



Queensland
Advocacy for
Inclusion

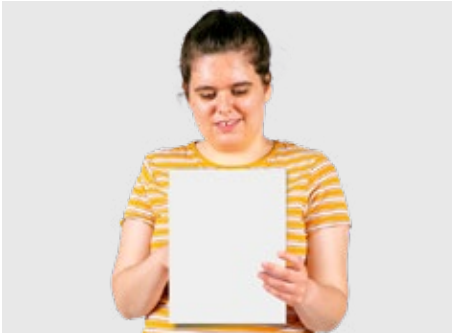
Exclusion from school



Easy Read

www.qai.org.au

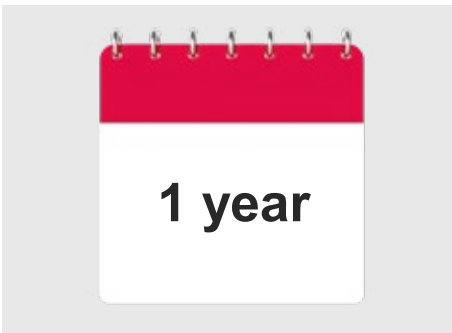
Exclusions from school



This information is about young people with disability and **exclusions** from school.



Exclusion means that your school says that you can not come back to school.



Exclusions can be for a very long time like 1 year.



Sometimes it means you can never come back to your school.

Why you might get an exclusion



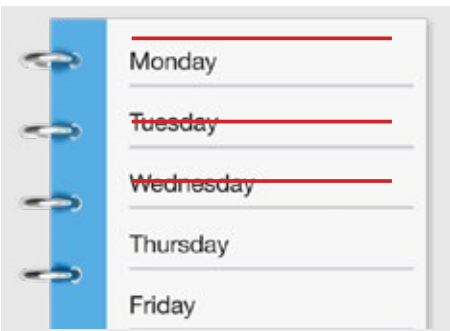
There are different reasons why you might get an exclusion from school.



It might be because your school thinks you did something very bad at school.



If you did something very bad the school might decide **suspension** is not enough.



Suspension means the school asks you to not come to school for a short time like a few days.



You might be excluded for things like

- Not listening to the school staff many times
- Breaking the rules at school
- Breaking things that are part of the school
- Fighting with or hurting students or staff
- Using or selling drugs.
- If a court says you broke the law and did a crime.

What the school must do



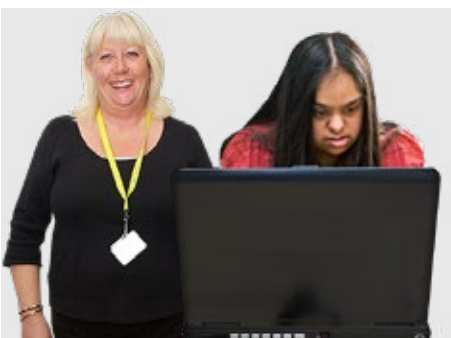
The school must only do an exclusion if there is nothing else they can try to change what you do.



The Principal and Department of Education must follow some rules to do an exclusion.



For more information on the rules go to
www.ppr.qed.qld.gov.au/attachment/fact-sheet-exclusion.pdf



This information is not in Easy Read.

You might need someone you trust to support you to read it.

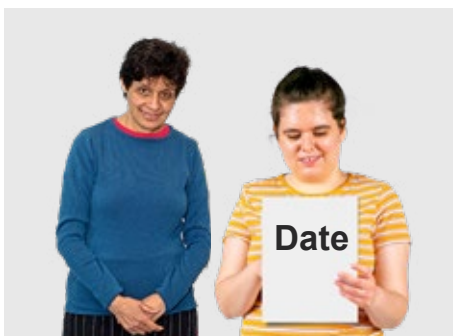
What you can do



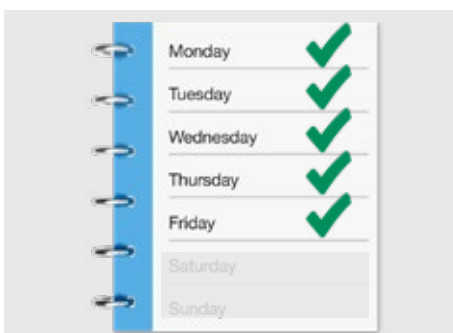
There are things you and your support person can do if you get an exclusion letter.



If you do these things it will help the school think if they made the right decision.



You need to do these things in **5 school days** from the date that is on the exclusion letter.



5 school days means 5 days the school is open like Monday to Friday.



You and your support person can tell the school more about you.

This can help them understand better why you do things.



You might also tell them about your disability and the support you need.



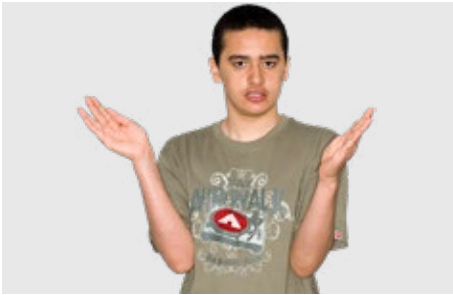
This might help them think about their decision.



