



## YCAO School Attendance Review – Parent/Guardian Survey

As parents or guardians of young people, you know that students miss class occasionally. The purpose of this review by the Child and Youth Advocate's Office (YCAO) is to spotlight students who are experiencing or at risk of experiencing chronic absenteeism (>20 unexcused absences in a school year) so that we can gain better understanding about the barriers that prevent these young people from being in school. Findings from this review will be included in a report to the Yukon Legislative Assembly, along with recommendations of how Yukon Government can better address barriers to education, which is a recognized right in Article 28 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

You can refer to the CRC here: <https://www.unicef.org/child-rights-convention/convention-text-childrens-version>

### Parent/Guardian Info

1. *Optional: Is your child/youth Indigenous (FN, Metis, Inuit)?* YES  NO

If FN, which First Nation are they a citizen of? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Where does your child or young person attend school?

- Whitehorse elementary
- Whitehorse secondary
- Community elementary
- Community secondary
- Alternative

3. What grade are they in?

- Kindergarten to Grade 1
- Grades 2 to 5
- Grades 6 to 7
- Grades 8 to 9
- Grades 10 to 12

4. Does your child receive educational supports? YES  NO

### Children's Rights

1. On a scale of 1-10, how familiar are you with the concept of Children's Rights?

1 (*least*)      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10 (*most*)



2. On a scale of 1-10, how important are Children's Rights in the classroom?

1 (least)   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10 (most)

3. On a scale of 1-10, how effectively do you think your child or youth's rights are respected in the classroom?

1 (least)   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10 (most)

4. Please list a few ways Children's Rights can be improved in the school or classroom:

5. Additional Comments



## Children's Belonging

1. On a scale of 1 to 10, how important do you think it is for students to feel a sense of belonging in school?

1 (least)   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10 (most)

2. On a scale of 1 to 10, how important do you think it is for schools to build relationships with their students?

1 (least)   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10 (most)

3. On a scale of 1 to 10, how effectively do you think your child or youth's schools have built relationships with them?

1 (least)   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10 (most)

4. Please list a few ways schools can build strong relationships with your child or youth:

5. Additional Comments



## Responding to Student Voice

In our individual and systemic advocacy, youth have shared with us their thoughts and feelings about why they might not engage at school. Have you as a parent or guardian heard concerns like this? How would you respond? How do you think the school should respond to the following concerns? Feel free to respond in point form if preferred (you don't have to write as if you were responding to the child.)

1. On belonging: "I felt I didn't belong at school, there's nothing there for me."

2. On safety: "I don't feel safe, I get bullied a lot."

3. On feeling engaged: "School is boring, I need to move, I need to get outside."



4. On learning styles and supports: “When I ask for help, they explain things too fast. I don’t know what they mean. I need to see how it works.”

5. Additional Comments

### Supports and Resources

1. On a scale of 1 to 10, do you feel your child or youth has the resources and supports necessary to succeed in school?

1 (least)   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10 (most)

2. On a scale of 1 to 10, how important is a school’s involvement in ensuring good student attendance?

1 (least)   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10 (most)

3. On a scale of 1 to 10, how important is the home’s involvement in ensuring good student attendance?

1 (least)   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10 (most)



4. On a scale of 1 to 10, do you feel have access to the resources to support your child or youth at home with their schooling?

1 (least)   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10 (most)

5. Additional Comments

**COVID-19**

1. How did/does COVID-19 impact your child or youth's schooling?

2. How did/does COVID-19 impact your ability to support your child or youth with their schooling?



3. On a scale of 1 to 10, how much does COVID-19 impact student attendance in the classroom?

1 (*least*)   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10 (*most*)

4. Additional Comments

### Conclusion

Is there anything that we're not asking that you feel is important for us to know in regards to student attendance?

Do you have concrete ideas on how schools can address student attendance issues?



Additional Comments

**Mahsi' cho, gunalchéesh, merci, thank you.**

Your anonymous responses will be used to inform Phase 1 of the YCAO's School Attendance Review, which will be tabled, along with recommendations, to the Yukon Legislative Assembly in March 2021. The YCAO thanks you for your commitment to helping your children/youth achieve success however that looks for them. If you would like to share further thoughts on the topic of school attendance and how Yukon Education can do better for young people, please call us at 867-456-5575 or email us at [info@ycao.ca](mailto:info@ycao.ca).