SCHOOLING AT DIAGNOSIS

1. I'll start with the time of diagnosis, during the early stages, on finding out your child had cancer, did things at school change straight away?
   - How?
   - What was the reaction from school in the early stages?
   - Who at school did you tell?
   - How did your child cope with school at that time (esp. with reactions from peers, etc.)?
   - Did you have any guidance?

SCHOOLING DURING INTENSIVE TREATMENT

2. Then your child had a period of intensive treatment? Could you tell me about schooling during this period?
   - How much time do you think that your child missed during this time?
   - Was the time missed mainly for hospitalisation or other reasons, too?
   - Did you have any contact with your child’s school during this time (extended absence)?
   - Did your child have any contact with peers/friends?
   - How did your child feel about missing school?

ONCOLOGY EDUCATION PROGRAM (discuss in relation to survey responses)

3. Could you tell me about whether schooling was discussed during intensive treatment period?
   - Did you receive any information from the hospital about how your child’s education would be continued during treatment? Did you find this helpful?
   - How was it initiated?
   - What was the reaction from your child’s school?

4. What is your understanding of the OEP at the [children’s hospital]?

5. You have indicated on your survey that your child participated in ____ (insert components), could you tell me a little more about your experience with each of these parts of the program?
   - Prompt for each component (except for school visit)
6. What do you think was your child’s experience of these parts of the program?
   - Was the child enthusiastic/interested/engaged?

7. Do you think that the services provided by the hospital met the schooling needs of your child and you at the time?
   - Any needs that weren’t met?

8. What, if anything, did you find most helpful about the program?

9. What, if anything, did you find least helpful about the program?

10. Do you think your child had about the right amount of opportunities to participate in these programs?
    - Would you have liked to participate more/less?
    - Were there any barriers/obstacles to participation?

11. How much contact with your child’s school did you have during this period?

12. How much contact did your child have with peers/friends during this period?

   **TIME OF RE-ENTRY TO SCHOOL**

13. Then there was a point at which your child’s treatment entered a maintenance phase and you were told your child was medically able to go back to school. How did you feel about your child going back to school?
    - How did you go about it?

14. How did your child feel about going back to school?
    - And how did the child find the experience?

15. Did your child have a school visit? What did you think about this?
    - Did it help the transition?
    - In what way?
16. Could you tell me about any changes between your child’s schooling prior to the cancer diagnosis and the return to school after treatment?
   - Cognitive? Physical? Social? Psychological?
   - What did you/others do about this?

17. Was there anything that you can identify that made the transition back to school easier for you and your child?

SCHOOLING NOW

18. What is your child like at school now?
   - Academically? Socially? Physically? Engagement-wise?
   - If repeated a grade, ask more about this

19. How does your child feel about school now?

20. What is the child’s attendance like now?

21. Does the child participate in any extracurricular activities?

22. Are there any ongoing challenges?

23. Have you or do you use any support from any non-government agencies, such as The Ronald McDonald Learning Program or the Childhood Cancer Association?

24. Is there anything that makes you worry about your child’s schooling?
   - Do you worry about the ability to achieve academically? Socially?

25. Regarding siblings – have you noticed any school-related changes for any of your other children?
   - Any changes in attendance, academic achievement, social functioning?

26. What do you think the communication was like between the hospital, your child’s school, and you?
   - Do you feel as though you all worked together?
27. Overall, did you feel that schooling was an important aspect of your child’s cancer care?
   - Were you getting this message? From everyone?

28. Overall, were you satisfied with the opportunities provided by the [children’s hospital] to maintain your child’s schooling

29. Overall, what have been the main challenges relating to schooling – for your child?
   - For you?
   - Did you feel that you were supported? That these challenges were addressed?

30. Do you have any suggestions for additions/improvements to school-related programs at the [children’s hospital]?

31. Do you have any suggestions/advice for other parents related to having a child at school with cancer generally?