

Ready to start planning your care? Call us at [646-926-0945](tel:646-926-0945) to make an appointment.

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Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center

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Pediatric Blood & Immune Disorders Support Programs & Services

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FOR THE MEDIA

Our Pediatric Support Team

Chronic blood and immune disorders can affect children in many ways. At MSK Kids, our psychological and social care team supports our patients and their family members, complementing the efforts of our treatment teams. This care team may include:

- social workers
- child life specialists
- teachers
- chaplains
- psychiatrists
- integrative medicine specialists

We also enlist the support of outside organizations to meet the needs of our families and, whenever possible, connect you with resources in your community that you may find helpful.

Our School Program

At MSK Kids, education through [our school program](#) is a high priority. As a participating hospital in a New York City Department of Education program called Hospital Schools, our full-time teachers play an active role in ensuring our young patients are able to keep up with their education. Employed by the New York City Board of Education, our teachers help children and teens undergoing cancer treatment maintain their educational standing and prepare for exams, including New York State Regents exams, SATs, and GEDs.

Child Life Services

[Child life specialists](#) are trained professionals who are experts in human growth and development. They have a variety of backgrounds and interests, including education, psychology, fine arts, and art therapy. At MSK Kids, child life specialists combine their skills to educate and empower young patients and family members during their time in the hospital. Their goal is to help your child and your family develop strategies for coping with and adjusting to treatment.

Recreational Programming

MSK Kids offers [recreational programming](#) so that patients can engage in many of the usual activities that young people enjoy. Under the direction of

child life specialists, we offer a range of age-appropriate activities daily in the [Pediatric Ambulatory Care Center](#) and the [Inpatient Unit](#). These activities are designed to enhance the time our patients, as well as their siblings, spend in the hospital.

Physical and Occupational Therapy

Children recovering from treatment may need [rehabilitation therapy](#). At MSK Kids, our specially trained staff offers outpatient and inpatient physical, occupational, lymphedema, and speech/swallowing therapies, as well as rehabilitation medicine doctor consultations. Our goal is to help children maintain or recover their strength, mobility, and function, as well as their self-care, speech and language, and feeding skills. We support and empower caregivers as a child undergoes rehabilitation. We have a dedicated outpatient pediatric therapy gym, which includes a sensory room and a separate space for children on strict protective precautions. Our pediatric therapists are in close communication with your child's medical team to ensure that they receive personalized care and progress towards their goals. Your care team will let you know if your child would benefit from these services.

Integrative Medicine

Children and young adults at MSK Kids may benefit from the therapies offered by our [Integrative Medicine Service](#). We offer music therapy, mind/body therapies, dance and movement therapy, yoga, and other services for inpatients and outpatients in groups or at the bedside. These services complement your child's mainstream medical care by addressing the physical and emotional symptoms of blood disorders and their treatment.

New Patient Appointments

Call [833-MSK-KIDS](#) Available Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (Eastern time)

[Make an appointment](#)