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**Fens Primary School**

**Oral Health Policy**

**Approved: September 2019**

**Review Date: July 2020**

**Oral Health Policy**

Fens primary School oral health policy sets out the schools formal commitment to providing a high standard of oral health promotion, linking this to education and life skills to promote optimum health in all of our students.

The Governors aim to ensure that all aspects of oral health promotion at Fens Primary School promotes the health and wellbeing of pupils, staff and visitors to our school, supporting individual needs (cultural, ethical and medical) as appropriate.

The Governors will ensure the creation of partnerships between staff; pupils, parents and other relevant groups so that all those involved in oral health at Fens Primary School have the opportunity to plan, implement deliver and evaluate oral health promotion programmes.

Fens Primary School is committed to

* Supporting partnerships with agencies which support Oral Health and deliver effective oral health promotion involving staff, parents and pupils.
* Planning and delivering effective oral health promotion through participating in local initiatives as determined by Public Health England (PHE).
* Raising concerns relating to oral health of pupils in line with our safeguarding policy.

By implementing our oral health policy there will be a formal structure in place to allow feedback from students, staff and parents and we are committed to responding appropriately to such feedback. This will ensure that we continue to rate oral health very highly as demonstrated by the high standard set by our local Tees Community Dental Service Oral Health Promotion Department. We will link oral health to what is taught in the curriculum to ensure students receive consistent and up to date messages around oral hygiene and healthy eating. The school oral health policy will be linked to the nutrition and food policy which relates to the Government school food regulations, to Every Child Matters agenda and to the National Healthy Schools Programme.

Fens Primary School named Oral health lead is Mrs Connor.

**Tooth Brushing**

A daily supervised tooth brushing programme is a local initiative to help improve the oral health of children in Teesside. *Fens Primary School* has been identified to deliver tooth brushing in *the nursery and reception classes.* Tooth brushing resources are provided by Tees Community Dental Service Oral Health Promotion Department subject to funding and consist of storage racks, toothbrushes and toothpaste. We encourage students to brush their teeth at home and in the education setting. We do this with the support of the school staff and reinforcing messages to parents at home.

***Fens Primary School* is committed to**

* Delivering the tooth brushing scheme in line with the guidance provided by the Tees Community Dental Service Oral Health Promotion Department.
* Implementing a high stand of cross infection control in line with the guidance provided by the Tees Community Dental Service, Oral Health Promotion Department and the local authority infection control policies.
* Encouraging all students to participate in the scheme at school and at home.
* Maintaining a high standard of staff knowledge base in Oral Health Promotion.

**Guidance on Tooth Brushing in school**

* The school will have a nominated oral health lead person responsible for liaising with the Oral Health Promotion Department, and ensuring the effective delivery of the scheme in school.
* Staff involved in the tooth brushing scheme will be suitably trained, which will be recorded and monitored.
* All parents will be made aware of the scheme via consent letter.
* Tooth brushing will take place in a suitable environment in line with cross infection control.
* All children are supervised whilst brushing.
* Storage racks will be maintained, and cleaned on a regular basis inline with infection control.
* Every child with have their own identifiable toothbrush.
* A fluoride toothpaste will be used which contains the current recommended level of Fluoride.
* Every child will use toothpaste which has been dispensed in accordance with cross infection control guidance.
* A pea sized amount of fluoride toothpaste will be dispensed for all children over the age of 3yrs
* Toothbrushes will be replaced every three months or sooner if required, when bristles become splayed, are dropped on the floor or used by a pupil with a contagious infection.
* Staff will wash hands before and after each brushing session.
* Toothbrushes will be stored in an upright position, out of reach of children, away from toileting facilities and left to air dry when not in use.
* Storage equipment will be washed weekly, and replaced if cracked, scratched or rough surfaces appear.

Appendix A sets out specific tooth brushing routines in *Fens Primary School*

**Healthy Eating**

**School Meals**

Food served in schools and academies in England must meet the school food standards so that children have healthy, balanced diets. These standards are intended to help children develop healthy eating habits and ensure they get the energy and nutrition they need across the school day.

