



Office for Health
Improvement
& Disparities



National Dental Survey: Information for parents and persons with parental responsibility

Why is there a dental survey?



Every year we collect information on the health of peoples' teeth. This is called a dental survey. The information helps to plan NHS dental services in your area.

This year the survey will collect information about the health of 5-year-olds' teeth. You are being asked to agree to your child having a dental check (examination). This will be at their school.

What does the survey involve?



If you agree, your child will have a dental check by a dental team. Your child will not be forced to have a check if they do not want to. No treatment will be provided.



You can see a dental check at:
<https://youtu.be/BzrjK8HRpD8>

The check does not replace your child's regular dental appointments. You should still take your child to these.

What information will be collected?



Your child's details will be provided by their school to the dental team. These details include their name, postcode, sex, date of birth and ethnicity.

These details will be linked to your child's dental check. This will help us to understand patterns in dental health.

The information will then be sent safely to the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities.

What if the dental team finds anything wrong?



The dental team will give the school a letter for you.

What will the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities do with the information?



The Office for Health Improvement and Disparities works to improve health for everybody. The Department of Health and Social Care is the data controller for your child's information.

The details of the children who take part will be studied and your child's dental information may be linked to other health information about them. No information will be published that identifies your child.

Information about your child is kept securely:

- in files in our offices
- on our computers

Under the General Data Protection Regulation, the lawful bases we rely on for using your child's information are:

- we have a legal obligation
- we need it to perform a public task

The information may be shared by the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities with other organisations, such as universities. Names, dates of birth and postcodes will be removed so that no child can be identified.

We keep your child's information for 3 years then we will destroy it securely.

You can read about the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/office-for-health-improvement-and-disparities>

Your rights

You can ask us to see the information we hold about your child.

You can ask us to make changes to information we hold about your child.

You can ask us to delete information about your child.

You can ask for copies of the information we hold about your child.

You can ask us to stop processing information about your child.

What if I have a question?



If you have a question you can contact Martyn Waddington on 0333 207 9958 opt 3 opt5

You can also contact the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities at:

Dental Public Health
Office for Health Improvement and Disparities
Department of Health and Social Care
39 Victoria Street
London SW1H 0EU

If you have a question about how your child's information is being used for the dental survey, you can contact:

data_protection@dhsc.gov.uk or by writing to:

Data Protection Officer
1st Floor North
39 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0EU

You can also contact the Information Commissioner's Office by calling 0303 123 1113 or by live chat at ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint