



NKYHEALTH
NORTHERN KENTUCKY HEALTH DEPARTMENT



Oral Health Services at Your Facility

The Northern Kentucky Health Department will be providing Fluoride Varnish and Dental Assessments at _____ Head Start between the dates of _____

What's needed from Head Start staff?

PLEASE MAKE SURE BOTH SIDES OF THE FORM ARE COMPLETED AND SIGNED! NKY HEALTH CANNOT SEE THE CHILD WITHOUT ALL THE INFORMATION!

Who gets fluoride varnish?

All students may receive fluoride varnish. Children entering or enrolled in Kindergarten will receive the Kentucky Dental Screening mandatory for school entrance.

How do children learn about the program?

We ask that the teachers explain to the students prior to the Health Department's visit that oral health staff will be coming to look at their teeth, and that we will brush them with special toothpaste to make them strong. Each site has been provided with an oral health education kit that includes a tooth model, curriculum, DVDs and books.

How will this affect my class?

The Fluoride Varnish Program is quick and easy. Each child can be seen in less than 5 minutes by our licensed Public Health Dental Hygienist, with little disruption to your class. We often set up very close to, if not actually in, your classroom. All we need is a rectangular table, two chairs, and a trashcan.

Does the process hurt?

The procedure is painless. We look at the teeth with a mirror, and paint the fluoride varnish on the teeth. Children then spit it out in a trashcan. Students will not experience any discomfort.

What if dental problems are found?

Each child seen will receive a letter to take home to inform the parent of what was done and if any problems were seen. Children with dental problems will be referred to a dentist of their choice or NKY Health staff can help them find a dentist if needed. Follow ups are done by both NKY Health and Head Start staff to ensure that dental problems are resolved.

What is expected of teachers and health staff?

Your assistance in getting consent forms returned from every child in your class (whether it is a "yes" or "no" consent) is critical to our ability to prevent a lifetime of dental disease. Please remind students frequently to return the forms, and check to see that the form is completed. Promotion of the program on the school's website, calendars, Facebook and Twitter pages, and all calls are an expectation of the school.

What does it cost?

The costs for those with no dental coverage will be determined by family size and income and will not exceed a maximum of \$10, which will be covered by NKCAC. There is no cost to those who are covered by Medicaid; however, NKY Health will file Medicaid claims order to sustain the program. **It is mandatory that we receive Medicaid numbers for those covered.**

Note: The Dental Assessment and Fluoride Varnish provided by NKY Health will not interfere with a dentist's ability to provide services, so students can and should still see their dentists for a full exam, X-rays, fluoride and any other treatment.

More information

If you have any questions or recommendations about this program, please contact Linda Poynter, Oral Health Program Manager, at 859-363-2035 or by email to linda.poynter@nkyhealth.org. You can also ask the dental hygienist on site. Thank you for your continuing support of this program!