

# **Dental Hygiene Policy (EYFS Updated - September 2025)**

## **WITHOUT – Teeth Brushing in setting**

**Policy Statement:** At Butterflies Nursery we prioritise children's oral health by fostering good dental hygiene awareness and education. While tooth brushing does not take place on-site, we strongly encourage and support toothbrushing at home both before and after attendance.

### **Home Toothbrushing Routine:**

- Parents are encouraged to ensure their children brush their teeth thoroughly using age-appropriate fluoride toothpaste before arriving and after leaving our setting.

### **Parental Responsibility:**

- Parents or legal guardians are responsible for their child's toothbrushing routine and are encouraged to maintain regular dental check-ups and professional dental advice.
- Parents should inform us of any specific dental hygiene needs or concerns relevant to their child.

### **Oral Health Education:**

- We provide regular, age-appropriate oral health education to children, emphasizing the importance of dental hygiene, healthy eating habits, and regular toothbrushing at home.
- Children learn about tooth decay prevention, gum health, and the significance of good oral hygiene practices.

### **Healthy Snacks and Drinks:**

- Nutritious snacks and drinks promoting good oral health are provided daily.
- Sugary snacks and beverages are limited to special occasions, aligning with healthy lifestyle guidelines.

## **Water Availability:**

- Fresh drinking water is available to children throughout the day, promoting hydration and aiding in oral hygiene after meals and snacks.

## **Emergency Dental Care:**

- Parents are promptly notified in case of dental emergencies, and immediate first aid is administered as necessary.
- Urgent professional medical or dental assistance is sought if required.

## **Dental Health Records:**

- Relevant dental information provided by parents or dental professionals is securely maintained.
- Records remain confidential and are accessible only by authorised personnel.

## **Review and Monitoring:**

- This policy is reviewed annually or as necessary, ensuring compliance with EYFS and local regulatory updates.
- Feedback from parents, staff, and dental health professionals informs continuous improvements in our dental hygiene awareness and education practices.

## **Alignment with EYFS 2025 Changes:**

- The policy incorporates EYFS 2025 revisions, prioritising holistic child development through comprehensive oral health education and awareness.

Signed: Chrissie Day

Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2025