

## **SUSPENSIONS**

Your school's Code of Conduct and the Education Act tell you what conduct can result in a suspension. Suspensions are recorded in your Ontario Student Record – if you change schools they will know what happened.

### **How long can I be suspended for?**

Suspensions can last from up to 20 school days. If it is more than 5 days, you must be offered a program. If it is 5 days or less, the school must give you a homework package.

### **Do I have to be suspended if I broke the rules?**

No, your principal or school board must consider **many** things before deciding, **including**:

- whether your behaviour was the result of a disability
- your age
- whether your behaviour was because you were harassed

### **What if my suspension is unfair?**

- You can ask for a review or appeal your suspension. You (or your parents if you are under 18 and living at home) must do this quickly.
- You should contact a lawyer as soon as possible (if you cannot afford a lawyer or your parents refuse to help, call one of the numbers below).
- If your suspension is over by the time the review or appeal is done and they say that you should not have been suspended, it will be removed from your Ontario Student Record.
- If you believe your suspension is discriminatory, you can make an application to the Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario.

**Justice for Children and Youth**  
416-920-1633 or 1-866-999-5629 /  
[www.jfcy.org](http://www.jfcy.org)

**Pro Bono Law Ontario – Education Law**  
416-977-4448 x.226 or 1-866-466-7256 /  
[www.lawhelpontario.org](http://www.lawhelpontario.org)

**Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario**  
416-326-1312 or 1-800-598-0322 /  
[www.hrto.ca](http://www.hrto.ca)

**Human Rights Legal Support Centre**  
416-314-6266 or 1-800-625-5179 /  
[www.hrlsc.on.ca](http://www.hrlsc.on.ca)