

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Epilepsy Durham Region

GEARING UP FOR A SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL YEAR FOR CHILDREN WITH MEDICAL CONDITIONS INVOLVES EARLY PLANNING -- ONLY SIX WEEKS TO THE FIRST DAY BACK TO SCHOOL

For all children with medical concerns it is important to plan in advance to successfully transition the student into a new school year. In order to work towards a safe and productive setting in the school, it is important to promote a strong partnership between your family, key individuals at your child's school, and your health care team. Children with Epilepsy can face health and learning needs that may need to be accommodated within the school setting and early planning can ensure that school administration and new teachers are up to date with information to plan for success throughout the year. Below are several tips to assist with the process of preparing for back to school.

- **Know your school board and its policies:**
 - Different school districts may deliver support services in different ways – work alongside the school to understand what supports they will have in place for your child
- **Update your child's emergency action response plan:**
 - Even if your child attended the same school in a previous year, it is important the school with important information for your child's safety – this may include changes in medication, changes in care providers, seizure type and how it currently presents itself, new seizure triggers, first response protocol, etc.
- **Go into a new school year with an update Individual Education Plan (IEP)**
 - To work towards a successful school year, ensure that your child's IEP reflects their current strengths and weaknesses

Epilepsy Durham Region (EDR) is dedicated to promoting optimal quality of life for people living with Epilepsy, and for children this means ensuring they are in a safe and understanding school environment. EDR provides tailored classroom and staff presentations, and assists with the development of IEP's and safety plans. For more information, please contact clientservices@epilepsydurham.com

A bright future starts today!

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