

Student Behavior Concerns

While there isn't one specific way that all children will react to a deployment, there are some signs and behaviors that you can watch for and help with. As a school professional, you're in a unique position to notice changes in student behavior. You see students on a daily basis and often for more hours in a day than their parents do. Every student will have 'off' days, but if you find that any of the students you interact with are having significant changes in behavior or personality, it may be helpful for you to check in with the student. Changes in behavior or personality, like the following, are especially concerning when they persist over more than a few days.

- Changes in school performance or homework completion
- Changes in interactions with teachers, peers, and other school personnel including becoming withdrawn or more aggressive
- Anxiety, crying, unusual sadness
- Impulsiveness, argumentativeness, or anger out of character for the student
- Extensive clinginess
- Disruptions in eating and sleeping patterns
- Misbehavior
- Headaches, stomachaches and other unexplained pains
- Difficulties in speech
- Excessive activity or lethargy levels
- Not resuming typical levels of academic engagement
- Continuing intense emotional responses
- Disturbing drawings or writings
- Hurting themselves intentionally or appearing likely to hurt others
- Significant weight loss or gain
- Poor hygiene or personal care
- Symptoms of alcohol or drug use

