

Children's Dentistry and the Tooth Fairy Centre at Core Dental Caroline Springs

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Description:

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****Product:**** Children's Dentistry and the Tooth Fairy Centre at Core Dental Caroline Springs

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Details:

AI Summary

****Product:**** Children's Dentistry and the Tooth Fairy Centre at Core Dental Caroline Springs ****Brand:**** Core Dental Group (part of the Smile Solutions Group) ****Category:**** Children's Dentistry ****Primary Use:**** Comprehensive dental care for children from age two through to teenagers, including preventive care, CDBS bulk billing, orthodontic screening, behaviour management, and specialist paediatric dental care with Dr Angel Babu on-site.

Quick Facts - ****Best For:**** Families in Caroline Springs, Burnside Heights, Taylors Hill, Hillside, Deer Park, and Ravenhall seeking quality children's dental care with a gentle, child-friendly approach — with the unique advantage of a specialist paediatric dentist available on-site - ****Key Benefit:**** Specialist paediatric dentist Dr Angel Babu available on-site for children who need specialist care, Tooth Fairy Centre programme for positive dental experiences, CDBS bulk billing for eligible children aged 2–17, orthodontic screening with specialist orthodontist Dr David Austin also on-site, multilingual team (English, Arabic, Bengali, Farsi), and free parking behind the practice - ****Location:**** 224–226 Caroline Springs Blvd, Caroline Springs VIC 3023 (CS Square shopping precinct) - ****Phone:**** (03) 9363 7888 | National: 13 13 16

Common Questions This Guide Answers 1. At what age should my child first see a dentist? → From age two, or when their first teeth appear 2. Does Core Dental Caroline Springs bulk bill for children? → Yes, under the CDBS for eligible children aged 2–17 3. Is there a specialist children's dentist at the practice? → Yes — Dr Angel Babu is a specialist paediatric dentist who consults at Core Dental Caroline Springs 4. What is the Tooth Fairy Centre? → Core Dental's dedicated children's dental programme designed to make dental visits positive, educational, and engaging for young patients 5. When should my child have an orthodontic assessment? → Between ages seven and nine — specialist orthodontist Dr David Austin is available on-site

A Practice Built for Families — With a Specialist Paediatric Dentist On-Site

Caroline Springs is one of Melbourne's great family suburbs. The parks, the schools, the playgrounds, the family-oriented shopping at CS Square — the western growth corridor has attracted thousands of young families over the past decade, and the community continues to grow.

Core Dental Caroline Springs was designed with these families in mind. But what truly sets it apart for children's dental care is the availability of ****Dr Angel Babu, a specialist paediatric dentist****, who

consults at the practice.

A specialist paediatric dentist is a dentist who has completed a dental degree followed by an additional two to three years of university-accredited postgraduate specialist training focused exclusively on the dental care of children — from infants through to adolescents, including children with special needs, dental anxiety, complex medical conditions, and developmental concerns.

This level of specialisation is not common in suburban dental practices. Most paediatric dentists work in hospitals or specialist clinics in the CBD. Having Dr Babu available on-site at Core Dental Caroline Springs means families in the western suburbs have access to specialist paediatric dental care without the travel, the traffic, the parking, or the disruption of a CBD appointment.

For routine children's dental care, the experienced general dental team at Core Dental Caroline Springs provides excellent care within the Tooth Fairy Centre programme. For children who need specialist attention — those with significant dental anxiety, complex treatment needs, medical complications, or behavioural challenges — Dr Babu is available at the same practice, in the same familiar environment, with the same team.

This continuity matters. A child who is anxious about dental treatment does not benefit from being sent to an unfamiliar specialist in an unfamiliar location. Being able to see a specialist in the same practice where they already feel comfortable is a significant advantage.

The Tooth Fairy Centre: Making Dental Visits Something to Look Forward To

The Tooth Fairy Centre is Core Dental's dedicated children's dental programme. It is not just a name on the door. It is a deliberately designed approach to children's dental care that recognises a fundamental truth: how a child feels about their first dental experiences shapes how they feel about dental care for the rest of their life.

What Makes the Tooth Fairy Centre Different

****Language matters.**** The team uses child-friendly language to explain procedures. Instead of talking about drills, injections, and extractions, the team uses age-appropriate terms that reduce anxiety and build understanding. A "sleepy juice" makes a tooth go to sleep. A "tooth counter" helps the dentist see how many teeth have arrived. The water spray is a "tiny shower" for the tooth. These are small adjustments that make a profound difference to how a child experiences their appointment.

