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Where can I find out more about the study?

You, or your parent/guardian, can contact the survey team on **0800 298 5313**. Opening times are 9am–9pm on Monday to Thursday, 9am–8pm on Friday and 9am–1pm on Saturday. You can also email the survey team **DentalSurvey@ons.gov.uk**.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read this leaflet.

To find out more about this survey, visit **www.ons.gov.uk/surveys**

Office for
National Statistics

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2013 Dental Health
Survey of Children
and Young People

INFORMATION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

We need your help!

Individual experience counts. That's why we are asking you to take part in our survey about the dental health of young people in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

What is it all about?

The Dental Health Survey of Children and Young People is carried out every 10 years on behalf of the Health and Social Care Information Centre. They use this information to see how things have improved and what still needs to be done.

Why have I been asked to take part?

You, and other students at your school, have been chosen at random to take part in the survey, which involves about 14,000 students from around 700 schools throughout England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

What will I have to do?

The survey involves you having a short check-up with a dentist



who will come to your school. The check-up will take around 10 minutes, where the dentist will look at your teeth and a nurse will take notes.

The dentist will not carry out a full check-up and you should still go to see your own dentist as usual.

Either just before or after the check-up you will be asked to complete a short questionnaire about your dental care. This will ask about trips to the dentist, any treatment you may have had and how you look after





Who are we?

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We compile independent information about the UK's society and economy which provides evidence for policy and decision making, and for directing resources to where they are needed most. The ten-yearly census, measures of inflation, the National Accounts, and population and migration statistics are some of our highest-profile outputs.

The 2013 Dental Health Survey of Children and Young People is being carried out by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) in collaboration with the National Centre for Social Research (NATCEN), Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) and the Dental Schools of the University of Birmingham, Cardiff University School of Dentistry, Newcastle University School of Dental Sciences, the University College London Dental Public Health Group and King's College London Dental Institute.

your teeth. A questionnaire will also be sent to your home for your parent/guardian to complete.

Your involvement is important and is very much appreciated. The information you and your friends provide will help build a true picture of young people's dental health in 2013.

Will I receive any dental treatment as part of the study?

No. The dentist will not carry out any treatment. Afterwards, the dentist will let you and your parents know what they find.

If during the check-up the dentist finds something serious they think should be looked at again we will let you and your parents/guardians know. This is very unlikely.





Who will know that I took part and what will happen to my details?

Only your school, your parents/guardians and those you tell will know you were involved in the survey. We will make sure that no-one can be identified from the results we publish. When the results of the survey are published, you'll know you helped us – even if no-one else does!

The Health and Social Care Information Centre, which publishes many NHS statistics (website at www.hscic.gov.uk) will publish the findings from the survey.

Do I have to take part?

No. If you do not want to take part, please tell your parent or guardian. Or you can tell us yourself by calling free on **0800 298 5313**.



Where can I find out more about the study?

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2013 Dental Health
Survey of Children
and Young People

Please help us to plan better dental services for children

Every 10 years we look at the teeth of 5 and 8 year olds to see if the dental health of children has improved. This important survey helps the NHS plan dental healthcare. We are inviting you to have your say about your child's dental health and the dental health services in your community.

Barry Cockcroft CBE, the Chief Dental Officer for England, said, 'Support from dentists, schools, parents and children is vital to the success of this survey. It helps measure changes in oral health and provides information to policy-makers on how best to plan dental services in the future.'



Why was my child chosen to take part in the survey?

More than 1,000 primary and secondary schools were chosen at random to represent schools throughout England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Your child's school has agreed to take part, and your child has been chosen at random to help us. **Your child is very important to this survey.** By taking part they will help us provide an accurate picture of children's dental health in 2013.

'Support from dentists, schools, parents and children is vital to the success of this survey. It helps measure changes in oral health and provides information to policy-makers on how best to plan dental services in the future.'

Barry Cockcroft CBE, the Chief Dental Officer for England

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partnership with the National Centre for Social Research, Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency and the Dental School of the University of Birmingham, Cardiff University School of Dentistry, Newcastle University School of Dental Sciences, the University College London Dental Public Health Group and King's College London Dental Institute.

Where will the survey results be published?

The Health and Social Care Information Centre will publish the survey findings on their website: www.hscic.gov.uk.





Will the school see the results of the survey?

All schools that are in the survey will be sent a summary of the main findings in their area. We will make sure that no-one can be identified from the summary results we publish.

Are the results of the survey confidential?

