

Your next appointment will be at:

.....

Appointment date and time:

.....

If you are unable to attend please let us know as soon as possible.

Fasting/starving instructions:

It is essential that fasting/starving instructions are followed.

Your child should be **starved** from:

Morning appointments:

- Nothing to eat from midnight
- Small drink of water before 7am
- Child can brush their teeth before 7am.

Nothing to eat after midnight

Nothing to drink after 7am

Afternoon appointments:

- Child can have a light breakfast before 7am
- Small drink of water before 11am
- Child can brush their teeth before 7am.

Please give your child any routine medication **before 7am**

Nothing to eat after 7am

Nothing to drink after 11am

Out of hours emergencies contact:

Information available by telephone:

Patients living in Halton, St Helens, Warrington and Cheshire should telephone 0161 476 9651

Patients living in Ashton, Leigh and Wigan should telephone 01744 673803

Patients living in Tameside and Glossop, Stockport and Trafford should telephone 0161 337 2246

Patients living in Bolton should telephone 01204 463222

Your child may be receiving care from other healthcare services within the NHS. So that we can all work together for your child's benefit, we may need to share information about them.

For impartial and confidential advice or information on the services provided by Bridgewater or to receive this leaflet in an alternative format call our Patient Services team on 0800 587 0562.



www.twitter.com/Bridgewater_NHS



www.facebook.com/BridgewaterNHS

www.bridgewater.nhs.uk

Community Dental Service

Your child's general anaesthetic appointment



What is a general anaesthetic?

A general anaesthetic is a state of controlled unconsciousness and freedom from pain.

General anaesthetics are given by anaesthetists. They are doctors with specialist training in looking after patients when they are anaesthetised.

The anaesthetist stays with your child all the time during treatment and carefully monitors him or her.

Prior to the appointment

- Contact the clinic where your child was assessed if you want to discuss the treatment further.
- Prepare your child for the treatment.
- Inform the clinic of any changes in your child's health.

On the day of the appointment

- You should follow the fasting instructions which have been given to you by your dentist.
- Do not brush your child's teeth on the morning of the appointment after 7.00am.
- Keep your child off school or nursery and directly supervise your child so that you are certain that your child is starved.

- Please dress your child in casual clothes and flat shoes; tie long hair back and remove earrings and nail varnish
- A parent or somebody with parental responsibility must be present on the day
- Another adult may accompany you but please do not bring any other children
- Take medications as normal
- If your child uses an inhaler, bring it with you.

In the treatment room

- There will be a number of staff; anaesthetist, dentist and nurses.
- Your child can either sit on the dental chair and you can hold their hand or if your child is very young they can sit on your lap.
- You can wait in the treatment room until your child is asleep; you will then be asked to wait elsewhere.
- Your child will only be asleep for a few minutes. The anaesthetist will monitor your child until they are ready to be discharged to the recovery room.

How will my child go to sleep?

- Your child may breathe the anaesthetic gas via a facemask or tube held close to their face.

- Alternatively, your child may have an injection in their hand or arm.
- The dentist at the assessment appointment may be able to tell you which option the anaesthetist normally uses.

In the recovery room

- Your child will still be monitored and you will be given information about looking after your child's mouth once you get home.
- Your child will be allowed to go home once the dental team are happy that your child has recovered from the anaesthetic and bleeding from the mouth has stopped.

Going home

- We recommend you travel home by car or taxi.

At home

- Have pain relief ready at home in case your child needs it.
- Plan quiet activities such as reading, drawing or watching television.
- Your child should feel able to go to school the next day. If not, plan another quiet day at home.
- Contact your dental surgery if you are at all concerned.