

Dear Parent/Guardian/Carer

We are continuing with our Smarter Smiles Oral Health Programme, working in partnership with our good friends at Peninsula Dental Social Enterprise (PDSE), we will continue engaging with school communities but also vulnerable adults and other groups in need of our intervention right across the county.

Tooth decay in children can be a serious health problem affecting their quality of life, development and confidence, yet it is preventable. As you may already be aware, this is a government initiative (supported by the Local Authority) to reduce tooth decay and the need for multiple tooth extractions under general anaesthetic in young children. This is also part of the educational programme and is in the national curriculum.

Our fun and engaging oral health programme will be delivered by the Smarter Smiles team to improve oral health outcomes for children, which should be an important objective for all those with and working with children.

We are delighted to be able to deliver our Smarter Smiles oral health programme in your school community, as part of our commissioned contract with Cornwall Council. It is completely free for your school/nursery and the aim is to deliver oral health education sessions, set up an accreditation scheme to promote good oral health within the school and apply Fluoride Varnish to the children's teeth in Reception and Year 1 children.

The Smarter Smiles Oral Health Programme is an exciting programme set up to teach the children about the importance of good oral hygiene, as well as giving them the opportunity for extra protection against tooth decay by applying (painting) fluoride varnish on their teeth twice in this school year.

Our aim is to deliver an oral health education session and apply Fluoride Varnish to the children's teeth in Reception and year 1. We will also be providing a home educational pack for children to take home, so you can continue with your child's dental care at home. The packs include a toothbrush, toothpaste, 2-minute toothbrushing timer and advice leaflets.



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<https://smartersmiles.co.uk>

All Smarter Smiles visits will be in line with current Government and Public Health guidance, and we are confident that the Smarter Smiles Fluoride Varnishing can be delivered safely within your school, with the same success as in previous years.

Prior to the Fluoride Varnish application visit, we will be sending an electronic consent form which the school will provide you with. We hope you would like your child to benefit from this valuable fluoride varnish application, which is easy, safe and fun. We will then aim to complete the 1st Fluoride Varnish application for those children for whom we have consent and medical histories on date/time.

The 2nd Fluoride Varnish Application will need scheduling 3- 6 months after the first application and we will contact you nearer the time to confirm a date and time.

Please note, without your consent, we will not be able to apply the fluoride varnish to your child's teeth.

Yours faithfully

The Smarter Smiles Outreach Team
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