

13th December 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I am delighted to inform you that our nursery/school has been selected by NHS England and NHS Improvement to participate in a pilot supervised toothbrushing programme. The programme will initially run for two years and will be managed by Torbay & South Devon NHS Foundation Trust's Special Care Dental Service.

Sadly Oral health amongst children in Torbay and parts of Devon is worse than the national average. Tooth decay can affect children's ability to sleep, eat, speak, play and socialise and is preventable with effective toothbrushing and dietary measures.

The aim of this programme is to reduce children's experience of tooth decay & its associated treatment needs. Evidence shows this can be achieved by brushing daily in the learning environment, with fluoride toothpaste, under the supervision of trained staff.

For more detailed information about the supervised toothbrushing programme please visit:
<http://www.healthylearningtorbay.co.uk/>

Supervised toothbrushing

Children will be supervised on the programme because young children need help with toothbrushing on a daily basis. The children will also be given a toothbrush to take home and we encourage you to supervise toothbrushing with your child every morning and before going to bed every night. Children should be encouraged to spit out toothpaste and to not rinse their mouth after brushing.

What do I need to do next?

Your child can only take part in the toothbrushing programme if you give consent for them to do so. Please take a few minutes to complete the enclosed consent form and return it to reception at your nursery/school. If you do not return the consent form sadly your child will not be able to benefit from this programme. If you have any questions about the programme please talk to your child's teacher at their nursery or school.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Edwards

Head of Academy



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