Yes, the information you give us will be treated as strictly confidential as directed by the Code of Practice for Official

Statistics. It will be used to produce statistics that will not identify your child's school, your child, or anyone in your household. Survey information is also provided to other approved organisations for statistical purposes only. All such statistics produced are subject to the Code and the same standards of protection are applied to your information at all times.

What does taking part involve for my child?

Taking part involves a 5 minute dental check-up with a specially trained dentist. A dental nurse will record the results. The check-up will take place at your child's school during the school day.

Does my child have to take part?

You decide if your child takes part in the survey. If you are happy for your child to be included, **please fill in and return the enclosed consent form** in the pre-paid envelope provided within the next 7 days.





I have more than one child. Which child has been selected to take part?

The name of the child who has been chosen to take part in the survey is detailed in the letter that you received with this leaflet.

Will my child be given any dental treatment as part of the study?

No. The dentist will just look at your child's teeth. The check-up is designed to provide an overall picture of children's dental health rather than to make recommendations for the treatment of individual children. It should not replace any dental check-up or treatment your child would usually have and will not affect or interfere with any dental treatment or care your child is currently having.

Will I receive feedback on my child's dental health?

After the check-up, we will send you some feedback on your child's oral health. If the dentist thinks there might be a serious condition during the

check-up, they will contact a member of the survey team who is a Consultant in Child Dentistry. They will follow a set procedure to inform you, and with your agreement make arrangements for your child to be seen by their doctor. This is very unlikely to happen.

What does taking part involve for me as a parent or guardian?

Following your child's dental check-up, you will receive a questionnaire. This is your chance to have a say about your child's dental treatment and care, including your experience of the dental care they receive.





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2013 Dental Health
Survey of Children
and Young People

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Please help us to plan better dental services for children

Every 10 years we look at the teeth of 12 and 15 year olds to see if the dental health of children has improved. This important survey helps the NHS plan dental healthcare. We are inviting you to have your say about your child's dental health and the dental health services in your community.

Barry Cockcroft CBE, the Chief Dental Officer for England, said, 'Support from dentists, schools, parents and children is vital to the success of this survey. It helps measure changes in oral health and provides information to policy-makers on how best to plan dental services in the future.'



Why was my child chosen to take part in the survey?

More than 1,000 primary and secondary schools were chosen at random to represent schools throughout England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Your child's school has agreed to take part, and your child has been chosen at random to help us. **Your child is very important to this survey.** By taking part they will help us provide an accurate picture of children's dental health in 2013.

'Support from dentists, schools, parents and children is vital to the success of this survey. It helps measure changes in oral health and provides information to policy-makers on how best to plan dental services in the future.'

Barry Cockcroft CBE, the Chief Dental Officer for England

Who are we?

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The 2013 Dental Health Survey of Children and Young People is being carried out by the Office for National Statistics in

partnership with the National Centre for Social Research, Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency and the Dental School of the University of Birmingham, Cardiff University School of Dentistry, Newcastle University School of Dental Sciences, the University College London Dental Public Health Group and King's College London Dental Institute.

Where will the survey results be published?

The Health and Social Care Information Centre, will publish the survey findings on their website: www.hscic.gov.uk





What does taking part involve for me as a parent or guardian?

Following your child's dental check-up, you will receive a questionnaire. This is your chance to have a say about your child's dental treatment and care, including your experience of the dental care they receive.

Will the school see the results of the survey?

All schools who are in the survey will be sent a summary of the main findings in their area. We will make sure that no-one can be identified from the summary results we publish.

Are the results of the survey confidential?

Yes, the information you give us will be treated as strictly confidential as directed by the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. It will be used to produce statistics that will not identify your child's school, your child, or anyone in your household. Survey information is also provided to other approved organisations for statistical purposes only. All such statistics produced are subject to the Code and the same standards of protection are applied to your information at all times.

What does taking part involve for my child?

Taking part involves a 10 minute dental check-up with a specially trained dentist. A dental nurse will record the results.

Your child will also be asked to complete a short questionnaire. The dental check-up and completion of the questionnaire will take place at your child's school during the school day.

Does my child have to take part?

Participation is voluntary and if

you decide to withdraw your child from the survey their dental care will not be affected in any way. If you do not want your child to take part, please phone us free of charge on **0800 298 5313** to let us know.

I have more than one child. Which child has been selected to take part?

The name of the child who has been chosen to take part in the survey is detailed in the letter that you received with this leaflet.





Will my child be given any dental treatment as part of the study?

