

HAE BACK TO SCHOOL RESOURCES

Every parent of a child with HAE has questions at the start of the school year, such as - How will the school respond if my child misses too many days of school? How will my child make up missed assignments? An HAE school packet can be a great resource for you and your child's school. Taking the time to put the packet together ahead of time will help manage any anxieties while providing valuable education and insight for your school's staff.

We hope you will find the information below helpful as you meet your child's teacher and school nurse. The information provided is meant only as a guide - you will want to personalize your child's school packet to meet their own particular needs and situation.

Below, are a few items that might be helpful to include in the packet you present to your child's teacher.

1. Put together an attractive packet

Create a packet that includes your note to the teacher, your child's physician letter, and any printed resources from the HAEA website (www.haea.org) about HAE. Label the packet and place it in a large manila envelope or clear plastic portfolio.

2. Carefully choose what you will send in your packet

Sending too much information all at once may make it seem like an overwhelming task for your child's teacher. You can always offer to send additional resources later.

3. Understanding HAE Guide

This printed resource provides a brief overview of HAE for your child's teacher. To order a Guide from the US HAE Association, send your request to info@haea.org.

4. Write a note to the teacher

Your note does not need to be any more than a page long. Be positive about how much you are looking forward to working with the teacher this year. Mention specific things you want the teacher to know about your child and their HAE. Let the teacher know that you can provide more information if they have additional questions. (A sample letter is provided on the following pages.)

5. Follow up

If you don't hear back from the teacher, check back in a few days with a note or a phone call to make sure they received your packet and ask if they have any additional questions about the information presented. Repeat your offer to answer any questions and discuss further in person.



TIPS:

1. Create a focused and timely presentation. The start of a school year can be a hectic time for teachers. They may not have a lot of free time to read a large volume of material. A packet that looks manageable and well-thought out will be more effective. You may wish to allow more time for the teacher to review by delivering your HAE school packet in the weeks before school begins.
2. Make an effort to collaborate. In your note to the teacher, provide suggestions specific to your child's HAE health needs.
3. Keep your tone friendly. Remember, it's important to develop a positive relationship with your child's school. Make it clear that you are available to answer any questions, and that you would be happy to do what you can to ensure that the school has everything they need to help your child thrive despite their HAE.
4. Make a copy of all correspondence for your records. Keep a log of when and what you sent to the teacher, and what follow-up outreach you made.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

Reinforce the importance of everyone (student, parent, and school) doing their part to help the child succeed in school.

STUDENT

Learn to communicate when something is wrong

Tell an adult at school when something is wrong or if you are experiencing swelling

Do your school work on time

Make the same amount of effort as someone without HAE

PARENT

Communicate about child's condition and needs

Help obtain makeup work

Help child have a positive attitude about school

Work with school staff and nurse to develop a care plan

SCHOOL

Monitor student achievement and notify parent of changes to performance or personality

Notify parent if student reports an HAE attack

Stress the importance of completing assignments

Respect privacy and confidentiality