A child’s healthy, balanced diet should consist of

* Plenty of fruit and vegetables.
* Plenty of unrefined starchy foods.
* Some meat, fish, eggs beans and other non-dairy sources of protein.
* Some milk and dairy foods.
* A small amount of food and drink high in fat, sugar and / or salt.

**School food other than lunch**

Oral health is affected by the frequent consumption of food or drinks that contain extrinsic sugars. *[School Name]* recognises the importance of reducing the frequency of sugary food / drinks that are available in school to tackle tooth decay and to comply with The Requirements for School Food Regulations 2014.

*{available at http://www.legislation.gov.uk/id/uksi/2014/1603}*

*Fens Primary School* is committed to

* Providing free, fresh drinking water which is available at all times.
* Providing lower fat milk which will be available at least once a day.
* Providing fresh whole fruit as a snack in between meals (on occasion dried fruit may be provided by the free fruit scheme after school holiday periods).
* Not allowing cakes to be consumed in school (this does not apply at parties, celebrations to mark religious or cultural occasions, or at fund raising events)

Healthy snack guide Appendix B

**Dental Emergencies**

**Knocked out tooth**

On occasions children may injure themselves affecting the mouth. If an adult tooth is knocked out the sooner it is re-implanted, the more likely it is to embed itself back into the gum. If a child has sustained a facial injury this will be assessed by the first aider in school. Who will follow the advice given by NHS choices as below:

This is for adult teeth only; **children’s baby teeth should not be implanted**.

* The tooth should be handled by the top white part (the crown) and avoid touching the root.
* Do not scrape or brush the tooth.
* If the tooth is dirty, it should be rinsed with milk or a saline (salt water) solution and placed back into its socket in the mouth as soon as possible. The tooth should not be rinsed with water or alcohol.
* When the tooth is back in its socket, ask the child to bite down onto a clean piece of material (such as a handkerchief) or a wet tea bag to keep it in place.
* If the tooth cannot be re implanted it should be held between the cheek and gum until the child can manage to see a dentist, or store the tooth in a clean container and cover it with milk or a small amount of saliva.

Chipped or broken teeth should be reported to parents / guardians in line with the school accident policy where non-emergency appointments can be made.

Parent / guardians should be informed immediately so that a dental appointment can be made.

In the event that the pupil does not have a dentist, the Teesside Dental Helpline can be called for information on local dental practices. 0345 045 0620 or text 07700 380000.

**Oral Health Education**

Providing the children with a sound knowledge in oral health is a priority at *Fens primary School* we strive to provide a holistic approach to health whereby dental health is given equal priority to general health messages.

*Fens primary School* is committed to

* Providing parents with relevant information / literature relating to oral health.
* Working in partnership with dental professionals.
* Providing dental health education to all pupils.
* Incorporating dental health education into the curriculum
* Utilizing resources available to loan from the Oral Health Promotion Department.

Further guidance on oral health can be obtained from

Tees Community Dental Service

Oral Health Promotion Department

01642 383833

**Appendix A**

**Fens Primary School** follows the following procedure when tooth brushing with children in school.

Tooth brushing is supervised by (Name) Mrs Atkinson, Mrs Connor & Mrs Robinson

**Year Group Brushing**

Nursery (am) **🗸** Nursery (pm) **🗸** Reception **🗸**  Year 1 x

Other 🞎 Please specify……………………………………………………………………………………..

**Racks**

Toy Racks 🞎 No…10……

Brush Bus 🞎 No……...

**Tooth Brush Type**

Toy **🗸** Healthy Snacks 🞎 Sports 🞎

**Storage area (up high)**

Shelves **🗸** Cupboard 🞎

Other 🞎 Please specify…………………………………………………………………….........

**Tooth brushing Area:**

In the classroom (Dry brush) **🗸** in washroom sinks 🞎 in classroom sink 🞎

Other 🞎 please specify…………………………………………………………………………….

**Cleaning procedure:**

Decontamination of area pre and post activity 🞎

Product used please Specify: **Milton antibacterial spray**

Racks cleaned weekly **🗸** Dishwasher 🞎 other method please specify: **Milton sterilising tablets**

**Method of brushing:**

1 tube of labelled paste per child 🞎 1 tube of paste dispensed (onto something other than brush) **🗸**

Every child every day **🗸**

Rotational Brushing 🞎 Number……….. Frequency……………