**APPENDIX 4**

**Toothbrushing club – key information**

**For detailed information, please read the Doncaster Toothbrushing Club toolkit**

**Organisation**

* there should be a designated lead person for the toothbrushing club
  + The lead for the toothbrushing club at …………………………… (nursery/school) is ………………… ….(please complete)
* there is an agreement which outlines the roles and responsibilities of …………………(nursery/school) and Doncaster Council
* support and training is available for staff to deliver the programme, including infection prevention and control procedures. Training is recorded and monitored

All staff must read the Doncaster Toothbrushing Club Toolkit and have undergone a Doncaster Council supervised toothbrushing club starter training session (or refresher session if they received initial training prior to September 2017), and have received local on-site training.

* informed consent should be sought from parents or carers for their children to take part in the scheme and records should be maintained
* staff should know which children are not taking part due to non-consent or specific medical reasons
* quality assurance assessments should be carried out by the nursery/school designated toothbrushing club lead each term and by the council once a year and documented using the quality assurance check list
* for advice about the toothbrushing club, contact:

Public Health

Doncaster Council

Civic Office

Waterdale

Doncaster

DN1 3BU

[publichealthenquiries@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:publichealthenquiries@doncaster.gov.uk)

Tel: 01302 862146

**Toothbrushing**

* children must be closely supervised when brushing their teeth
* family toothpaste containing 1,350 – 1,500 ppm (parts per million) fluoride is used
* for children aged under 3 years use a smear of toothpaste (Figure 1) and for children aged over three years use a pea size amount of toothpaste (Figure 2)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Figure 1 | Figure 2 |
|  |  |



* children should be discouraged from swallowing toothpaste during or after brushing their teeth
* after brushing the child spits and doesn’t rinse
* toothpaste is not reapplied if swallowed
* toothbrushes are replaced termly or when they appear damaged or the bristles are splayed or if the toothbrush is dropped on the floor

**Infection prevention and control**

* staff wash their hands before and after each toothbrushing session and all cuts, abrasions and breaks in the skin are covered with a waterproof dressing before toothbrushing and cleaning is carried out.
* staff may also wish to wear disposable gloves when supervising a toothbrushing session.
* supervisors dispense the toothpaste onto a clean surface such as an individual paper towel or a paper plate
* there is sufficient spacing between the quantities of dispensed toothpaste to allow collection without cross-contamination
* care is taken to ensure that toothbrushes do not touch each other and cross-contaminate when being removed from or replaced in storage systems
* if supervisors assist any children care must be taken not to touch the brush head
* toothbrushes and storage systems are individually identifiable with symbols (picture and name) enabling each child to be able to recognise their own brush
* after brushing, toothbrushes are rinsed thoroughly and individually under cold water and replaced in the storage system to allow them to air dry
* any toothbrushes dropped onto the floor are discarded
* storage systems should allow air-flow around the toothbrush heads to enable the toothbrushes to dry. Storage systems are stored within a designated toothbrush storage trolley or in a clean, dry cupboard
* storage systems in toilet areas must have manufacturers’ covers however it is important that the covers allow the free-flow of air and are stored at adult height or in a suitable toothbrush storage trolley
* all cuts, abrasions and breaks in the skin are covered with a waterproof dressing and dedicated household gloves are worn when cleaning storage systems and sinks
* manufacturers’ guidelines are followed when cleaning and maintaining storage systems
* storage systems, trolleys and storage areas are cleaned, rinsed and dried at least once a week by staff using warm water and household detergent. Storage systems are replaced if cracks, scratches or rough surfaces develop