



Dental Hygiene

Good oral health from an early age is vital for the healthy development of adult teeth and for general well-being. Many of the hygiene habits developed during early childhood will continue through-out life

Practices

- Arrangements to be made for dental health professionals to visit the preschool to talk with staff, children and or families about dental health.
- The name, address and phone number of child's dentist is to be recorded on child's enrolment forms.
- Preschool provides information on dental health including tooth brushing, 'tooth friendly' snacks and going to the dentist.

To reduce the incidence of caries in young children our preschool will:

1. encourage healthy eating habits
2. offer drinking water to quench thirst rather than carbonated drinks and fruit juices
3. Avoid the use of nursing bottles that contain sweetened milk, fruit juices, cordials or soft drinks
4. avoid the use of sugary snacks or sweets as behavioural rewards
5. avoid the use of pacifiers dipped in sweetened substances (eg. jam, honey)
6. avoid using nursing bottles as pacifiers or using a bottle containing anything other than water
7. Offer milk to children twice a day

Brize Norton Village Preschool believes that it is important to establish and reinforce good dental health practices for each child.

Snacks will only be offered once in the morning and once in the afternoon. Snacks provided will include nutritious foods such as vegetables, fruit, cheese, yoghurt, plain pasta, and bread with spreads such as meat, cheese and vegetable extracts

Staff model good health practices

The service will provide information to families on dental health principles relating to different age groups of children as recognised by health and dental authorities. Wherever possible this information is to be available to families in their home language.

Staff will report to the family any injury to teeth and gums, gum swelling, infection of the mouth, or problems, pain or discomfort the child has with chewing, eating or swallowing