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excellent leadership and excellent programmes for the gifted and talented, but parents are extremely worried that the other end is not catered for. Many schools do not understand what gifted and talented means and are not prepared to put in place programmes that cater for gifted and talented children, and parents are extremely concerned. House of Commons Children, Schools and Families Committee The Gifted and Talented programme Oral and written evidence 1 February 2010 Joy Blaker, Professor Deborah Eyre, Richard Gould, Sue Mordecai, and Denise Yates Diana R Johnson MP, Jon Coles, Dr Geraldine Hutchinson, and Professor John Stannard CBE Ordered by The House of Commons to be ... Professor John Stannard CBE, National Champion, Gifted and Talented Learners; The purpose of the session is to examine the development of the Gifted and Talented programme since its inception and to explore the reasons for the change in direction recently announced by the Government. This is expected to be the only evidence session in this inquiry. The Government is now cutting back on significant elements of the programme, including the Gifted and Talented Academy and wants instead to mainstream support for gifted and talented through schools, under the umbrella of the National Strategies managed by Capita Education services on behalf of the DCSF. The Strategies are, as it happens, in their last year of delivery.