

## Where to go for help in your area

Home and Community Care Support Services - North West

1-800-626-5406  
(TOLL FREE)

### FIREFLY

Dryden 807-223-8550  
Kenora 807-467-5437  
Red Lake 807-727-9064  
Sioux Lookout 807-737-2086

1-800-465-7203  
(TOLL FREE ALL LOCATIONS)

Contact your school principal to find out about community agencies in your area.

### Contact Us

Kenora - Head Office  
4th Floor - 240 Veterans Drive  
Kenora, Ontario P9N 3Y5  
Phone: 807-468-5571  
Toll Free: 877-275-7771

[www.kpdsb.ca](http://www.kpdsb.ca)

Do you have  
concerns about your  
child's learning?



SCAN ME



# Keewatin Patricia

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Special Education Services

## You Are Not Alone:

Advice for families of children with special education needs

This brochure is produced in consultation with the KPDSB and the KPDSB's Special Education Advisory Committee May 2024.

## Advocating for your child

- Get to know the staff at your school. Develop a relationship.
- Meet with your child's teacher each September.
- Be firm and persistent. Explain what you are happy with and what you want changed.
- Never be afraid to ask questions.

## Staying informed

- Learn the terms that special education teachers use.
- Learn about the Identification, Placement and Review Committee (IPRC) process. Come to meetings prepared. Know your rights and responsibilities.
- Keep a file of all your child's school records, assessments, reports, and samples of schoolwork.
- Get to know your child's learning style. Develop strategies for learning at home.
- Share what you know with coaches, neighbours and family.

## Talking with your child

- Praise your child for their many strengths.
- Tell them that they can learn, and that many smart people learn differently.
- Teach them to seek help when they need it and advocate for themselves.
- Include your child in decision making as early as possible.
- Be prepared for emotional issues that come with trying to learn.

## Helping your child at home

- Provide a quiet area to focus on school work.
- Develop a consistent homework routine.
- Praise and encourage.
- Be there to answer questions.
- Make your approach to your child's learning needs consistent with the school's.

## Take care of yourself

- Be realistic about what you expect from your child.
- Be aware of your own strengths and use them.
- Work on your assertiveness, time management, and goal-setting skills. These will help you to make good decisions and address school staff.
- Develop a good support system. Share your feelings—good and bad—with those you trust.

### Resources

**Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario**

[ldao.ca](http://ldao.ca)

**SNOW: Special Needs Ontario Window**

[snow.idrc.ocadu.ca](http://snow.idrc.ocadu.ca)

**The Council for Exceptional Children**

[exceptionalchildren.org](http://exceptionalchildren.org)

**Special Education: Resources for Parents**

[www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/speced.html](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/speced.html)