



National Dental Survey

Information for Parents and Carers



Why is there a dental survey?

Every other year we collect information on the health of 5-year-olds' teeth. This is called a dental survey. The information helps to understand the oral health needs of children on the Isle of Man.

You are being asked to agree to your child taking part in the dental survey, which will take place across the Island between **22nd April and 3rd May 2024**.

What does the survey involve?

If you agree, a dental team will have a quick look at your child's teeth at their school. This only takes a few minutes. New gloves and clean mirrors will be used for each child. No treatment will be provided.

Taking part is voluntary and your child will not be forced to have a check if they do not want to on the day.

This does not replace your child's regular dental appointments. You should still take your child to these.

You can see what happens at the dental check here:
<https://youtu.be/BzrjK8HRpD8>



What information will be collected?

Your child's details are provided by their school to the dental team. These details include their name and date of birth. This is so we can check they are the right age, and invite them to take part.

If you agree to your child taking part, the school will also provide your child's sex and 4 digit postcode. These details will be linked to your child's dental check. We use this to see if there are changes in children's dental health on the Isle of Man to help us understand patterns.

What if the dental team finds anything wrong?

This is not like a full dental check-up. If we find something which needs a closer look, the dental team will let you know by letter.



What will you do with the information?

Manx Care is the data controller for your child's information.

Information about your child will be kept securely in digital format. All paper documentation will be transferred electronically, and uploaded to a password protected folder. Paper copies will then be securely destroyed.

Public Health will receive pseudonymised or encoded data, which cannot be linked to your child. The data of the children who take part will be studied, and a report will be written. The data gathered also helps us develop the Island's Public Health Outcomes Framework dataset. No information will be published that identifies your child.

Under the General Data Protection Regulation, the lawful basis we rely on for using your child's information is:

- we need it to perform a public task.

Your child's details will be held in accordance with the relevant retention policies, and then securely destroyed.

What if I have a question or wish to withdraw my child's participation?

If you have given consent for your child to take part, but now wish to withdraw their participation, you are able to do so up until the dental examination takes place. If you wish to withdraw your child, please contact their school.

If you are happy for your child to take part, please complete and sign the consent form and return it to your child's school.

If you have any questions about the Dental Survey, or how your child's information is being used for the dental survey, you can contact:

Manx Care (Community Dental Service): +44 1624 642785 / salarieddentalservice@gov.im

Public Health: +44 1624 642639 / publichealth@gov.im