

# Seeing the school dentist now and beyond

Transition



## Information for parents

Community and Special Care Dentistry



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## **Seeing the school dentist – now and beyond**

This leaflet is to inform you about the dental services available to your child at Talbot Specialist School and to help you and your child to start thinking about transition to adult dental services in the future.

### **What service is offered from the school dentist?**

Currently we offer to see your child each year for a dental check-up in school. If your child is found to need dental treatment we can offer this in the school dental clinic, where you may choose to accompany your child. We may also offer treatment at one of our community clinics, or you may choose to take your child to your own family dentist.

We offer a fluoride varnish application programme to protect teeth against dental decay and encourage school to offer a 'tooth brushing club' as part of a class activity.

All children/young people up to the age of 18, (or up to 19 if they remain in full time education), are entitled to free NHS dental care in England and can be seen by the school dental team.

### **Can my child still see our own family dentist?**

You may prefer for your child to continue to see your family dentist (General Dental Practitioner). Regular dental care is important for your child; it helps prevent problems so your child can avoid dental pain and infection.

We can provide a dental check-up at school and fluoride varnish application, in addition to your family dentist visit. We will write to you when we see your child at school.

## **What happens if my child needs to be referred to other services?**

Your child may need specialist treatment or may find it difficult to tolerate dental treatment in the school environment.

In these circumstances we can refer your child to the appropriate dental professionals within or outside the Community and Special Care Dentistry Service depending on your child's individual need.

Their regular dental care will still remain in the school service or with your family dentist.

## **What happens when my child is leaving school?**

As your child becomes a young adult and leaves school we can offer transition to our Community and Special Care Dentistry clinics. We start this process in Year 12 (from age 16). There are clinics spread citywide over Sheffield.

If you no longer require our service you may choose to continue with your own family dentist.

# **Transition – Getting ready to move on to Adult Dental Services**

## **What is transition?**

Transition is a gradual process that gives your child, and everyone involved in your child's care, time to get ready to move to adult services and discuss what dental needs your child will have as an adult.

For every person, this process will be slightly different but our dental team will be able to provide you and your child with information about it.

By talking about transition early, you should have plenty of time for discussions and questions, ensuring that you and your child are fully prepared when the time comes to make the move to adult services.

## **Why does my child need to move on?**

As your child grows into a young adult, the adult dental service will be the best place for them to get the care that's right for their needs.

By the time they move on you may feel that they have grown out children's services and will be glad to be moving on to a more grown-up setting.

## **When does my child need to move on?**

This starts from Year 12 (age 16 onwards).

We understand that if your child has been accessing the school dental services for many years that moving to a new dentist may be a daunting process. We can continue to provide shared care up to 19 years of age including a dental check-up and fluoride varnish application at school.

## **Where will my child go to?**

Part of the transition process should be helping you to look at where your child's on-going healthcare needs can be best met and how this will fit in with your child's future plans.

There are four community dental clinics in Sheffield that are all centred around providing Special Care Dentistry. You may choose to seek dental care from your family dentist (General Dental Practitioner).

## **Will my child need to pay for treatment?**

From 18 years of age you may have to pay for treatment depending on your child's circumstances. Not all benefits entitle you to free treatment. A HC1 form can be provided if you are unsure of your child's exemption status after your child is transitioned.

## **Questions you may like to discuss with our dental team:**

- What is the plan for my child's transition?
- Can I choose which adult dental service my child moves to?
- What is different about the adult dental service?
- Can I visit the adult dental service to look around?

Please contact the dental team if you have any queries or concerns about dental services available at school or transition onto adult dental care.

**Talbot Dental Clinic: 0114 2583514**

**Manor Dental Clinic: 0114 3078402**



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