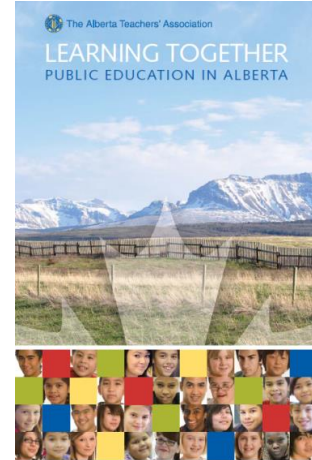# Sample Parent Guides in Translation

(press control + click to open the links and access the resources)

[Learning Together - Public Education in Alberta,](#) a publication created by Alberta Teachers' Association, provides basic information on Alberta's public education system to newcomers to the province. It is available free of charge by [ordering](#) from the ATA, and has been translated into 13 languages: Arabic, Chinese, French, Hindi, Korean, Punjabi, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, Thai, Ukrainian, Urdu, and Vietnamese. [The Newcomers' Guide to Elementary Education in Alberta](#) is a guide prepared by the Grasslands School Division to help newcomer families understand the Alberta school system.Topics include educational policy, teaching approaches, report cards, school procedures and parental communication and involvement. They are available in [Amharic](#), [Somali](#), [Arabic](#), [Korean](#), [Punjabi](#) and [Dinka](#).

Other school jurisdictions and community agencies in Canada and internationally have also developed materials in translation to support parental understanding and engagement. [Settlement.Org](#) is a repository of information which is funded by Citizenship and Immigration Canada and prepared by OCASI (Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants) to assist newcomer families with various settlement questions. One section has been developed by the SWIS (Settlement Workers in Schools) to assist newcomer families to understand the school system. Resources include the [Newcomers Guide to Education in Ontario](#). These guides are available in [18 languages](#). The site also provides [information in 10 languages about typical questions](#) that newcomers ask. Although written for the Ontario context, some general information sections are appropriate in Alberta.

Videos are also posted on this site. They can be viewed in 16 languages. They include viewers' guides to assist settlement agencies or school staff to use them for orientation workshops. Titles include:

[New Moves: An Orientation Video for Newcomer Students](#)
[Parent Teacher Interviews (Elementary)](#)
[Parent Teacher Interviews (Secondary)](#)
[For Our Kids](#)

The [Ontario Ministry of Education : ABC 123 Reach Every Student](#) provides resources to assist parents to understand schooling and to be involved in supporting their children. One section has [tips for parents](#) of children in K-6 available in 15 languages.

[People for Education](#) is an Ontario-based advocacy group for public education. It has published a number of multilingual resources for parents about schooling in Ontario. [Tip Sheets](#) are available in 15 languages.

Ontario Public Television [TVO Parents Toolkit](#) presents materials to support parent involvement in their children's schooling. One section provides [How-to Videos](#), a series of videos which explain ways that parents can help their pre-school children develop school readiness skills in language, literacy, numeracy and everyday science. The video narrative is available in nine different languages.

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An interesting international example is Education for Northern Ireland – [Inclusion and Diversity Services](#) which provides professional development support for schools, interpreter services and a range of other supports. Their website provides essential documents available in translation in 18 major languages. These include [translated policies for schools](#), and 25 variations of [translated letters for schools](#) to provide schools with templates for the common information that schools often send home. An additional service that is provided by Inclusion and Diversity Services is access to Toolkits and materials to support schools in creating a welcoming and inclusive culture that ensures equality of access for all. These include:

[Welcome and Induction - Primary](#)
[Toolkit for Diversity - Preschool](#)
[Toolkit for Diversity - Primary](#)
[Toolkit for Diversity in Special Education](#)
[Toolkit for Diversity in Post-Primary](#)

Although designed for the Irish context, these serve as models of what is desirable and possible in enhancing communication with parents.