Who should you contact if your child is in pain?

If your child experiences pain before their first appointment with the Paediatric Dental Service you should contact the child's usual dentist for advice.

If your child experiences pain while they are receiving treatment in the Paediatric Dental Service you may contact the clinic they are currently attending for advice.

Contact Details

If you have any queries or concerns please contact the clinic your child has been allocated to:

Highlands Health Centre, Lothian way, Hull, HU7 5DD.
Tel: 01482 303620

Bridlington Hospital, Bessingby Road, Bridlington, YO16 4AP.
Tel: 01262 423164

Goole Health Centre, Woodlands Avenue, Goole, DN14 6RU.
Tel: 01405 752902

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Paediatric Dental Service: Information for Patients

Please read this leaflet carefully as it contains important information.

www.chcpcic.org.uk

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What is the Paediatric Dental Service?

The Paediatric Dental Service is a specialist service for children **under the age of 16**. It operates from several health centres in the Hull and East Yorkshire area. Patients may be **referred** to the Paediatric Dental Service for any of the following reasons:

- The child is unable to cooperate with routine dental treatment because of anxiety or phobia.
- The child has physical disabilities and/or learning disabilities which make dental treatment more difficult to carry out.
- The child has medical problems which may complicate dental treatment.
- The child has suffered an injury to a tooth or has unusual dental problems which require advice from a specialist.

What will happen at the first appointment?

In most cases, no dental treatment will be carried out at the first appointment.

If possible, the dentist will carry out an examination of the child's teeth and may take x-rays. The dentist will identify any dental problems the child may have and then discuss the treatment options and make a treatment plan.

It is important that the child's parent or legal guardian is present for this appointment as nobody else can give consent for the child's treatment.

What treatment is offered?

This depends on the child's specific needs and the nature of their dental problems. All routine dental treatment is carried out and the dentist may also suggest:

- Behaviour management techniques to enable children to cope better with their treatment.
- Inhalation sedation (gas and air) which induces light sedation and helps the child to relax during treatment.
- **Referral** for treatment under general anaesthesia. This involves your child 'going to sleep' for their treatment and is carried out in a hospital.

How long will the treatment take?

This varies from weeks to months depending on the child and the amount of dental treatment required. When your child attends for their first assessment, the dentist will be able to advise you about the likely number of appointments that will be needed.

Normally, a child will continue to attend the Paediatric Dental Service until all of their dental treatment has been completed. After this, they will be discharged from the service. **It is important that your child continues to see his/her own dentist for regular check-ups, even while they are having treatment in the Paediatric Dental Service.**

Some children who have complex dental or medical problems may continue to attend the Paediatric Dental Service for their long-term dental care.