

Tip Sheets

Our parent tip sheets give you the information you need to understand how things work in schools and will help you to help your child.

Scroll down this page to see the list of topics. Our parent tip sheets are available to be printed in many languages.

Most of our documents are in PDF format.

To download Adobe Acrobat Reader click on the Adobe box -----> ---->



1. Starting School



Starting school can be scary for kids and parents.

We have tips to help parents prepare their children for kindergarten and Grade 1.

Click on the language of your choice to read the Starting School tip sheet:

[English](#), [Arabic](#), [Chinese](#), [Farsi](#), [French](#), [Korean](#), [Portuguese](#), [Punjabi](#), [Russian](#), [Somali](#), [Spanish](#), [Tamil](#), [Urdu](#).

2. Who does what in Ontario's public education system?



What is the role of the Ministry of Education, school boards, schools, teachers and school councils?

This tip sheet will help you understand who does what.

Click on the language of your choice to read the Who Does What in Education tip sheet:

[English](#), [Arabic](#), [Bengali](#), [Chinese](#), [Farsi](#), [French](#), [Korean](#), [Gujarati](#), [Portuguese](#), [Punjabi](#), [Russian](#), [Somali](#), [Spanish](#), [Tamil](#), [Urdu](#).

3. Top 6 Secrets to Student Success

People for Education recently conducted a wide review of Canadian and international research on parent involvement and student success.

There is a substantial agreement on the most effective actions parents can take to reduce achievement gaps between students, and increase their chances for academic success.

[Click here to find out more.](#)



4. Three easy steps for great parent-teacher interviews!



Parent-teacher interviews are usually short.

This tip sheet will help you prepare so you can make the best use of the time with your child's teacher.

Click on the language of your choice to read the Parent-Teacher Interviews tip sheet:

[English](#), [Arabic](#), [Chinese](#), [Farsi](#), [French](#), [Korean](#), [Punjabi](#), [Russian](#), [Somali](#), [Spanish](#), [Tamil](#), [Urdu](#).

5. Do you have questions about homework?

One way we can help our children succeed in school is to support them as they do homework.

This tip sheet will answer many of your questions and give you some new and helpful ideas!

Click on the language of your choice to read the Homework tip sheet:

[English](#), [Arabic](#), [Bengali](#), [Chinese](#), [French](#), [Gujarati](#), [Korean](#), [Portuguese](#), [Punjabi](#), [Russian](#), [Somali](#), [Spanish](#), [Tamil](#), [Urdu](#).



6. Free Tutoring for High School Students

Do you need help with homework? FREE online tutoring for high school students is offered by the Independent Learning Centre. Certified teachers are available five nights a week (Sunday through Thursday) and they even offer a free essay feedback service.

Go to the website – www.ilc.org – and select the tab “Ask a Teacher”.

Scroll down to **Chat Rooms**. Students can register to receive free online tutoring and get live homework help. The Chat Rooms are free to Ontario high school students and are **open every Sunday to Thursday, 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.**, except during holidays.

(The Independent Learning Centre is part of TVOntario.)

7. Health and Physical Education and Daily Physical Activity

Physical, emotional and mental health are key predictors of future quality of life for our kids.

This tip sheet provides information about what students learn in Health and Physical Education and the importance of Daily Physical Activity.

[Click here to view our Health and Physical Education and Daily Physical Activity tip sheet in English.](#)



8. High School Courses and Choices

Parents and students feel a lot of pressure about making the right decision about high school courses.

This tip sheet provides information about the different types of courses and where they lead.

Click on the language of your choice to read the High School Courses and Choices tip sheet:

[English](#), [Arabic](#), [Chinese](#), [Chinese Simplified](#), [Farsi](#), [French](#), [Korean](#), [Punjabi](#), [Russian](#), [Somali](#), [Spanish](#), [Tamil](#), [Urdu](#).



For additional information about high school, apprenticeship, post-secondary and career options, you can also visit:

www.ilc.org and select the tab "CareerMATTERS". *(The ILC is part of TVOntario.)*

Looking for information to help students choosing university programs in Ontario? Check out this website: www.electronicinfo.ca

9. School Councils



What is a school council?

How do they work?

Who can become a member?

These questions and more are answered in our School Council tip sheet.

[Click here to view our school council tip sheet in English.](#)

10. Solving Problems at School



Who should you talk to if you have a question or a problem?

The school system can sometimes be confusing or intimidating.

This tip sheet offers concrete advice and a clear step-by-step process for solving problems.

Click on the language of your choice to read the Solving Problems at School tip sheet:

[English](#), [Arabic](#), [Chinese](#), [Farsi](#), [French](#), [Korean](#), [Punjabi](#), [Portuguese](#), [Russian](#), [Somali](#), [Spanish](#), [Tamil](#), [Urdu](#).

11. Special education tips for parents



All students will have times when they struggle with schoolwork or with school life. **But some students may need extra support from a special education program.**

This tip sheet answers your questions.

Click on the language of your choice to read the Special Education tip sheet:

[English](#), [Arabic](#), [Chinese](#), [Farsi](#), [Filipino](#), [French](#), [Korean](#), [Punjabi](#), [Russian](#), [Somali](#), [Spanish](#), [Tamil](#), [Urdu](#).

→ Or [click here](#) to visit our special education resource page for detailed information.

12. Understanding the Safe Schools Act

Ontario has an official policy about how students must behave in school.

Read our tip sheet to find out more about it.

Click on the language of your choice to read the Safe School Acts tip sheet:

[English](#), [Arabic](#), [Chinese](#), [Farsi](#), [French](#), [Korean](#), [Punjabi](#), [Russian](#), [Somali](#), [Spanish](#), [Tamil](#), [Urdu](#).



13. Answering Parents' Questions about EQAO tests in Grades 3 & 6

Ontario students are tested in grades 3 and 6. How can you help your child prepare? When will you find out the results?

This tip sheet answers these questions and more.

Click on the language of your choice to read the EQAO Testing tip sheet:

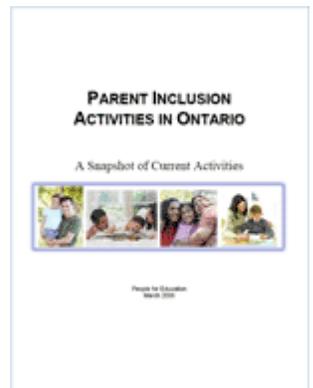
[English](#), [Arabic](#), [Chinese](#), [Farsi](#), [French](#), [Korean](#), [Punjabi](#), [Russian](#), [Somali](#), [Spanish](#), [Tamil](#), [Urdu](#).



14. Guidebook to Parent Inclusion Activities in Ontario

Schools and community groups across Ontario offer many innovative programs and activities to include parents in their children's education.

We have compiled a Guide to some of those activities.



[Click here to view the Guidebook.](#)

15. A look inside Ontario's schools

Find out more about Ontario's schools! This one page brochure will give you lots of important and up-to-date information at a glance.

Click to view in [English](#) or [French](#).

- [Or click here to view in other languages.](#)



[Click here to view.](#)

16. Links to other resources

Newcomers' Guide to Education in Ontario

School is an important part of life in Ontario. The Newcomers' Guides to Education in Ontario try to help parents support their children in school. Prepared by Settlement.Org

The Independent Learning Centre - help for high school students.

The ILC offers courses, career information and free online tutoring for high school students and adults.