

# School Dental Screening

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## What is School Dental Screening?

- It is a quick assessment by a Registered Dental Hygienist who will take a quick look inside the child's mouth. A separate, sterilized mouth mirror is used for each child.
- It identifies children who may be in need of emergency and/or essential care or preventive dental services. If a child is identified, a form will be sent home and the parent may be contacted by a dental staff member. A re-screening may be required.
- Eligible children will receive free dental services under Healthy Smiles Ontario.
- A dental screening does not replace regular dental visits.

## Informing Parents about School Dental Screening

Inform your parents that School Dental Screening is coming and how to exempt their child. The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care requires that parents are notified at least two weeks before about the upcoming dental screening and how to exempt their child. Parents can be notified by the school via synvoice, newsletter, website, email, Facebook and/or Twitter. Please see the email labeled "IMPORTANT: Information about School Dental Screening" for your customized scripts.

### Sample script

"Peel Public Health is offering FREE dental screenings as required by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care for students in <Grades>, on <Date>. A dental screening is a quick assessment by a Registered Dental Hygienist who will take a look inside your child's mouth. A separate, sterilized mouth mirror is used for each child. If a child is identified as needing additional treatment, a form will be sent home and the parent may be contacted by a dental staff member. A re-screening may be required. Peel Public Health will no longer be sending out paper exemption forms. If you **DO NOT** want your child to be screened, please visit the web portal at [www.peelregion.ca/dental/schoolscreening](http://www.peelregion.ca/dental/schoolscreening) or call 905-799-7700 extension 5622 by <1 Day before screening>"

### Sample picture



## Inform your Teachers about School Dental Screening

Informing teachers about School Dental Screening by sharing "[Peel Public Health School Dental Screening Information for School Staff](#)"



### What is needed the day of School Dental Screening

1. Prepare class list (class attendance lists) of grades to be screened
  - Should include, students first and last name, date of birth, grade and class
  - Please print out each grade/class separately
  - If there is a split class please print each grade separately (e.g. grade 4/5 class we will need the grades separated)
2. Prepare a copy or let dental staff borrow the parent/guardian contact list (parent/guardian name, address, home and alternate number)
  - This will help update the student information in order to follow up on any student who needs urgent dental treatment, so they can get access to care as soon as possible
3. Select a room for your School Dental Screening
  - a quiet, private room with an electrical outlet
  - one adult sized table – large enough for two laptops
  - two adult sized chairs and one child size chair
  - garbage access and door stopper

### What to do after School Dental Screening is Complete

1. Inform parents that School Dental Screening is complete and forms may be sent home to indicate further dental treatment is required. This will act as the first notification to inform parents about dental needs and to complete and return forms to Peel Public Health.

#### Sample script

“Peel Public Health completed dental screenings for participating students this week. If your child was identified as needing additional dental treatment a form will be sent home in their backpack or agenda and the parent may be contacted by a dental staff member. Please read the form carefully and if you need help with the form, call Peel Public Health at 905-799-7700 extension 5622 or visit [www.peelregion.ca/dental](http://www.peelregion.ca/dental).”