



## Legal Implications

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## Salamanca Statement

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◆ Schools... “should accommodate all children regardless of their physical, intellectual, social, emotional, linguistic, or other conditions. This should include disabled and gifted children, street and working children, children from remote and or nomadic populations, children from linguistic, ethnic, or cultural minorities and children from other disadvantaged or marginalized areas or groups.”

◆ “Regular schools with an inclusive orientation are the most effective means for combating discrimination, creating welcoming communities, building an inclusive society and achieving education for all.”

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## Charter of Rights and Freedoms

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◆ “Every individual is equal before and under the law and has the right to the equal protection and equal benefit of the law without discrimination and, in particular, without discrimination based on race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, sex, age or mental or physical disability.”

◆ So how is it that a student with a disability’s sibling goes to their neighborhood school, or regular classroom, but the student with a disability is not welcome there, and must get on a bus or go down the hall and go elsewhere?

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## School Act

**Access to educational program**

2 (1) Subject to section 74.1, a person is entitled to enrol in an educational program provided by the board of a school district if the person

- (a) is of school age, and
- (b) is resident in that school district.

(2) Subject to section 74.1, a person may enrol in an educational program provided by a board of a school district and attend any school in British Columbia if

- (a) the person is of school age,
- (b) the person is resident in British Columbia, and
- (c) the board providing the educational program determines that space and facilities are available for the person at the school in which the educational program is made available.

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**loco  
parentis**

in teachers we trust

**IN LOCO PARENTIS**

*"Teacher actions are expected to conform to what a careful parent would do"*

– Supreme Court of Canada

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## Inclusion: What Is It Really?

ΕΛΕΚΤΟΡΕΙ

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## Research Outcomes

- ◆ Typical & Gifted Students
  - ◊ Academic Outcomes – same as students in non-inclusive classrooms
  - ◊ Social outcomes – increases in prosocial behaviors, problem solving skills, cooperative skills, leadership
- ◆ Typical Students with Low Achievement
  - ◊ Academic outcomes – improved literacy, task completion, attendance
  - ◊ Social Outcomes – improved self-concept, reduced suspensions, increased prosocial skills
- ◆ Students with Disabilities
  - ◊ Academic outcomes – improved literacy, language development and general knowledge, improved communication skills, improved life skills
  - ◊ Social outcomes – greater social networks, friendships, leisure skills

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## Social Inclusion

Social inclusion means that ***all students are a part of the social life of the classroom and school in their neighborhood!***




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## Academic Exclusion

- ◆ Academic exclusion refers to the denial of the opportunity for an education, in the fullest sense of the word, to some individuals or groups of students.
- ◆ Academic exclusion includes
  - ◊ *Denial of enrollment in neighborhood schools,*
  - ◊ *Lack of exposure to curriculum and instructional activities,*
  - ◊ *Absence of interactions with qualified teaching personnel and services,*
  - ◊ *Segregation from peers during learning activities.*
- ◆ Individuals and groups have often been academically been excluded when they are assumed, and then deemed, incapable of learning at a chosen standard.

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## Academic Inclusion

- ◆ All students are placed in their home schools, and services are delivered in the classroom/school – with the general education teacher taking primary responsibility for ALL students enrolled in the class.
- ◆ Academic inclusion means *all students are a part of the learning activities of their classroom and school – not parallel, but interactively with their peers and the general curriculum.*

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## So What Does It Mean To “Include”?

***Every child is a part of the social and academic life of the classroom and school***

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