You can give them information about the support you get at home or in the community.



You can tell the school if you do the bad things at school because of your disability.



You can tell them about what happened at the school when you did the bad things.



It might be that what you remember is different to what the school said happened.



Tell them what is different to what they say.



You can give the school ideas that would help them support you better at school.



This might be things like a plan to help you not do the bad things anymore.



You can also give them ideas about places they can ask to support you in the school.



This might be places that know a lot about disability.



You can tell the school how other people in your life support you.



Maybe the school can try some of these things to support you better.



You can tell the school how you feel about the exclusion.



This is so they know what the exclusion really means for you.



You can ask the principal to think about your **human rights**.



Human rights are rights that every person has.



One of the human rights is your right to go to school and learn.



It might help the principal to understand what your rights are.



You can give the school letters from your doctors that say it is important for you to go to school.



The letters might also have some ideas how the school can support you better.

What they must do



There are some things that the principal and Department of Education must do after they get your information.



The principal has 20 school days to choose what they will do next.



If the principal still wants to do the exclusion you can write or email the **Director General**.



The **Director General** makes the big decisions at the Department of Education.



You have 30 school days to write to the Director General from the date the principal makes their decision.



You can ask them to **review** the decision.



Review means they look at all the information to see if the principal

- Did everything the right way
- Made the right decision.



The review can take up to 40 school days.

What you can do next



If you are not happy with the review decision you can make an **appeal**.

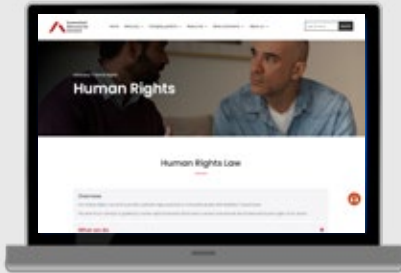


Appeal means that you go to another place to ask them to look at the decision.



You might need someone to support you to make an appeal.

You can get support from



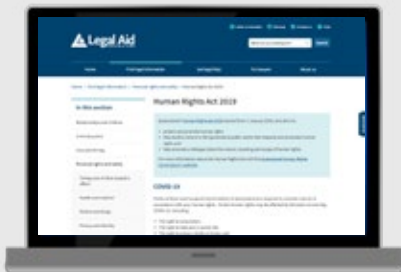
- QAI's Human Rights Legal Service

www.qai.org.au/human-rights



- Caxton Legal Centre's Human Rights and Civil Law Practice

www.caxton.org.au/how-we-can-help/general-legal-advice



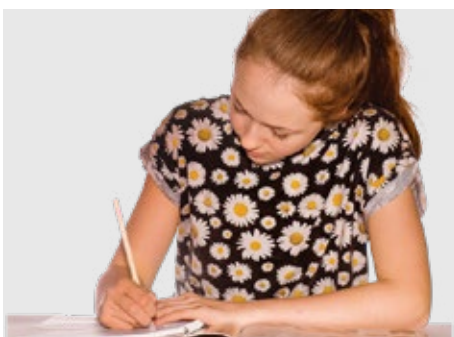
- Legal Aid Queensland

www.legalaid.qld.gov.au/Find-legal-information/Personal-rights-and-safety/Human-Rights-Act-2019

Keep learning while it all happens



You can keep learning while all of these things happen.



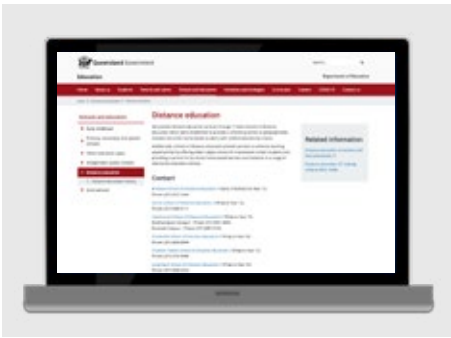
You can learn at home.



You can do this with the **School of Distance Education**.



The **School of Distance Education** supports students to learn from home.

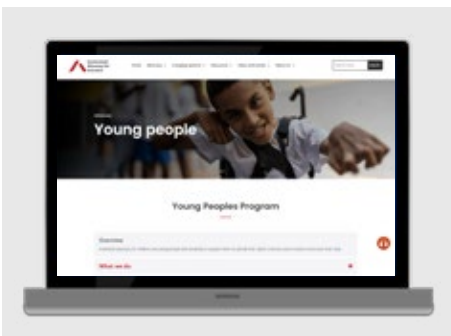


For more information go to

www.education.qld.gov.au/schools-educators/distance-education



You can also get support through the QAI Young Peoples Program.



For more information go to

www.qai.org.au/young-peoples-program

Council for Intellectual Disability made this document Easy Read. **CID** for short. You need to ask CID if you want to use any pictures in this document. You can contact CID at business@cid.org.au.