No. The dentist will not carry out any treatment but will just look at your child's teeth. The check-up is designed to provide an overall picture of children's dental health rather than to make recommendations for the treatment of individual children. It should not replace any dental check-up or treatment your child would usually have and will not affect or interfere with any dental treatment or care your child is currently having.

Will I receive feedback on my child's dental health?

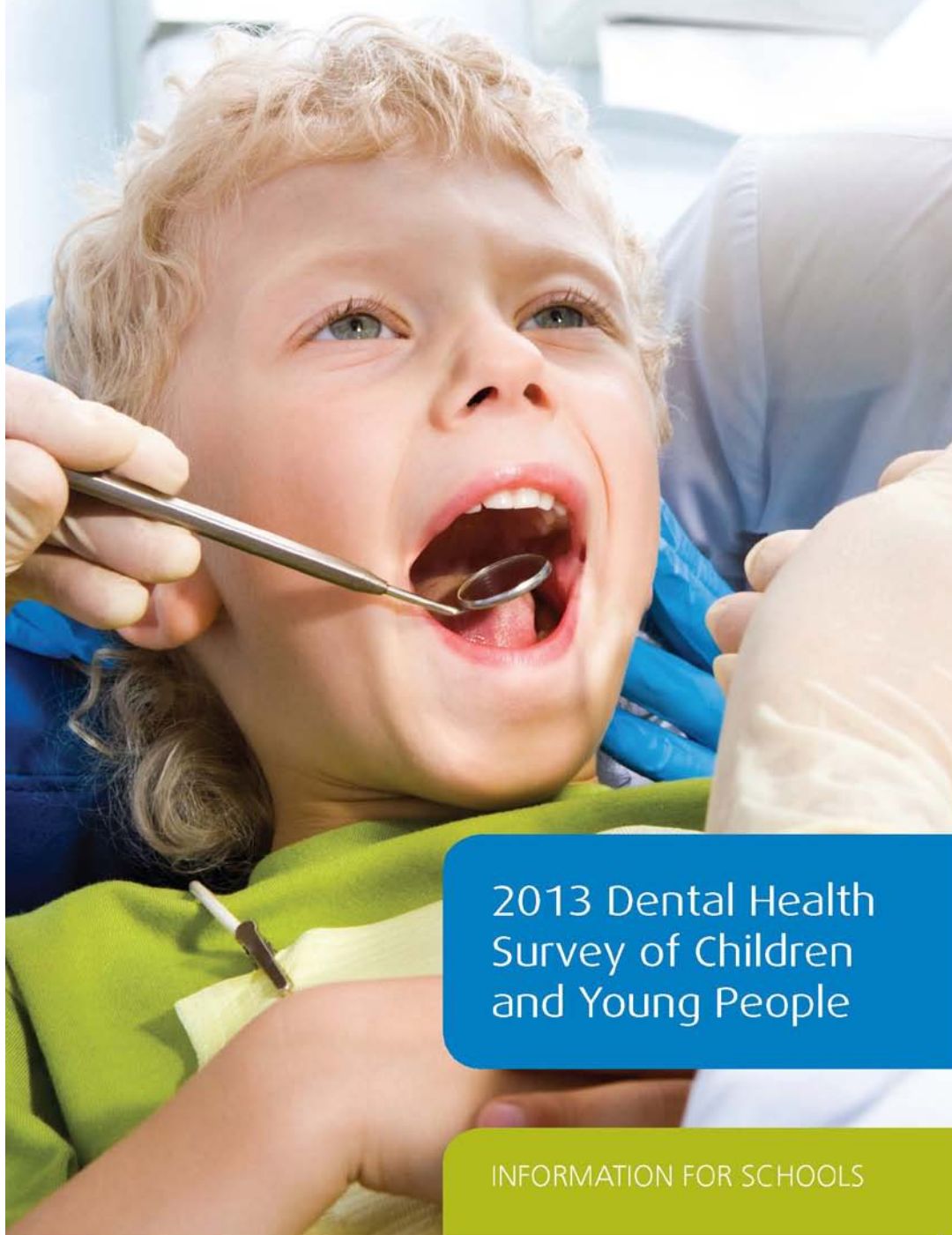
After the check-up, we will send you some feedback on your child's oral health. If the dentist thinks there might be a serious condition during the check-up, they will contact a member of the survey team who is a Consultant in Child Dentistry. They will follow a set procedure to inform you, and with your agreement make arrangements for your child to be seen by their doctor. This is very unlikely to happen.





