

How to help
your child
succeed in school



Part of
the Quality
Learning Agenda.

New  Brunswick
Education

It all starts
with the
right
attitude



A student who wants and likes to learn will be ready to make the necessary efforts to succeed.

Parents are the ones in the best position to instill a love of learning in their children. Simple actions are often all that is required.

- 1 Talk to your child about the importance of education in attaining his or her dreams.
- 2 Talk to your child about topics he or she finds interesting. Encourage your child to explore these topics further and share the results with you.
- 3 Participate in activities with your child.
- 4 Encourage your child to read by setting aside a family reading time.
- 5 Watch television programs together and then talk about what you have seen.

Your child needs to know that you expect him or her to do well at school. That will motivate your child to make the necessary efforts to succeed. Of course, your expectations must be reasonable and in line with your child's capabilities.

Avoid criticizing the school in front of your child. This could affect your child's attitude toward the school.





Lots of encouragement

To succeed, a student needs encouragement. Your encouragement will motivate your child to keep trying or to overcome difficulties.

Talk with your child about what he or she is doing at school. By doing so, you will show your child the importance you attach to education, and your child will feel supported. Family meals are a good time to talk about school.

Attend parent-teacher interviews. These interviews will keep you up to date on your child's progress. In addition, your child will realize that his or her education is important.



Is your child ready to learn?

When your child gets to school, he or she must be ready to learn. A child who didn't have enough sleep or who skips breakfast will have problems learning.

It is also important for a child to feel good at school. If a child feels anxious or insecure, that will affect his or her learning, so it is important to listen very carefully to what your child tells you about school. If you believe your child is having problems, talk about it with him or her. If necessary, talk to your child's teacher.

Attendance

Regular school attendance is critical to your child's academic success. Unless your child is ill or unable to attend school for a reason you deem necessary, please take every step possible to ensure he or she is in school. If you believe your child is missing school without cause, talk to your child and to your local school.



Help your child do his or her homework **well**

Homework and assignments are more than just a continuation of classroom learning. For the student, they are an opportunity to develop a sense of responsibility and organization.

For parents, homework gives them an opportunity to have an active role in their children's education, as well as to show how important the child's learning is to them. It is important that children realize doing homework is their responsibility. However, they must also know that they can count on their parents if problems arise.

Here are a few tips for helping your child with his or her homework:

○ Preparation

Create a study routine with your child.

While doing homework, your child needs to concentrate. That is why it is important to carefully choose where homework will be done. With your child, pick a spot that is: calm, far away from television or radio noise, well lit, and equipped with an adequate table and comfortable chair.

Provide your child with the tools he or she may need (e.g., paper, pencils, dictionary).

● During the homework

Leave your child alone to work. Don't go too far away, though – you should be nearby so you can help should problems arise. Ask your child to try before calling you for help.

Give your child the help required in the circumstances.

○ After the homework

Make sure the homework is done. Congratulate your child on the completed work.

Don't be afraid to ask your child questions about the homework to make sure that he or she understands what was studied.

If your child is unable to complete his or her homework, or is having major difficulties, try to identify the cause. Write a note to the teacher or call him or her at school so he or she will know the child had difficulty with the assignment.

If you need some support to help your child with homework, you could ask other family members for assistance.



