

Supervised Toothbrushing Standards Summary



Nursery:

Person responsible for the supervised toothbrushing programme:

Smile of Mann is a nursery-based supervised toothbrushing programme to help improve the oral health of young children on the Isle of Man.

These are the abbreviated Supervised Toothbrushing Standards. For the full Standards and more information, visit gov.im/toothbrushing

A copy of the Supervised Toothbrushing Standards is available in this establishment for reference.

Organisation

- Children brush their teeth daily in the supervised toothbrushing programme (1.3)
- At least one toothbrushing supervisor from each establishment has received training in effective toothbrushing and infection control procedures and cascaded the information to other members of nursery staff (1.6)
- Performance against the Standards is monitored twice per year by a member of the Public Health Directorate, and discussed with the responsible person in the establishment. More frequent visits should be undertaken when appropriate (1.8 and Appendix 1: 1.9)
- Arrangements for consent are in place (1.9)

Effective Practice

- Toothpaste provided by the programme, containing at least 1450ppm (parts per million) fluoride, is used (2.1)
- On a dry toothbrush, a smear of toothpaste is used for children under 3 years and a pea-sized amount for children 3 years and over (2.2)
- Where toothpaste is shared, a supervisor dispenses it onto a clean surface such as a plate or paper towel (2.3)
- Toothbrushes are individually identifiable for each child (2.10)
- Children are supervised when brushing their teeth (2.11)
- After toothbrushing, brushes are rinsed thoroughly and individually under cold running water and replaced in the storage system to allow them to air dry (2.15)
- Toothbrushes are replaced once a term, or sooner if required - for example, when the bristles become splayed (2.9)

Prevention and Control of Infection

- Staff wash their hands before and after each toothbrushing session (Appendix 2)
- Toothbrushes are stored in the upright position in the storage system and contact with each other avoided (3.2 and 3.3)
- If a storage system cover is lost or damaged, the storage system must be stored within a designated trolley or in a clean, dry cupboard until the cover is replaced (3.5)
- Dedicated household gloves should be worn when cleaning storage systems and sinks (3.8)
- Storage systems, including trolleys, are washed weekly with warm soapy water and replaced if cracks, scratches or rough surfaces develop (3.9, 3.12 and Appendix 1: 1.4 and 1.5)
- Any toothbrushes dropped onto the floor are discarded (3.13)