



When we have children attending school we hope they will do well. This can mean attending classes and making friends. Showing an interest in learning is important too. Sometimes your children may need extra support to do their best in school.

For information on your child's education rights call the Child Advocacy Project at 1-866-466-7256 or visit www.childadvocacy.ca



How to Address Your Child's School Issues

School issues tend to fall into three categories - attendance, behaviour, and poor achievement.

The Lakehead District School Board offers a number of programs and services to meet your child's school issue:

- Inside the School – classroom teacher, guidance counselors (high school), education assistants, special needs teachers, school social workers, and both vice principle and principle
- Outside the School – psychiatrist, speech pathologists, occupational and physical therapists, and others
- Alternative Programs – off site classes, adult education, transition classes, pregnancy classes, and others

When addressing a school issue there should be equal involvement between the child, the parent/caregiver and the teacher/school board.

Things You Can Do

- Introduce yourself to your child's teacher at the beginning of the school year
- If you have any questions about your child's schooling, call their classroom teacher to discuss it
- If your child has a date book or planner, sign it or leave messages for the teacher
- Show an interest in your child's school work—ask them about their day or if they have any homework
- Provide your child with a brightly lit, quiet area to do their homework

Talk with Teachers

The classroom teacher spends the most time with your child. They have the best opportunity to support and create change in your child. The teacher can manage your child's progress in school. When talking with your child's teacher keep the following suggestions in mind:

- Ask the teacher for a good time to talk
- Discuss what matters the most
- Ask what you can do to help
- Accept any differences with your child's teacher
- If you don't speak English, make sure the school staff speaks to you directly or through an interpreter, not through your child



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Other Things You Can Do

- Get to know your child's friends
- Keep your child out of school when he/she is sick
- Start the day with a healthy breakfast and include a snack and healthy lunch for your child's school day
- Keep track of your child's progress
- Give your child lots of praise for doing his/her best

Where to Find Help

Lakehead Public Schools 2135 Sills St. www.lakeheadschoools.ca	625-5100
Children's Centre 283 Lisgar St., www.childrenscentre.ca	343-5000
Dilico Anishinabek Family Care 200 Anemki Place www.dilico.com	623-8511
Thunder Bay Boys and Girls Clubs 270 Windsor St. www.tbayboysandgirlsclub.org	623-0354
Autism Ontario 425 Edward St. N., Northwood Park Plaza www.autismontario.com/thunderbay	622-9713