

Welcome to the Elementary School Program



**Helping your child continue
to enjoy learning while he or she is in the hospital**

How can the Elementary School Program help your child?

This program will help your child continue to enjoy learning while he or she is in the hospital.

Education is part of your child's treatment plan.

The hospital teacher will work closely with your home school teacher(s) to make sure that your child remains as up-to-date as possible with the topics and skills his or her classmates are learning.

Knowing that your child won't have to spend weeks "catching up" upon returning to school can ease the stress of a long hospital stay.

School is a normal activity that can help your child get through a stressful time. The teacher, along with the help of hospital volunteers, makes learning interesting and fun. Keeping your child's mind active helps distract him or her from health problems.

The Elementary School Program:

- ✓ is a partnership between the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board and McMaster Children's Hospital
- ✓ services in-patients in Kindergarten to Grade 8, in the School Room and at the bedside

A Secondary School Program is available for children in Grades 9 to 12.

What does the hospital teacher do?

If your child will be in the hospital for 5 or more school days, the hospital teacher will:

- Meet with you to learn about your child's educational needs and interests.
- Meet with members of your child's health care team to discover how your child can best learn during health care and treatment.
- Work closely with your child's home school to continue your child's education while in hospital (with a focus on Math and Language skills and knowledge).

During your child's hospital stay, you can meet with the teacher to talk about your child's progress.

When your child leaves the hospital, the hospital teacher will communicate with your child's home school teacher(s) to help with a successful return to his or her home school.



The Elementary School Program



Would you like your child to take part?

Fill out the form on the next page and drop it off at the School Room 3D9.



How to get started

If your child is of elementary school age, and you think that he or she is going to be in the hospital for more than 5 days:

1. Fill out the information below.
2. Cut off this part of the pamphlet.
3. Drop it off at the Elementary School Room (3D9). At night and on weekends, slip it under the door.

Child's name:	
Ward:	Room number:
Age:	Grade:
IEP:	
School name:	
School address:	
School phone number:	
Teacher(s) name(s):	
Comments:	

How can you help?

If you know that your child will be admitted to the hospital:

- Tell your home school when your child will be in the hospital.
- Ask that the home school teacher(s) provide work for your child to complete while in the hospital.
- Discuss your child's schoolwork and interests when you meet with the hospital teacher.
- Share with us your child's Individual Education Plan, if he or she has special needs.
- Continue to bring in what your child needs for his or her schoolwork, such as books, binders, notebooks, videos and assignments.

If you have any questions about the Elementary School Program, please contact:

Ivan Quach, Elementary Teacher
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Elementary School Room – 3D9
McMaster Children's Hospital
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