

Media statement

24 January 2019

Has your child's smile been on holidays too?

Ensure your child has a smile on their dial for 2019, with a visit to the Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service's school dental van or clinic.

Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service, Director of Oral Health, Dr Elaine Mawdsley, says school students from prep through to year 10 are eligible for free dental care during a school visit from one of our dental vans or clinics.

"Our school dental teams are highly skilled and experienced in treating children, and understand that a dental appointment can be an anxious time for children and their parents," Dr Mawdsley said.

The focus is on prevention and parents are encouraged to access care for their children before there is a problem.

"Having a regular dental check-up is important to help prevent small problems turning into big ones. Getting kids used to coming along for a dental visit can help set-up positive life-long habits," Dr Mawdsley said.

"The dental team will have a good look at your child's teeth and gums to make sure they are healthy. They particularly look out for how new adult teeth are developing and for any tricky spots the toothbrush might be missing."

"We encourage family involvement, siblings can be seen at the same time, and having a parent or guardian present helps to involve them in their child's dental care," Dr Mawdsley said.

"Arranging an appointment is easy. Your child's school will notify you when the dental van is due to visit, and provide you with the forms you need for the visit. Alternatively, you are able to arrange an appointment at a van or clinic in your local area by phone or in person."

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