Long-term Outcomes and Success Stories

Despite the challenges, many gifted children who receive proper support grow into successful, well-adjusted adults. Key factors influencing positive outcomes include:

- Early identification and intervention
- Emotional support and resilience-building
- Opportunities to develop their talents
- Healthy social relationships

Success stories often highlight individuals who, despite early struggles, harnessed their intelligence and emotional depth to excel in various fields, from science and arts to leadership and entrepreneurship.

Conclusion: Embracing the Complexity of Giftedness

Gifted children are a testament to the incredible diversity of human potential. Yet, their journey is often marked by unique obstacles that require awareness, compassion, and tailored support. Recognizing that high intelligence does not equate to emotional or social ease is crucial. By fostering environments that nurture both their talents and their emotional health, we can help gifted children not only succeed academically but also develop into resilient, fulfilled individuals.

Understanding and addressing the struggles of gifted children is a collective responsibility—one that promises a future where their brilliance can truly flourish without being overshadowed by unrecognized challenges.

Question Why do some gifted children struggle despite their high intelligence? Gifted children may struggle due to social-emotional challenges, perfectionism, boredom, or lack of appropriate academic stimulation, which can hinder their overall well-being and performance. How can parents and teachers support gifted children who are struggling? They can provide differentiated learning opportunities, emotional support, counseling, and create an environment that challenges them intellectually while addressing their social and emotional needs. Are gifted children more prone to mental health issues? Yes, some gifted children may experience anxiety, depression, or feelings of isolation due to their unique cognitive and emotional experiences, especially if their needs are not adequately supported. What are signs that a gifted child is struggling academically or emotionally? Signs include withdrawal, persistent boredom, difficulty concentrating, anxiety, perfectionism, or sudden changes in behavior and performance. Can early identification help gifted children overcome their struggles? Absolutely. Early identification allows for tailored educational and

emotional support, helping gifted children thrive academically and emotionally while addressing any challenges they face.

Related keywords: gifted children, high intelligence, learning difficulties, asynchronous development, emotional sensitivity, social challenges, underachievement, educational support, developmental delays, asynchronous growth

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