



**CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND ORAL HEALTH
PROCEDURE
FDC**

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VERSION CONTROL

Version	Description of Revision	Date Effective	Owner
v1.0	First release	1/08/2016	EM SD
v2.0	Full Review and update Procedure for broken or lost teeth Purpose updated Roles and responsibilities updated Incorporates <i>Children's Health Procedure SD-FDC-04-11 Prod</i> Teeth numbering chart included	10/04/2024	EM EYL

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1 PURPOSE

This procedure outlines support materials and useful information for Family Day Care Educators on oral and dental health, including the management of tooth accidents and trauma. Note that this information is not a substitute for professional medical or dental advice.

The Y WA Family Day Care service is dedicated to fostering an environment that emphasises the importance of oral and dental health. Through education, practical routines, and effective management of dental emergencies, we aim to provide a learning environment that raises oral health awareness and supports families in the development of valuable life skills and lifelong healthy habits in the children in our care.

2 SCOPE

This procedure is a guide and is not a replacement for consulting a dentist, doctor, or health professional. Always seek professional dental or medical advice for specific health concerns or emergencies.

This procedure applies to service staff, FDC Educators and assistant educators.

3 DEFINITION OF TERMS

Term	Definition
Dental First Aid	The initial treatment given to a child with an injury to their teeth and mouth prior to seeking professional advice and treatment.
Avulsion	The tooth is completely dislodged from the socket, usually out of the mouth.
Public Dental Clinic eligibility	Always check dental.wa.gov.au for eligibility requirements usually - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WA current Health Care or Pension Concession Card holder, • Children aged 0 to 4 whose name appears on their parent's health care or pension concession card,

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A child aged 5 to 16 attending a school • A person with a Health Care Card living in a remote location without access to a private dentist
Deciduous teeth	Primary or 'baby' teeth that erupt (that is, become visible in the mouth) during infancy. A child usually has 20 deciduous teeth.
Permanent teeth	Secondary or 'adult' teeth that start to erupt at around 6 years of age. A person usually has 32 permanent teeth.
Oral health	The condition of a person's teeth and gums, as well as the health of the muscles and bones in their mouth.

4 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Role Title	Responsibilities
Educator	<p>Meet the requirements outlined in this procedure.</p> <p>Role model good dental health practices.</p> <p>Will be aware of and able to practice dental first aid.</p>
Service Staff Nominated Supervisor	<p>Oversee the implementation and service adherence of the procedure</p> <p>Implement strategies Ensure suitable resources and support systems are available to enable compliance with this Procedure</p> <p>Address and help prevent noncompliance with this procedure and to with this procedure. •</p>

5 PRINCIPLES

The Y WA and Family Day Care Educators foster an environment that supports the overall well-being, health, and safety of children in family day care settings by adhering to established Australian health and safety guidelines and standards for oral health. Following these procedures, which align with recognized Australian health standards, encompasses the promotion and maintenance of good oral and dental health, recognizing its vital role in overall health and wellbeing.

6 IMPORTANCE OF ORAL AND DENTAL HEALTH

Good oral and dental health is integral to overall health and wellbeing. Poor oral health can affect diet and nutrition, and can have various social impacts.

7 PROVISION OF INFORMATION

Y WA staff and educators will provide dental health information as recognized by Dental Health Services WA (DHS) and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW). This information will be provided in the family's first language wherever possible.

8 EDUCATIONAL INTEGRATION

Educators are encouraged to systematically incorporate dental health practices into children's daily experiences.

8.1 Incorporation into Play

Dental health education will be included in play sessions. Educators can borrow dental and oral hygiene resources from the toy library.

8.2 Tooth Brushing Education

Educators will discuss the importance of brushing teeth with children, emphasizing that tooth brushing is the only effective means of removing bacterial plaque from teeth and gums.

9 MANAGEMENT OF OROFACIAL INJURIES

Orofacial injuries are classified as head injuries and should be managed accordingly. An incident form must be completed, and parents should be notified.

9.1 Impact of Dental Injuries

Although dental injuries can have significant, life-long consequences, they are rarely life-threatening.

