

**Better
Health**

**Start
for Life**

NHS

Top tips for

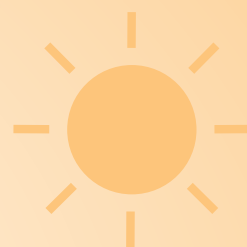
TEETH

Children aged 3+





Help them brush **TWICE A DAY** to keep decay away



Help your child brush **twice a day** from the moment their **first tooth appears** until they're at least 7 years old.



You should use a fluoride toothpaste. Just a **pea-sized** amount of toothpaste containing at least **1,000 parts per million (ppm) fluoride** is enough. You can usually find out how much fluoride is in the toothpaste from the side of the tube or on the packaging.

Open to uncover more top tips
for protecting your child's smile

Brushing

TWICE A DAY

is just the start...



Healthy habits start at **home**. Don't rinse with water after brushing as it washes away the **protective** layer of fluoride left over from the toothpaste. As they get older teach them to **spit** instead.

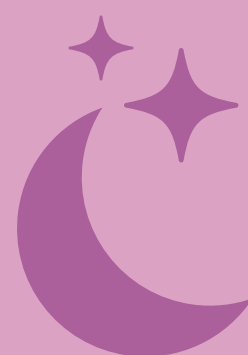
Encourage them to
SPIT, NOT RINSE



SKIP THE SUGAR
they're sweet enough!

Too much food and drink containing **sugar** can harm your child's teeth. This can lead to **tooth decay**. To help protect their smile:

- **Avoid** adding sugar to meals
- **Swap** snacks and drinks containing sugar for healthier options like fruit, veg and water
- Choose **sugar-free** medicines where possible



Brushing **before** bedtime is important. **Don't** offer food or drink after brushing teeth at night to protect their smile.

At night,
SNACKING STOPS
when the brushing starts



PROTECT THEIR SMILE
with regular visits to the dentist

Take your child to the dentist as **often as your dentist recommends**. Under 18's, or under 19's in full-time education, are entitled to **FREE** NHS dental treatment in England.



My

TOOTHBRUSHING

chart

This chart belongs to

Age

Brush your teeth **twice a day for at least 2 minutes** (once before bed and once at any other time that fits in with your family routine).



	WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4
MONDAY				
TUESDAY				
WEDNESDAY				
THURSDAY				
FRIDAY				
SATURDAY				
SUNDAY				

Tick or colour each time you brush your teeth.



Search **Start for Life** or scan the QR code for more tips and advice for taking care of your little one's teeth.