

Core standards for the Brush Bus Tooth supervised toothbrushing programme (STB)

This programme follows dry toothbrushing guidelines

- Everyday each child will be given the opportunity to brush their own teeth with the *Brush Bus Scheme*
- Brushing can be done at any time of the day. All children must be supervised by an appropriately trained member of staff to ensure the toothbrushes are not shared as these are a possible source of cross-infection
<https://www.gmthub.co.uk/dentistry/workforce/starting-well-improving-childrens-oral-health/stb-early-years>
- All staff should have read <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-supervised-toothbrushing-programmes/covid-19-guidance-for-supervised-toothbrushing-programmes-in-early-years-and-school-settings>
- Supervisors should wash and sanitise their hands before and after the session
- Supervisors should cover any cuts, abrasions or breaks in their skin with a waterproof dressing
- Children should wash and sanitise their hands
- Supervisors should not need to wear additional PPE other than normal work wear
- Toothpaste is only dispensed when the children are ready to brush
- Supervisors should dispense a smear of toothpaste onto individual squares of paper towel, or individual plate
- Each child should collect their paper and sit in their space following local social distancing guidance
- Dispensing toothpaste in this way stops the toothpaste tube touching the brushes (preventing cross-contamination)
- As there is only a very small amount of toothpaste used there is no need for water or rinsing
- After brushing, should a child wish to empty their mouth, they should wipe it with a paper towel or tissue and put it straight in the waste bin

- It is recommended that children are not offered anything to eat or drink for at least 30 minutes following brushing to allow maximum benefit from the fluoride

Looking after the Toothbrushes

- Toothbrushes should be returned to the 'S' *Toothbrush storage racks* and taken to an identified sink area by a supervisor who is responsible for rinsing each toothbrush individually under cold running water
- Supervisors should wear latex free disposable gloves to clean any areas used for STB
- Toothbrushes do not need to be soaked in Milton or other cleaner/disinfectant (follow the cleaning instructions provided)
- The supervisor should return each toothbrush to the storage system. Storing the toothbrushes in the *toothbrush racks* with the bristles upmost, allows the brushes to air dry
- Children and supervisors should wash their hands after toothbrushing is complete
- Oral Health Improvement Bury will replace toothbrushes once a term (or every 12 weeks)
- OHI Bury will provide family fluoride toothpaste for the scheme

Looking after the 'S' Tooth brush Racks

- The toothbrush racks need to be stored up high out of the way of little hands
- Supervisors should carry out at least a weekly quality assurance check
- Ensure the toothbrush racks are cleaned with household detergent soap and warm water

For more information or support please contact

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