

LISA A. BLOCK, D.M.D., M.S.

Dentistry for Children and Adolescents

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Dear Parent:

I would like to welcome you to our office and assure you that we are prepared to do everything possible to take care of the dental needs of your child. This office is dedicated to prevention of dental disease rather than the old "drill and fill" methods. It is our sincere hope that we can teach your child good oral hygiene habits that will stay with him/her for the rest of his/her life.

Normally, the teeth are cleaned and x-rays are taken at the first visit. The x-ray survey allows me to detect decay present in your child's mouth and to see how the permanent teeth are erupting. A complete x-ray series differs in each child depending on age and the number of teeth present. Diagnostic models of the mouth, when needed, will enable me to better treat your child. Usually no restorative services will be rendered on the first visit.

As a parent, it is very important not to pass along to your child whatever fears you might have of dentistry. The first appointment procedures are all painless and designed to acquaint the child with the dental routine, besides giving him/her a positive attitude toward dentistry. It is very important that you discuss dentistry at home so your child understands that the reason for the first visit is to count and brush the teeth and apply fluoride.

In discussing dentistry with your child, PLEASE DO NOT USE THE WORDS, "needle," "drill," "hurt," or any other word which might have an unpleasant meaning. Every possible effort will be made to make the visit psychologically pleasant. Please refrain from saying "the doctor will not hurt you." I shall treat your child as I would my very own. The important thing is to provide thorough dental care. Occasionally, sedation is required for a child of very young age, one with extensive dental decay or for the very anxious or uncooperative child. If this is the case for your child, this matter will be discussed with you at the time of your appointment.

Please do not be upset if your child cries. Crying is a normal reaction to fear. Children may be afraid of anything new and strange. Kindness is one of the most important factors in overcoming fear.

An accounting of the services rendered and the fees for subsequent treatment are generally given to the parents on the first visit. Our payment policy will be thoroughly explained to you at this time.

I look forward to meeting you and your child and working together with you to make this the best dental experience possible.

Sincerely yours,

Appointment:

Date: _____

Time: _____

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