School Services in the Hospital

School is an important part of every child’s life. It also brings a sense of normalcy and routine. The Sacramento City Unified School District provides a full-time credentialed schoolteacher for kids who are in the hospital longer than five days. The teacher will work with your child’s classroom or home instruction teacher and other healthcare staff involved in your child’s care. The sessions are done in small groups or at bedside, depending on medical needs. A parent/guardian’s signature is required to enroll.

Some tips to help the process:

- Contact your child’s school (teacher, counselor, and/or school nurse) to let them know the child is in the hospital.
- Ask your child’s teacher(s) or counselor for schoolwork your child can do in the hospital when they are feeling well.
- Bring your child’s schoolbooks and assignments to the hospital. For an unplanned admission, please arrange to have books and assignments brought to the hospital as soon as possible.
- Share with your child’s nurse or child life specialist if you would like school services for your child.
- Encourage your child to participate in the school program. Besides helping them keep up with school, it might help normalize the hospital environment.
- Encourage staying in touch with friends and school peers.
- Before discharge from the hospital, discuss school needs with your child’s doctor. Talk about attendance documentation, home/hospital instruction requests, and accommodations for your child’s return to school.

For more information or to connect with a Child Life Specialist, please visit: http://ucdavis.health/childlife