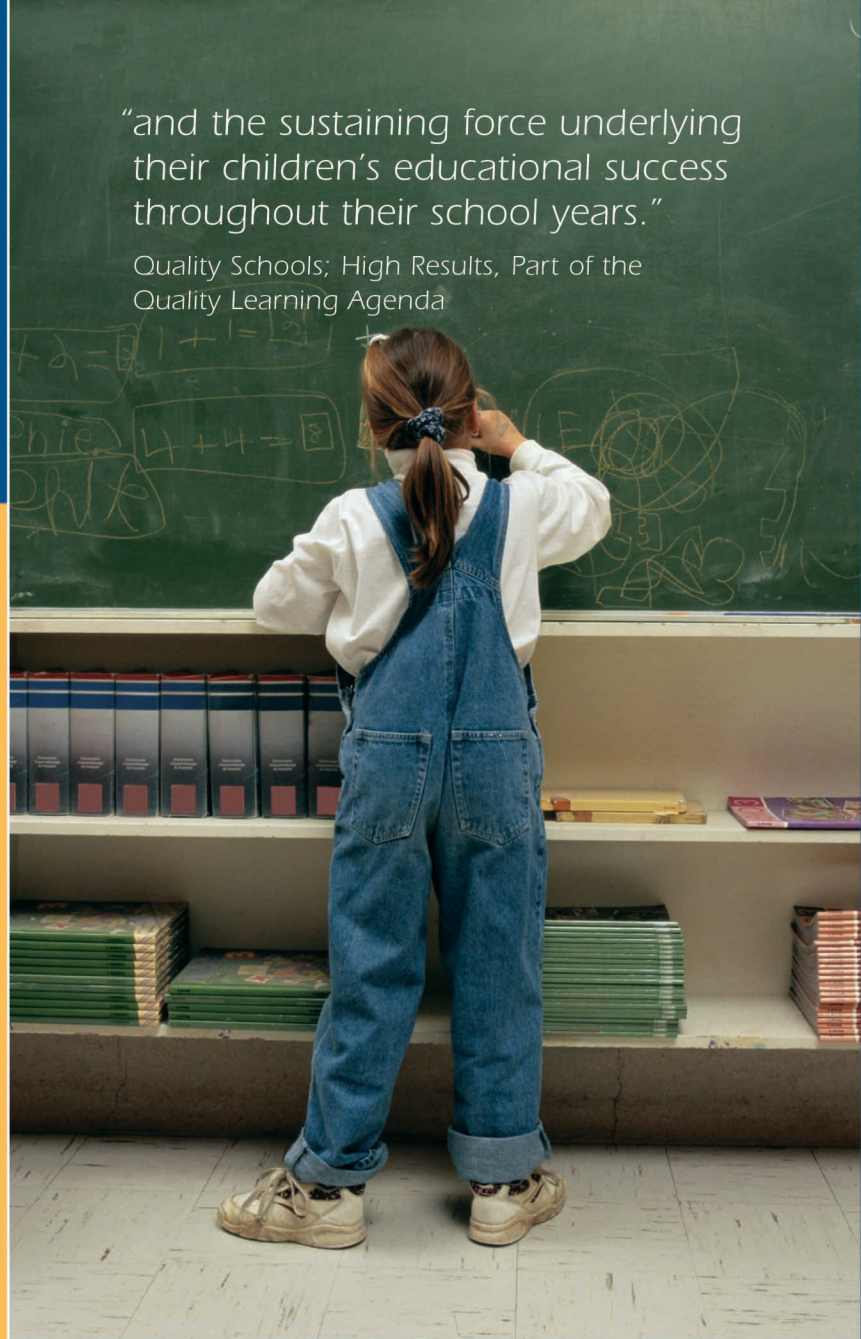
“Parents are
their children’s
first teachers...”

Parents want their children to succeed in school. However, many parents wonder how best to help them do this. This is why we have produced this pamphlet. It offers some practical advice to help your child do well at school.

Your involvement is very important. Studies show that school performance is better when parents participate in their children’s education.

“and the sustaining force underlying their children’s educational success throughout their school years.”

Quality Schools; High Results, Part of the Quality Learning Agenda



Preparing for the future

A college or university diploma is becoming essential to get good employment. Therefore, it is a good idea to encourage your child to pursue post-secondary education.

Post-secondary education is not free. That is why many parents put aside savings to help their child attend college or university. Prepare your children's future today.

To get more information

For further information on how you can help your child succeed in school, contact your local school or visit your public library or bookmobile for information on parenting and child development.

For parents of pre-schoolers, be sure to check out the new Excellence in Parenting collection at the library for information and guidance on how to support the social and emotional development of your child and to prepare them for a good start to school.

QUALITY SCHOOLS www.gnb.ca/0000/



Quality Schools; High Results is the K-12 component of the Quality Learning Agenda and can be found on-line by visiting the Department of Education's website at www.gnb.ca/0000/ and clicking on the Quality Learning Agenda icon.

