

# Questions to consider when choosing a high school (for parents)

These questions can be useful to consider when visiting a school. If possible, ask for a meeting with one of the senior staff to talk about your child's medical needs. This meeting will help you to decide if this is the right school for your child.

## CF and health related

- Are there any other children with CF attending the school?
- Does the school have a school nurse/medical staff?
- How does the school support existing students with medical needs? Do they have healthcare plans?
- What is the school's medication policy? Especially around protocol for storage and administration of medications such as enzymes
- What is the system for sharing medical information about students to staff?

## CF awareness/understanding for staff

- Could a Program Support Group (PSG) meeting with staff and parents be held at the start of the year to talk about your child?
- Is the school willing for their staff to be educated about CF? CFSmart e-learning etc
- Could a member of staff attend one of the Hospital CF Education Days at the start of the year?

## Wellbeing and pastoral care

- What is the wellbeing and pastoral care system in the school?
- How do they support students?



## Option to put alternative school systems into place

- How flexible is the school about absence and lateness? (eg away for regular tune ups or running be late because of daily physiotherapy)
- Could systems be implemented, if needed, around alternative toilet facilities, an easy way to leave class quickly etc?

## General school environment

- What are the environmental risks such as wet areas, ponds, water gardens, mud, mulch etc
- Are air conditioning units regularly serviced and cleaned?  
Is the school generally clean and hygienic?

## General Support if away from school

- What support/follow up would they provide if your child is away in hospital/HITH?



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**[www.cfsmart.org](http://www.cfsmart.org)**

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