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2013 Dental Health Survey of Children and Young People

INFORMATION FOR SCHOOLS

Please will you help us to plan better dental services?

Every 10 years we look at the teeth of groups of 5 and 8 year olds to see whether the dental health of children has improved. This information is vital to the successful planning of dental healthcare in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Barry Cockcroft CBE, the Chief Dental Officer for England, said, 'Support from dentists, schools, parents and children is vital to the success of this survey. It helps measure changes in oral health and provides information to policy-makers on how best to plan dental services in the future.'

Why was this school chosen to take part in the study?

As it is not possible to ask every school to take part in the



survey, a sample of more than 1,000 primary and secondary schools have been chosen at random to represent schools throughout England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Your school is important to this survey. By taking part you help us provide an accurate picture of children's dental health in 2013.

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Barry Cockcroft CBE, the Chief Dental Officer for England

How does the survey work?

To conduct the survey we first sample schools, and then within schools we sample children who will be examined by a dentist. The check-up lasts between 5 and 10 minutes with a dentist and a dental nurse visiting the school on a convenient day that is pre-arranged. Only a small number of children are selected and this will vary according to the size of school. For primary schools, children are selected from two age groups: 5 and 8 year olds. Before doing the check-ups, we write to the parents of the children to get their agreement to take part.

How many children from my school will be involved?

The number of children asked to take part in the survey will depend on the size of the school, but will range from 5 to 15 in each of the two age groups being studied.

How are the children selected?

A member of our survey team will visit the school prior to the check-up day. Working with the school, they will identify a list of students who will be aged 5 or 8 on 31 August 2013. The survey team will then assist in randomly selecting children from each age group.





In what format should the school supply the lists of children in each age group?

The list can be in any format that is convenient to the school. We just need to make sure that it contains all children at the school in the eligible age groups. Whatever the format it is in, the list will not be taken out of the school.

Who will inform a selected child's parent/guardian about the study?

The survey team will provide schools with explanatory letters and leaflets in stamped envelopes, to be addressed and

sent out to the parents/guardians of the selected children. The letters will request written consent from parents/guardians for their child to take part in the study.

All documents are available in a range of formats and languages on request.

How will the school know if parents/guardians have not provided consent for their child to take part in the study?

Parents/guardians who have not provided consent within two weeks of receiving their letter will be issued a reminder letter. Following this, we will assume that consent has not

been provided for their child to participate in the study. The survey team will let the school know which parents/guardians have not provided consent to the study.

Who will carry out the dental check-ups?

The check-ups will be carried out by a specially trained dentist. A dental nurse will record the results of the check-up.

How long will the dentist be in the school?

The length of time the dentist will be in the school will depend on the number of children in the eligible age groups. In general, the dental team will need to be in the school for about half a day.

Where and when will the dental check-ups take place?

The survey team will contact each school to arrange a convenient time for the dentist and dental nurse to visit. Schools will be asked to provide

a room in which the check-ups can take place and to assist in bringing the children to be examined. The check-up can take place in any room. No specialist equipment is required.

Before the visit, the school will be contacted via post to confirm the arrangements.

Are the parents/guardians involved in the check-up?

No. However after the dental check-up, parents/guardians of the participating children will be sent a postal questionnaire about their child's dental care. The survey team will provide schools with questionnaires in stamped envelopes, to be addressed and sent out to the selected parents/guardians.

Will parents/guardians be sent the results of their child's dental check-up?

No. The check-up is designed to provide an overall picture of children's dental health rather than to make recommendations for the treatment of individual children. It should not replace any dental check-up or



treatment the child would normally have. Afterwards, parents/guardians will receive some basic feedback from the check-up.

If the dentist discovers any suspected serious condition during the check-up, they will contact a member of the survey team who is a Consultant in Paediatric Dentistry. They will follow a set procedure to inform the child's parent or guardian, without causing alarm, and make arrangements for the child to be seen by their GP. It is important to stress that such an eventuality is highly unlikely.

Will the school be sent results?

No. However all schools will be sent a summary of the main findings in their area.



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The Health and Social Care Information Centre, which



publishes many NHS statistics (website at www.hscic.gov.uk), will publish the findings from the survey.

Are the results of the survey confidential?

Yes, the information you give us will be treated as strictly confidential as directed by the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. It will be used to produce statistics that will not identify your school or pupils. The survey information is also provided to other approved organisations for statistical purposes only. All such statistics produced are subject to the Code and the same standards of protection are applied to your information at all times.

Has the study received special approval because it involves children?