10 NUTRITIOUS MENUS

Menus will limit snacks high in sugar and include foods that encourage children to chew.

10.1 Restriction on Sweetened Fluids

Children will not be offered nursing bottles containing sweetened fluids.

11 PROHIBITION OF SWEETENED PACIFIERS

Children will not be given dummies or pacifiers dipped in sweet substances.

12 OVERNIGHT CARE PRACTICES

Educators who provide overnight care will encourage families to bring children's toothbrushes to ensure teeth cleaning after meals.

13 RELATED LEGISLATION AND STANDARDS

Legislation/Standard
Education and Care Services National Law (WA) Act 2012
Education and Care Services National Regulations, 2012
National Quality Standards
Dental trauma (health.wa.gov.au)

14 SUPPORTING Y WA AND OTHER DOCUMENTS

Document Location	Document Title
Portal	Incident Report
dental.wa.gov.au	Dental trauma (health.wa.gov.au)
	www.health.gov.au/dental
dental.wa.gov.au	Emergency? Dental Health Services, Government of WA
dental.wa.gov.au	Advice after dental trauma in several languages
dental.wa.gov.au	OHP407 - Aids to help toothbrushing.pdf
dental.wa.gov.au	OHP411 - Begin brushing early.pdf
dental.wa.gov.au	OHP415 Children's New Adult Teeth.pdf
dental.wa.gov.au	Drinking from a cup
dental.wa.gov.au	Drinks and healthy teeth

dental.wa.gov.au	Sugar: a sticky situation
dental.wa.gov.au	Early Childhood Decay
dental.wa.gov.au	Fluoride information
dental.wa.gov.au	Give your child's teeth a healthy start
dental.wa.gov.au	Teething
Developmental Disability WA	Planning to go to the Dentist - A Guide for People with Autism and Their Families.
Autism Association of Western Australia	Accessing Dental Services.
	Quick Guide: Dental Health Services (DHS) in several languages
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare	Oral health and dental care in Australia, Introduction - (aihw.gov.au)

15 BREACHES

Compliance with this procedure is a condition for continued approval of FDC service.

16 FEEDBACK

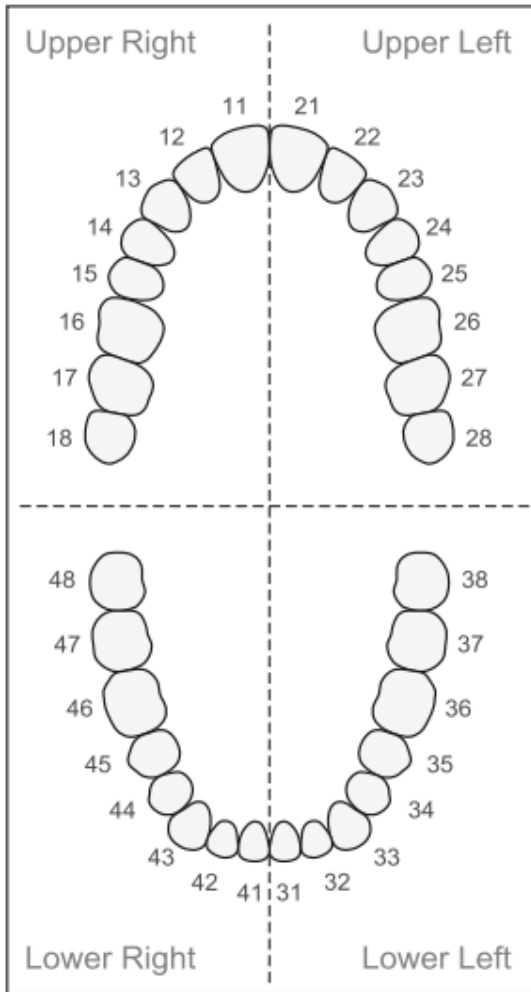
Feedback on this procedure may be directed to the EM EYL.

The EM EYL is responsible for maintaining the currency of this document.

1 ATTACHMENT 1

Tooth numbering is used to identify and provide specific information linked with a particular tooth. The chart below is a handy guide to this numbering system.

Permanent (adult) teeth



Deciduous (baby) teeth

