

Public Health Brent Civic Centre Engineers Way Wembley HA9 0FJ

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## Re: Pop-up Oral Health Event at Brentfield Primary School

Dear Parents.

The Public Health team will be having a pop-up oral health event at **Brentfield Primary School**: Meadow Garth, Neasden, NW10 0SL, on Wednesday, **20**<sup>th</sup> **March 2024**.

Recently, Brent has been ranked as the borough with the highest burden of tooth decay among children in London. Over the summer, we had dental checks at 17 sites across Brent and saw a total of 687 children, of which 242 (35%) had tooth decay.

The pop-up event is an opportunity for your child(ren) to see a dentist or dental therapist, and if required, a follow up dental appointment for your child will be scheduled.

As well as your child being able to access a dental assessment, the oral health promotion team will be offering free toothbrush and tooth paste kits and demonstrating the correct way to brush your teeth. The weight management team will also be there giving advice on healthy eating. The library staff will talk to you about how to register and what programmes are available, and the early years team will talk to you about Family Wellbeing Centres and nursery placements. Parents and families can also have a chat with the specialist asthma nurse on the day.

As you are aware, good oral health is integral to a child's general health and well-being, and affects how children look, speak, eat, grow, socialise, and enjoy life. Pain, infection, and tooth loss can cause sleepless nights, poor concentration, time off from school, reduced nutrition and growth, and delays to speech development. Psychosocial wellbeing and self-esteem can also be affected by bad breath and the unsightly appearance of decayed or missing teeth.

Fortunately, tooth decay is almost entirely preventable. Therefore, establishing good oral health behaviours early is part of giving every child the best start in life.

We would love to see you on 20<sup>th</sup> March from 3.00pm – 5.30pm, please make an appointment on the link below:

https://tinyurl.com/2ujebjb8

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at marie.mcloughlin@brent.gov.uk

Kind Regards

Marie McLoughlin Consultant in Public Health