

What is Smile Squad?

Important information to support the program at your school



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Smile Squad is the Victorian Government's school dental program which will provide free dental care to all Victorian primary and secondary government school students.

This initiative is being led by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and Dental Health Service Victoria (DHSV), with input from the Department of Education and Training (DET) to design and implement this important initiative in the school environment.

What does Smile Squad include?

All services below will be available free of charge to all Victorian government school students.

Annual oral health examination

Each school will be visited by Smile Squad who will provide a free oral health check-up to each student.

- **Includes:** examination, x-rays when required, oral health and dietary advice, coaching and preventive interventions, including application of fluoride varnish.

Follow up treatment

Free follow up treatment will be provided to all students requiring it.

- **Includes:** scale and clean, fissure sealants, root canals, restorations (fillings), extractions, and impressions for mouth guards (i.e. all non-cosmetic treatments).

Does not include orthodontics.

Oral health promotion

Each student will receive a free dental pack.

- Includes: a toothbrush, toothpaste and oral health education material. Oral health promotion will link with existing school-based programs where possible.

Oral health examination

- Oral health examinations will usually be delivered in a room on the school site using mobile dental equipment (i.e. portable chair, portable examination tools)
- The team will comprise two oral health or dental therapists and two dental assistants.
- The oral health examination appointment will be approximately 15 minutes long.

Providing this service in a room in the school will mean more students can be seen at one time, cutting down the total length of time the service may be required on the school site.

Follow up treatment

- Will take place in a van on the school site.
- The treatment van will have a fully functioning single chair dental clinic set up.
- The treatment van will be staffed by oral health therapists, dental therapists, dental assistants and/or dentists.
- More complex treatments (including root canal treatment, complex restorations and complex or surgical extractions) may need to occur at the local community dental agency.

