

HOW SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS MAY AFFECT CHILDREN



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Special health care needs impact children differently depending on each child's condition. In general, children with special health care needs face developmental difficulties that impact their health, academic success, and social skills.

HEALTH	ACADEMIC SUCCESS	SOCIAL SKILLS
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IMPACT ON HEALTH CAN INCLUDE:

<p>Emotional effects such as depression, frustration, helplessness, and difficulty expressing feelings</p> <p>Physical effects such as fatigue, headache, memory loss, and reduced fine motor skills</p> <p>Cognitive effects such as delayed language development, impaired visual development, and impaired information processing</p>	<p>Frequent school absences and delayed educational progress due to numerous doctor's appointments, medication side effects, and hospitalization</p> <p>Behavioral difficulties such as hyperactivity, aggressive behavior, mood swings, and feelings of anger and sadness</p> <p>Delayed educational progress and grade repetition due to health-related school absences and difficulty completing schoolwork</p> <p>Lack of school engagement such as lack of participation in classroom or school activities, limited access to learning and social opportunities</p>	<p>Underdeveloped social skills leading to difficulty connecting with peers and participating in school activities, including school clubs and sports</p> <p>Isolation such as the inability to participate in recess or playtime, and increased number of absences and physical limitations, resulting in challenges when developing and maintaining relationships with peers</p>
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WHO SHOULD PARENTS CONTACT...

<p>Who should parents contact for health-related support? Parents should contact their child's health care provider or specialist if they have concerns about their child's health.</p>	<p>Who should parents contact for academic-related support? Parents should contact their child's school about their child's teacher if they have concerns about their child's academics.</p>	<p>Who should parents contact for social-related support? Parents should contact their child's health care provider or specialist and their child's school if they have any concerns about their child's social skills.</p>
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