

What to expect at your assessment visit

You have been referred to the community dental service for an assessment

Our team includes:

- Receptionists
- Dental therapists and dentists
- Dental nurses
- Office staff

We are here to help you feel comfortable

You will be sent a link before the appointment to answer questions about your health. We may need to ask more questions at your assessment visit about your general health. We will talk about your dental problems or worries and how you currently care for your teeth.

During the assessment we will:

- Check your mouth, gums and teeth.
- We may need to take some x-rays or photographs of your teeth.
- Discuss a treatment plan.
- Give advice to help keep your mouth healthy.

We will not carry out any treatment at this visit.

What happens next?

Some options to help you have treatment are:

- Treatment with local anaesthetic - an injection to numb the gum and make treatment feel comfortable.
- Treatment with local anaesthetic and Inhalation sedation or **happy air** - you will stay awake for the treatment but may feel more relaxed. This is given through a small nose piece.

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- Treatment with local anaesthetic and intravenous sedation - for adults only, a deeper form of sedation which is given through a cannula in the hand or arm.
- General Anaesthetic - which involves going to sleep for treatment at the hospital. This is not appropriate for everyone and will be discussed by your dentist if it is an option. For some younger patients this may mean that **all untreated, decayed teeth will be removed**, including front teeth.
- We may also suggest the use of stainless-steel crowns to treat decay in baby teeth, these are silver caps, that are longer lasting and more effective than fillings of these teeth.
- If we find any additional decayed teeth during this appointment, we will recommend treatment for these teeth as well. This is standard practice, to prevent any further dental pain or infection, and in some cases, to avoid the risk of repeated general anaesthetic.

Please tell us before your visit if you need:

Anything else to help make your visit easier or if you wish to discuss any possible reasonable adjustments for example, help getting into the dental chair or information in another format or language.

Opening hours:

Monday - Thursday 8.30am - 5.00pm

Friday 8.30am - 4.30pm

St Catherine's Health Centre Dental Clinic

0151 514 6420

Victoria Central Health Centre Dental Clinic

0151 514 6266

Leasowe Dental Clinic

0151 514 2340

Out of Hours:

Out of Hours Service 111

Revive Dental Care

0161 476 9651

If you would like this information in another format or language, please contact the Your Experience Team on freephone 0800 694 5530. Alternatively you can email wcnt.yourexp@nhs.net

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