



DENTAL COMMUNICATION TO ALL PARENTS

Dear school staff,

This message is to confirm your school's upcoming dental screening on:

DATE(S): Wednesday, February 22nd, 2023

GRADES: ALL grade 7 students

Please send the message below to all parents at least 10 business days prior to the date specified above. Note that school staff are required to inform parents as per the Ministry of Health's guidelines.

If you have not already done so, please assure that a large space is reserved for the dental screening, such as the library or spare class.

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Ottawa Public Health's registered dental hygienists (RDH) will provide a dental screening on **Wednesday, February 22nd, 2023*** for **all students in grade 7** and other children as necessary. If your child's grade is not selected, but you wish for the dental hygienist to see him/her, please advise the school.

The dental screening is a no-touch technique: the RDH has no direct contact with your child. She will use a disposable tongue depressor to look at your child's mouth. This short visual assessment helps identify the need for dental care (infection, tooth decay, broken teeth or more). To comply with *Public Health Ontario's Best Practices*, appropriate measures will be in place to limit the spread of COVID-19 including performing hand hygiene, wearing personal protective equipment, and maintaining physical distancing as much as possible. Afterwards, your child will be given a report to take home which will explain the results of the dental screening. **A follow-up dental screening by a registered dental hygienist for individual students or previously screened students may be done. Some families may be eligible for free dental care. THE SCREENING DOES NOT REPLACE REGULAR DENTAL VISITS WITH YOUR FAMILY DENTIST.**

** Some date(s) may be subject to change*

This dental screening is offered in accordance with the Ontario Public Health Standards from the Ontario Ministry of Health. Personal health information collected during the screening will be used for the purposes of delivering, administering, and managing screening services and for statistical purposes provided under Sections 5 and 7 of the Health Protection and Promotion Act (as amended) and the Ontario Public Health Standards (2018). Information may be used and shared among Ottawa Public Health authorized employees only in the provision of dental services. Questions concerning the dental screening, how to exclude your child from the dental screening for this school year, the collection and use of this information should be directed to the Supervisor of Dental Health Promotion, Ottawa Public Health, 400-1580 Merivale Rd., Ottawa, ON, tel.: 613-580-2424, ext 26376.

Ottawa Public Health's Dental Health Team