

Dental Screening Program 2014 - 2015

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Dental health contributes to our general health and well-being. **Dental screening** will be conducted at your child's school by registered dental hygienists for all children in Grades JK, SK, 2, 8, possibly Grades 4, 6 and others, as required by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's Child Health Program under the *Ontario Public Health Standards and Protocols*. Dental screening consists of a quick look in the mouth **using a separate, sterilized mirror for each child**.

You will be notified if your child needs to see a dentist for treatment. Dental screening is done to identify children who are in need of urgent dental care; however, it does not take the place of a regular dental check-up.

If you do not have dental insurance and the cost of urgent care would create financial hardship, treatment may be funded through the **Children in Need of Treatment (CINOT)** program. Your child may also be eligible for the **Healthy Smiles Ontario (HSO)** dental program. This program provides funding for routine dental care and treatment such as check-ups, x-rays and fillings.

You will be notified if preventive dental services (professional cleaning, fluoride, pit and fissure sealants or dental health education) are recommended for your child. These services may be provided by the Dental Program within six months of this dental screening if your family does not have dental coverage and cannot pay for dental care.

If your child is not in one of the grades listed above and you would like to have him/her screened, contact the Dental Program at 905-895-4512 or 1-800-735-6625, extension 74395. Please be prepared to provide your child's full name, school, date of birth and grade.

If you wish to have your child excluded from dental screening, notify the Dental Program immediately, in writing to the address below, with your child's full name, school, date of birth and grade or call 905-895-4512 or 1-800-735-6625, extension 74395.

Please note that any information collected during your child's dental screening is done in agreement with the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*. Records of parent requests to exclude children from screening as well as requests for yearly screening will be maintained while the child remains in the stated school. In addition, the collection, use, disclosure, and disposal of this information is subject to the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and the *Personal Health Information Protection Act*.

If you have any questions, please contact one of our registered dental hygienists at 905-895-4512 or 1-800-735-6625. For more information about our programs and services you can also visit www.york.ca/teeth.

Sincerely,

Management and Staff of the Dental Program