

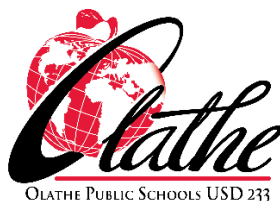
TRANSITIONING BACK TO SCHOOL AFTER A HOSPITALIZATION - STRATEGIES TO ENSURE STUDENT SUCCESS

It can be very important to communicate information about your child's hospitalization with your child's school so they can partner to meet your child's needs upon returning to school. Both the hospital and the school are committed to helping your child with this transition.

Your child's privacy and confidentiality are important to us. Information shared about the student's hospitalization will be kept confidential and shared only with parties to whom you give permission. Parents will determine who at school this information would best be shared with to assist the student's return to school.

Strategies:

- Contact your student's school counselor when your student is hospitalized to let them know about their absence from school. Communicating that your child is in the hospital will ensure that absences are excused and will allow you not to notify the school daily.
- Sign a release of information giving the hospital permission to contact the person of your choice at the school to help coordinate care while the child is in the hospital and to assist with any discharge planning.
- When you notify the school of your child's hospitalization, the school will help to coordinate your child's schoolwork so your student doesn't fall behind while hospitalized. The school will also be able to determine if other assignments or modifications are needed to make up for the hospitalization time.
- When your student does return to school, the school may designate a planned contact for your student. This person will be your student's support system and will help them navigate any complications that may have arisen in their absence. This planned contact also gives the parent **ONE** point of contact and makes communication easier for all involved.
- It can be helpful for the school to have information about what medications your student may be taking and its possible side effects. The school would then be able to report to you any unusual behaviors and help monitor side effects.
- Any suggested strategies from the hospital should be shared with the school. These strategies may be able to be incorporated into your child's school day.
- Based on your student's needs, extra resources may be needed. Communication with the school can help ensure resources from the hospital or community are incorporated into your student's day.



The strategies were adapted from resources developed by representatives of Johnson County Mental Health, KVC Behavior HealthCare, and the Gardner School District.