

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT IN-SCHOOL DENTAL SCREENING

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Dental health staff from the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit will soon be doing **FREE** dental health screenings at your child's school.

We are screening the following:

- All students in grades JK, SK, 2 & 7.
- Children who had dental sealants from the health unit last year.
- Children in other grades whose parents have asked for screening.
- Children who were identified last year with urgent needs whose treatment has not been confirmed as initiated.

About in-school screening:

- In-school screenings are provided to children in Simcoe and Muskoka in accordance with the Ontario Public Health Standards and the Health Protection and Promotion Act, 1990, s. 5.
- The oral health of the children in our area is measured through in-school screenings.
- In-school screening identifies children who may be in need of dental care or would benefit from dental services such as scaling, topical fluoride or sealants.
- If you can't afford dental care, your child may be eligible for free services.
- A dental screening does not replace regular dental visits.

How dental screening is done:

- Screenings are done by Registered Dental Hygienists.
- Separate, sterilized mouth mirrors are used for each child.
- You will be notified of your child's results through a "Dental Report Card" sent home after screening.

If your child's grade is not participating and you would like your child to be screened:

- Call the Oral Health Team immediately at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520, ext. 8805, press 1.

If you want to opt out of screening:

- Call the Oral Health Team immediately at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 ext. 8805, press 2. Your child will be excluded at this school until the end of grade 8. If your child has changed schools, call us to opt your child out from screening at their new school.

Preschoolers and teens up to age 18 are also eligible for financial help for dental treatment. To book a dental screening or for questions about our dental programs and services, please call 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520, ext. 8804.

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