**Oral Hygiene Policy**

Bizzy Bees Preschool strive to raise awareness of the importance of good oral health for children. These early years for children are when many of the good (and bad) routines are formed and are often carried through to adulthood.

Therefore, our preschool is a very important place to introduce a good oral health routine.

**Food/Snacks**

• Snacks provided for children and staff will be tooth friendly.

• Tooth friendly snacks will be varied weekly and children will be encouraged to try new foods.

• Any food containing sugar will be restricted to mealtimes only.

• Food will be provided or supervised by staff only, in accordance with nursery oral health and food policies.

• Hot dinners provided by Broomfield are created following Government guidelines and are currently using the ‘Food for life gold standard menu’

**Drinks**

• Milk and water only will be offered to children as drinks throughout the day.

• No fizzy drinks of any kind will be served in preschool.

• Staff, in conjunction with parents, will encourage the introduction of open cups from lidded varieties.

**Rewards/Special Occasions**

• Sweets and chocolate will not be used by staff as rewards for good behaviour and work.

**Toothbrushing At Home**

• Parents will be encouraged to assist their children with a regular toothbrushing routine at home.

• Parents can access information and advice about toothbrushing and oral health from staff and via our website.

• Parents have access to a free downloadable Reward chart to encourage good brushing routines via our website.

**Children**

• Oral health will be included in preschool work and any learning opportunities where it is appropriate.

• Visits from a dentist, hygienist or someone who can talk about oral health should be arranged during the preschool year.

• Dental health will feature as a theme at preschool prior to, during or after these visits. e.g. dental corner, stories, songs, poems, art etc.

• Good oral hygiene will be encouraged at all times.

**Parents**

• Where possible, parents will be asked to provide details of the family dentist as well as doctor on enrolment.

• Parents will be provided with information via our website, which includes information about oral health.

**Staff**

• Staff will be involved in the development and implementation of an oral health policy.

• Appropriate training and information about relevant resources will be available to core staff prior to implementation of the policy guidelines.

• The oral health policy will be included as part of the induction of new staff.

• The policy will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis by staff & parents.