

Rights of Children and Youth in Care

Children and youth who are in care of the B.C. government have many important rights by law:

- To be fed, clothed and nurtured and to be given the same quality of care as other children in their placement
- To be informed about their plans of care
- To be consulted and to express their views about significant decisions affecting them
- To reasonable privacy and to possession of their personal belongings
- To be free from physical and abusive punishment
- To be informed of the standard of behaviour expected by their caregivers and the consequences of not meeting their caregivers' expectations
- To receive medical and dental care when they need it
- To participate in social and recreational activities according to their abilities and interests

- To participate and learn the religion of their choice
- To be informed of their legal rights and the ways those rights can be enforced
- To receive guidance and encouragement to maintain their cultural heritage
- To have an interpreter provided if language or disability is a barrier to consulting with them on decisions affecting their custody or care
- To privacy during discussions with members of their families
- To privacy during discussions with a lawyer, the Representative or Ombudsperson or their staff, or a politician
- To be informed about and be assisted with contacting the Representative's office or the Ombudsperson

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