



STEPS TO JUSTICE EDUCATION LAW

An OJEN workshop demonstrating a CLEO public legal information resource.





1. I am 15 years old and I receive a suspension from school. I can appeal it on my own without a parent.



2. A student has to be diagnosed by a doctor or health professional in order to be considered to have an "exceptionality".



3. If a student reports to the principal that they have been bullied, the incident must be investigated.



4. A student in Ontario can attend any school board in their district.



5. If the school board trustees don't make a decision regarding expulsion within twenty days, the student is allowed to return to school.



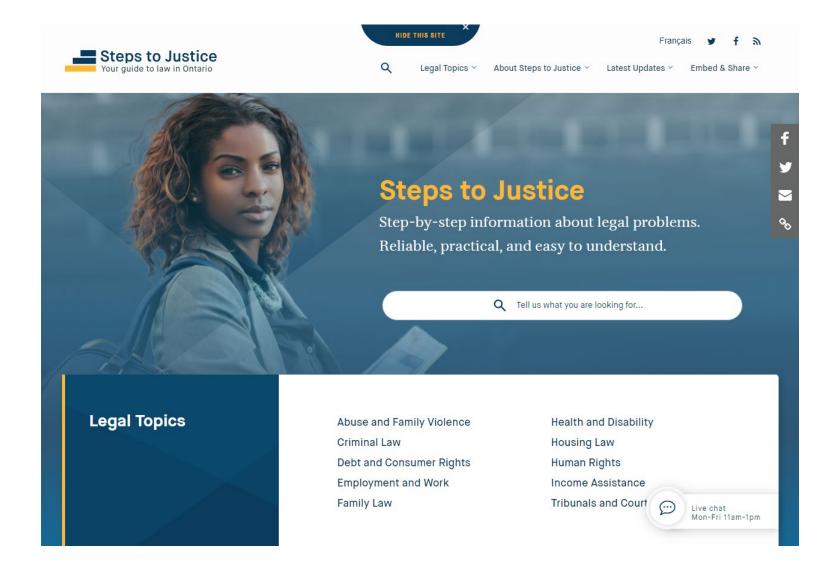
- French-language school rights in Ontario
- Catholic school boards in Ontario
- Discipline and safety
- Suspensions
- Bullying
- Appeals for suspended students
- Special education
- Homeschooling

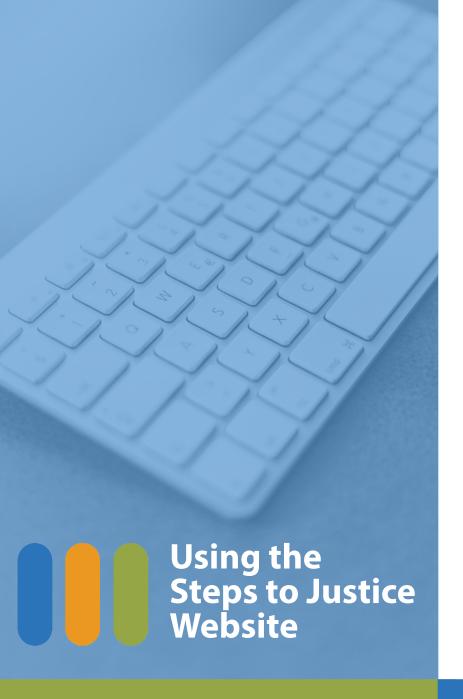


Alex will be starting school in the Fall and his parents would like him to attend a French school. Alex's mom is Anglophone and believes that receiving a French-language education would be beneficial for Alex's future. Alex's father, Marc, attended French-language elementary and secondary school. Can Alex attend a French-language school?



Steps to Justice 🔊





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Start on the Steps to Justice topic, "French schools" with the question, "Do I have the right to have my education in French?"

Some questions:

- Who has the right to access French-language education in Ontario?
- Can students whose parents are not rights holders attend school in French?
- Does the province of Ontario have to put a French school in every community?
- Which Section of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms establishes French-language rights-holders?
- Do you think anyone should be allowed to receive a French-language education at the elementary and secondary level?



- I. Navigate to the Steps to Justice website:
 - http://stepstojustice.ca
- 2. Read your scenario with your group.
- 3. Try to identify the main legal issues.
- 4. Imagine that you are the person in the scenario. Use the Steps to Justice website to answer the questions on your handout.
- 5. As you browse, try to find out more about how the law would affect the person in your scenario. What does it say? What are their options?
- 6. Record your answers on the handout.

If you get stuck, ask for help!

Large Group Scenario

FOCUS AREAS:

- 1) Discipline and safety
- 2) Bullying
- 3) Best interests of students

I have been bullied at school for multiple weeks now. Many of my classmates have been making fun of the way I dress, and they call me names. I have had enough, and I want to stand up for myself. I have been bullied before and have threatened to hurt people. My parents and my principal have had to intervene on several occasions. I told my friend that I was going to push my bully off the swing at recess, but he told on me to the principal and now the school is threatening to suspend me. Is there a possibility I get suspended? Can my bully get suspended?