Dear Kerryn,
Mr. David Southwick and I were speaking at the V.G.A.T.C Unmasking the Possibilities Conference and he asked that I forward to you a recent email about my experiences in trying to organise a Govt. Secondary school for my son. I have pasted it below and ask that the school's name not be used. I have removed the Teacher's name and my son's name for confidentiality. I would have thought that the school would have loved having such a gifted child but apparently only if not so clever!
Please acknowledge you have received this email,
Warm regards,
Hi [Name], apologies for the delayed reply. I have been talking to a number of people about your question, and suggest that you consider the following points:

* in most schools, including [School], the structure of the timetable precludes a student in one Year Level studying subjects in other Year Levels.
* the social impact resulting from a student studying outside of their year level can be significant
* some students deal with the 'boredom' they can feel when the work is 'easy' in constructive ways, others do not
* whilst [School] encourages and supports teachers to develop individual learning plans, the practice is not always as comprehensive as it could be
* some programs targeted at gifted children do a wonderful job of educating the whole student, others do not.
* your desire to create a 'normal' Year 7 experience for xxxx would be difficult in most schools who do not have targeted programs

The decision you need to make is a difficult one, made harder by impending timelines. I have attached a link to a website that you may find useful, but probably have already seen.

[Link]

Regards,