

Dr. Eileen de Villa  
Medical Officer of Health

Toronto Public Health  
277 Victoria Street  
Toronto, Ontario M5B 2L6

Tel: 416-338-7600  
[publichealth@toronto.ca](mailto:publichealth@toronto.ca)  
[www.toronto.ca/covid19](http://www.toronto.ca/covid19)

Dear Parent/Guardian:

School Year 2020-2021

To identify children who may have problems with their teeth and gums, a dental screening program is offered by Toronto Public Health to students as part of the Ontario Ministry of Health requirements for mandatory health programs. Dental screening is a quick check of teeth and gums done at school every year. A Toronto Public Health dental staff member would examine the need for cleaning of the teeth, topical fluoride, sealants to protect teeth from cavities, and other essential and urgent dental needs.

Due to the pandemic, dental screening for this school year has been postponed. However, virtual and in-person screening is available at our clinics to all school aged children living in the City of Toronto. Furthermore, Toronto Public Health Dental Clinic - Critical Services is open and continues to provide emergency and essential dental care to all eligible children.

If the cost of the dental treatment will result in financial hardship, you may be eligible for free services through the Healthy Smiles Ontario (HSO) program. If you have any concerns regarding your child's oral health condition or would like to get more information on HSO program, please call 416-338-7600.

Thank you,



Dr. Khai-Nhu Zweig, DDS  
Manager  
Dental and Oral Health Services

**A healthy mouth is part of overall health!**

Here are 5 tips to a healthier mouth:

- Reduce sugary foods (e.g., candy, cakes, sugary drinks)
- Brush and floss teeth daily
- Eat fruits and vegetables
- Protect your teeth from injury
- Visit the dentist regularly

