THE RIGHTS AND EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OF CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS WITH MEDICAL OR MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS

- 1. Every child and adolescent with medical or mental health needs has the right to tuition within hospital or at home, also while being treated in a country other than their own.
- 2. The aim of tuition for children and adolescents with medical or mental health needs is the continuation of education, enabling them to maintain their role as a pupil or student.
- 3. The hospital school creates a community of children and adolescents, and normalizes everyday life. Hospital education shall be organized as class, group or individual teaching and at the bedside.
- 4. Hospital and home tuition must be adapted to the needs and abilities of the child or adolescent in co-operation with the home school.
- 5. The learning environment and facilities must be adapted to the needs of children and adolescents with medical or mental health needs, and communication technologies shall also be used to prevent isolation.
- 6. A variety of teaching methods and resources shall be used. The content encompasses more than formal curriculum learning. It includes subjects related to special needs arising from illness and hospitalization.
- 7. The hospital and home tuition teachers must be fully qualified and receive further training.
- 8. The teachers of children and adolescents with medical or mental health needs are full members of the multi-disciplinary caring team and are the link between the hospitalized child or adolescent and the home school.
- 9. Parents must be informed about the right to schooling and the educational program of their child or adolescent with medical or mental health needs. They shall be recognized as active and responsible partners.
- 10. The integrity of the child or adolescent shall be respected including medical confidentiality and private convictions.

This is the Charter of HOPE: Adopted by the General Assembly of HOPE Barcelona - 20th May 2000

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(English version of the Charter of HOPE)



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