

FAQs

School Program Volunteer Team



DO I PLAN THE LESSON?

Volunteers do not plan the lessons. This is the responsibility of the teachers and Cincinnati Children's supervisor.



WHAT IF I DON'T KNOW THE SUBJECT MATTER?

Tell the student the subjects you feel comfortable with, and afterward, let your supervisor know. Help the student learn how to use available resources to solve the problem (e.g., YouTube videos, Khan Academy, SparkNotes, Shmoop, Quizlet, Google, etc.).



WHAT IS EXPECTED?

The goal is to visit two students for an hour each during the volunteer session. Some days this may be difficult due to conflicts with medical procedures. If so, quickly return to the classroom to get materials for the next student. If you are unable to meet with two students for an hour each, please use time to clean school materials and see a nonverbal student.



WHEN SHOULD I CALL FOR ASSISTANCE?

Volunteers should always call the nurse when the student needs to use the restroom or if the pump is beeping. Press the call button, especially if alone in the room with a student. Students may try to begin using the restroom in a bed pan or bedside commode while a volunteer is still present. If this happens, give the student privacy by either stepping behind the curtain or out of the room.



WHAT IF OTHER STAFF INTERRUPTS A LESSON?

Often nurses will need to take vitals while the lesson continues as planned. Other times, nurses or doctors may need to perform a procedure, and this may signal the premature end of a lesson. When in doubt, ask the staff or family if they would like you to step out of the room during the evaluation or procedure, or whether the lesson can continue.



CAN I USE MY PHONE?

Usually, volunteers bring a laptop or iPad to the student room to look up information or help with the lesson. In some cases, a volunteer needs to access the internet from their cell phone. The phone must be sanitized before use. **Personal use** of cell phones in a student room is prohibited.



WHAT IF I NEED TIME OFF?

All volunteers are encouraged to mark the days they will not be present on the calendar **at least one week in advance**.

Cincinnati Children's Volunteers:

In the event of an illness or emergency, contact Volunteer Services **as soon as possible**.

UC / Other Volunteers:

Medical Sciences volunteers must speak with the Cincinnati Children's supervisor **at least one week in advance, in addition to** marking unavailable dates on the calendar. In the event of an illness or emergency, contact the supervisor **as soon as possible**.