
Frequently Asked Questions

How are students selected to attend the Program?

Schools are responsible for the selection of an appropriate group of students to send to attend the P.A.R.T.Y. program. The School will be given written information and support as they decide who is or isn't appropriate to attend. Inappropriateness to attend includes things such as students who have experienced recent trauma, students who are unwell and students who are outside the age range of 16-19 years. Student's year 10-12 are invited to attend.

What should participants wear on the day of the program?

The school will tell students what they should wear however it is preferred that students wear their school uniform (unless your school does not have a uniform). It is not a uniform free day as it is important for patients, families and hospital staff to be able to identify each student as part of the school group. For non-school groups neat and comfortable clothes are recommended. The wards are very warm, please ensure students wear short sleeve shirts on the ward.

How will participants get to and from the hospital?

Schools will arrange transport for students to and from the hospital. For non-school participants it is the responsibility of the individual to arrange transport.

Who will supervise the participants during the day?

Schools need to provide 3-4 adults per school group, to provide supervision and support students during the day. At the hospital, the P.A.R.T.Y. Program Coordinator, clinical presenters and allied health professionals all play a role in ensuring your child's needs are met. They have all the appropriate checks and clearances to ensure your child's safety and wellbeing.

Should the participants bring food on the day?

Morning tea and lunch is provided. If Halal, or special allergy diets are required teachers need to notify P.A.R.T.Y at least 2 weeks before the scheduled excursion. Additional food can be purchased from the hospital cafeteria at the participant's expense.

Is there anything participants can do to prepare for the day?

Yes - they will need to eat breakfast. The program can be confronting and participants who eat breakfast have been shown to be better prepared to deal with the program content and are less likely to become ill throughout the program.

What happens if participants are physically or emotionally overwhelmed by the Program content?

All care has been taken to ensure that the program, whilst confronting, is physically and emotionally manageable by participants attending. However, procedures are in place to care for those who become overwhelmed during the day. This includes the hospital's standard operating procedures for illness (including fainting or dizziness), or emotional trauma (panic attacks, feeling overwhelmed, becoming very upset, or just "having had enough"). A hospital nurse is also on-call to attend to your child immediately should they be required.

Should you require any further information prior to your child's visit, please do not hesitate to contact the P.A.R.T.Y Program Coordinator.

Kate Roberts
P.A.R.T.Y Program Coordinator
Trauma Service
The Royal Melbourne Hospital
Ph: (03)9342 4294
Mob: 0438 299 159
Email: Party@mh.org.au