Ethical approval has been obtained from the relevant research ethics committee and the Local Education Authority has been informed.

What advice should be given to any parents/guardians who have queries?

A leaflet will be sent to parents/guardians explaining the purpose of the survey and how it will be carried out. They are also provided with contact details should they have any further queries.



Where can I find out more about the study?

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INFORMATION FOR SCHOOLS

Please will you help us to plan better dental services?

Every 10 years we look at the teeth of groups of 12 and 15 year olds to see whether the dental health of children has improved. This information is vital to the successful planning of dental healthcare in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Barry Cockcroft CBE, the Chief Dental Officer for England, said, 'Support from dentists, schools, parents and children is vital to the success of this survey. It helps measure changes in oral health and provides information to policy-makers on how best to plan dental services in the future.'

This important survey gives parents and pupils the opportunity to have their say on the provision of dental services in your community.



Why has my school been chosen to take part?

Your school has been chosen at random to represent schools in your area. About 1,000 primary and secondary schools have been chosen to take part. **Your school is important to this survey.** For your community to be represented it is vital that chosen schools agree to participate. This will help us provide an accurate picture of children's dental health in 2013.

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Barry Cockcroft CBE, the Chief Dental Officer for England



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What advice should be given to any parents/guardians who have queries?

A leaflet will be sent to parents/guardians explaining the purpose of the survey and how it will be carried out. They are also provided with contact details should they have any further queries.

Will parents/guardians be sent the results of their child's dental check-up?

The participating pupils and their parents/guardians will receive some basic feedback from the check-up. The check-up is designed to provide an overall picture of children's dental health rather than to make recommendations for the treatment of individual children. It should not replace any dental check-up or treatment the child would normally have.

If the dentist discovers any suspected serious condition during the check-up, they will contact a member of the survey team who is a Consultant in Paediatric Dentistry. They will follow a set procedure to inform the child's parent or guardian without causing alarm, and make arrangements for the child to be seen by their GP. It is important to stress that such an eventuality is highly unlikely.

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How does the survey work?

To conduct the survey we first sample schools, and then within schools we sample children who will receive a check-up by a dentist. The check-up lasts between 5 and 10 minutes with a dentist and a dental nurse visiting the school on a convenient day that is pre-arranged. The sampled children will also be asked to complete a short questionnaire either just before or just after the check-up. Only a small number of children are selected and this will vary according to the size of school.

How many children from my school will be involved?

The number of children asked to take part in the survey will depend on the size of the school, but will average 25 children in each of the two age groups being studied.

How are the children selected?

A member of our survey team will visit the school prior to the check-up day. Working with the school, they will identify a list of all students who will be aged 12 or 15 on 31 August 2013. The survey team will then assist in randomly selecting children from each age group.





In what format should the school supply the lists of children in each age group?

The list can be in any format that is convenient to the school. We just need to make sure that it contains all children at the school in the eligible age groups. Whatever format it is in, the list will not be taken out of the school.

What would we like schools to do?

The survey team will provide schools with explanatory letters and leaflets in stamped envelopes, to be addressed and sent out to the parents/guardians of the selected children.

We will also supply schools with explanatory letters and leaflets in envelopes to distribute to the selected pupils. All documents are available in a range of formats and languages on request.

What will the school receive after taking part?

As a thank you for taking part the school will receive:

- A summary of the main survey findings
- A certificate of participation
- Lesson resources on oral health and statistics

How will the school know if parents/guardians have withdrawn their child from the study?

Parents/guardians will be asked to contact the survey team.

The survey team will then let the school know which parents/guardians have withdrawn their children from the study.

Who will carry out the dental check-ups?

The check-ups will be carried out by a specially trained dentist. A dental nurse will record the results of the check-up.

How long will the dentist be in the school?

The length of time the dentist will be in the school will depend on the number of children in the eligible age groups. In general, the dental team will need to be in the school for no longer than one day. However, in some cases a second visit may be required.

Where and when will the dental check-ups take place?

The survey team will contact each school to arrange a convenient time for the dentist and dental nurse to visit. Schools will be asked to provide a room in which the check-ups can take place and to assist in bringing the children to be examined. The check-up can take place in any room. No specialist equipment is required. Before the visit, the school will be contacted via post to confirm the arrangements.

Are the parents/guardians involved in the check-up?

No. However after the dental check-up, parents/guardians of the participating children will be sent a postal questionnaire about their child's dental care. The survey team will provide schools with questionnaires in stamped envelopes, to be addressed and sent out to the selected parents/guardians.