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## Answering Questions about Your Child

It can be very helpful to prepare for the return to school by considering how you will respond to the many caring and inquisitive questions from your child's peers. Depending on your child's age and his / her diagnosis these questions could be discussed together and agreed upon.

Possible questions that may be asked;

1. What is wrong with you?
2. How did you get sick?
3. Can I catch it?
4. Are you going to die?
5. Can you still play with us?
6. Will you keep missing school?
7. Why do you look different?
8. Why don't you have any hair?
9. Will you get better?
10. What can I do to help?
11. Is anyone picking on you?
12. Can I still be your friend?
13. When are you coming back to school?
14. Is it OK to talk to you about your illness?
15. Why can't you play sport?
16. Can I see your scar?

On occasion using humour can be the best medicine for answering common, recurring questions. Think about fun ways your child can communicate with his / her peers.

e.g. Why don't you have any hair?

- *What? I've got no hair? Oops, must have left it in the cupboard this morning.*

- *I can read people's minds and the hair got in the way. When I rub my head like a crystal ball I can tell exactly what you're thinking*

- *I was kidnapped by Martians and they use my head to transmit signals back to Mars.*