

Human Rights

These rights also mean that your children are expected to:

- take advantage of the education that is offered to them by attending school regularly, respecting school rules and doing their best.
- show respect for the cultures and traditions of adults and children in their schools and communities.
- refrain from discriminating against others.
- help develop an environment that is understanding, tolerant, and peaceful.
- take part in play and recreation activities as part of their school day.

Children also have a responsibility to:

- show respect to all family members.
- accept that parents are usually the best people to make decisions about children's lives.
- state their opinions thoughtfully and respectfully.
- treat their home and community with respect.

How do these rights affect what happens at home?

As a parent, you should ensure that your children have:

- healthy food and sufficient rest.
- regular doctor and dental check-ups.
- a clean safe home and play environment.
- time for school and time for play.
- a right to give their opinion on matters that affect them and their environment.

VSB

“The Rights of a Child”

This brochure is one in a series sponsored by the VSB SWIS program and produced collectively by a group of ESL/ELL teachers and the VSB MCLW team.



This project is made possible through funding from the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia.

The Rights of a Child



What These Mean in your Child's Education

Human Rights

On November 20th, 1989, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the 'Declaration of the Rights of a Child'. 193 countries, including Canada, have agreed to the principles of this declaration. In Canada, anyone under the age of 18 is considered to be a child.

What are rights?

Rights are basic freedoms that every person is entitled to regardless of age, race, colour, gender, language, religion, political belief, national or social origin.



What does the 'Declaration of the Rights of a Child' state?

The 'Declaration of the Rights of a Child' states that:

- children, because they are physically and mentally immature, need special protection.
- children should have the best that parents and the Canadian government can give them.
- these rights apply to all children regardless of their race, colour, gender, language, political beliefs, national or social origin.

What are some of the rights that are included in the 'Declaration of the Rights of a Child'?

That all children have a right to:

- develop socially and emotionally with freedom and dignity.
- special treatment and care if they are physically or mentally handicapped.
- free and compulsory education that promotes their culture and develops their talents.

- play and recreation.
- protection from all forms of neglect.
- protection from any form of discrimination.
- be brought up in a spirit of understanding, tolerance, friendship and peace.

How does this affect your children in school?

These rights ensure that your children have access to a free education that:

- respects their name, nationality, culture, and traditions.
- treats them with dignity.
- protects them from any form of discrimination.
- provides an environment that is understanding, tolerant, and peaceful.
- develops their talents.
- includes time for play and recreation.
- provides the special treatment and care that they may require.