



Schooling

Children with Cerebral Palsy attend their local school. The only difference is that they will likely work with an aide or the special education teacher. If the child is in a wheelchair, the school must be accessible.

“Accessible” means that bathrooms, classrooms, doorways and entrances of the school need to be wide enough for a child in a wheelchair to get through. Schools must also have ramps so the child can get into the building.

Cerebral Palsy is caused by damage to the brain during pregnancy, delivery or shortly after birth.

Cerebral Palsy is also known as C.P. “Cerebral” means brain. “Palsy” refers to muscle movement and control.

If a person has C.P. it means that their brain has difficulty sending messages to the muscles in the body.

There are many forms of Cerebral Palsy. Some people will have very stiff and tight muscles. Others may have loose and limp muscles. People with Cerebral Palsy may use a cane or a walker to walk; others may use a wheelchair.

There are many sports that have been adapted for people who use wheelchairs. There are professional wheelchair sports teams including basketball, sled hockey, track, bowling and soccer.

Sometimes people who have Cerebral Palsy have difficulty speaking or holding objects in their hands because their muscles are not strong enough to talk or grab something. Many times people with C.P. work with an occupational therapist who helps them develop their muscles.