



# Patient Academics

Offering academic support  
to patients through a  
certified teacher



## Keeping Kids on Track

Orlando Health Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children has always strived towards the goal to help kids to remain kids even while in the hospital. This not only includes social activities and proper time for play, but also maintaining patients' education. Academics play a fundamental role in the development of a child, and time away from school can easily disrupt a child's learning and development.

To help reduce added stress from extended time away from school, Orlando Health Arnold Palmer offers patients academic support through an in-house certified teacher who can provide assistance when a child or teen will miss school while in the hospital.

Orlando Health Arnold Palmer's in-house teacher helps families understand and navigate the various options for receiving hospital/homebound instruction through the public school system or with virtual schooling. Our teacher provides individual instruction and group activities for patients during an extended hospital stay.



## Meet Eddie

Eddie Nasello is our full-time certified teacher at Orlando Health Arnold Palmer. Eddie has been working in education for over 15 years and became the first full-time teacher at our hospital in July of 2018.

Eddie assists patients at each grade level, from Kindergarten through 12th grade, and in any subject area. Supporting the over-all well being of our patients, Eddie visits students in all units within the hospital, though some areas, such as oncology, tend to have more patients who are in need of long-term academic support.

Eddie includes fun enrichment activities to keep students engaged, such as:



Science Lab



STEM Lab



Wheel of Knowledge

*game show played through Seacrest Studios*

## Putting Families at Ease

When a child enters the hospital, nothing is more important than their health and well being. For both parents and patients, navigating the stress of a healthcare plan can become so overwhelming that other priorities in life fall out of focus. That is precisely where our certified teacher's critical role comes into play, making sure the patient's education does not fall by the wayside.

To help walk them through their situation, our certified teacher will let patient families know their options and address any concerns parents may have for their child. This allows us to provide right, custom level of support needed by each family.



**Our goal is to help children and teens continue to advance academically, while providing normal learning opportunities throughout their medical experience.**

## One-On-One Support

Prior to Eddie joining our team at Orlando Health Arnold Palmer, patients were limited in the academic support they could receive. For students in the public school system who were eligible to apply for hospital homebound study, a teacher would visit with the student and assist them with their learning. When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, these visits became virtual, which made having an in-hospital teacher a valuable resource for students.

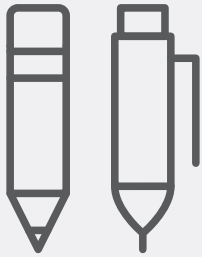
**There's no substitute for having direct face-to-face learning with a teacher.**

For private school students who wish to remain enrolled in their school, there is no option for hospital homebound instruction. To continue receiving assistance with their education, our teacher at Orlando Health Arnold Palmer will coordinate with the patient's teachers to ensure the student stays on-track academically.

**"One-on-one time allows me to give students the focus and time they need to assist with their learning. It also gives me the time to really get to know these students and form a connection as their teacher while in the hospital." - Eddie Nasello**

## Academic Resources

Provided Through Philanthropy



SCHOOL SUPPLIES



TEACHING TOOLS



PORTABLE PRINTER



LAPTOP COMPUTER



## Philanthropy's Role in Patient Academics

Philanthropic support plays a key role in supporting the academic learning of our patients. Donations to Orlando Health Arnold Palmer not only fund the salary for our full-time teacher, but also provides academic resources such as paper, pencils, pens, a laptop computer and portable printer, along with tools for STEM experiments. Future philanthropic support can further enhance the resources offered to our patients. Additional resources for the program could include:

- A bilingual teacher to meet the needs of more patients
- Access to learning and educational websites to help keep students engaged academically over the summer months

**"These children have more on their plate than academics, their health and well being is their top priority. When they are in the hospital, they lose out on the normal routines of being a child. To help combat that, I try to engage them in fun learning activities and incorporate those wherever I can. Turning lessons into a game can not only fill their academic needs, but their social and emotional needs as well."**

**- Eddie Nasello**



"I have seen so much great work that Eddie is doing since he joined our team. He has been able to make a positive difference for all the patients he serves so that they stay current with their work and don't fall behind. The parents really appreciate his involvement and help."

- **Sheri Mosely, Department Manager**

ORLANDO  
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ARNOLD PALMER  
HOSPITAL  
For Children

**4.02 Days** Average Length of Stay

**156 Total Beds**

**33-bed Emergency Department**

The only Level 1 Trauma Center in Central Florida



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**Support Patient Academics**

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