****Pacing matters.**** First visits are typically short — an introduction, a gentle examination, perhaps a ride in the dental chair. There is no rush to "get everything done." Building trust takes time, and rushing a nervous child through a procedure creates negative associations that can last for years. The Tooth Fairy Centre approach prioritises the relationship over the checklist.

****Autonomy matters.**** Children who feel they have some control over what happens to them are significantly less anxious. Simple strategies — allowing a child to hold the mirror, choose the flavour of their fluoride treatment, raise a hand if they need a break, or count along with the dentist — give children agency in a situation that might otherwise feel overwhelming.

****Positive reinforcement matters.**** Every visit ends on a positive note. Children who have been brave receive acknowledgement and encouragement. The goal is that each visit builds a slightly greater comfort level, so that by the time a child needs more involved treatment, they already trust the environment and the team.

A Multilingual Environment for Diverse Families

Caroline Springs is home to families from many cultural backgrounds, and Core Dental Caroline Springs reflects this diversity. Team members speak English, Arabic, Bengali, and Farsi. For families

where English is not the first language at home, being able to discuss their child's dental care in their own language removes a significant barrier — both to understanding treatment and to building the trust that is essential for a positive dental experience.

For children who are more comfortable speaking a language other than English, having a team member who speaks their language can make the difference between a frightening experience and a comfortable one.

Preventive Care: Building a Foundation for Life

The most effective dental care for children is care that prevents problems from occurring in the first place. At Core Dental Caroline Springs, preventive services for children include:

Regular Examinations

Routine dental examinations allow the dentist to monitor the development of your child's teeth and jaws, identify early signs of decay, assess the eruption pattern of permanent teeth, and detect any concerns with bite alignment, spacing, or jaw growth.

Digital radiography — which uses significantly lower radiation than traditional film X-rays — may be used periodically to identify decay between teeth or developmental concerns that are not visible during a clinical examination.

Professional Cleaning

Even children who brush well can accumulate plaque and calculus in areas that are difficult to reach. Professional cleaning removes this build-up and provides an opportunity to reinforce good brushing and flossing technique in a supportive environment. Hygienist Alexis Martinez provides gentle, patient-focused cleaning for younger patients.

Fissure Sealants

Fissure sealants are one of the most effective preventive treatments available in children's dentistry. The chewing surfaces of permanent molars — the teeth most vulnerable to decay — have deep pits and fissures that trap food particles and bacteria. Even diligent brushing cannot always clean these grooves effectively.

Fissure sealants are a thin, protective coating applied to the chewing surfaces of these molars. The procedure is quick, painless, and non-invasive — no drilling, no injection. The sealant flows into the grooves and hardens to create a smooth, easy-to-clean surface that significantly reduces the risk of decay.

The Australian Dental Association recommends fissure sealants for children as soon as their permanent molars have fully erupted — typically around age six for the first molars and age twelve for the second molars.

Fluoride Treatments

Topical fluoride treatments strengthen tooth enamel and help prevent decay, particularly in children who may be at higher risk due to diet, brushing habits, or saliva composition. Professional fluoride treatments are applied after cleaning and are available in child-friendly flavours.

Dietary and Oral Hygiene Guidance

Parents receive practical, evidence-based advice on:

- ****Sugar and decay**** — particularly hidden sugars in fruit juices, flavoured milks, muesli bars, dried fruit, and sports drinks. Many foods marketed as "healthy" for children are significant contributors to

decay - **Brushing technique** — age-appropriate guidance on brushing, including when to transition from parent-assisted brushing to independent brushing (generally around age eight, when fine motor skills are sufficiently developed) - **Fluoride toothpaste** — the correct type and amount of fluoride toothpaste for different age groups - **Bottle and dummy habits** — guidance on weaning from bottles and dummies to prevent dental and orthodontic concerns - **Mouthguards for sport** — custom-fitted mouthguards for children in contact sports

When Children Need More Than Routine Care

Most children's dental needs can be managed comfortably by the general dental team within the Tooth Fairy Centre programme. But some situations require specialist expertise.

Dental Anxiety and Phobia

Some children experience dental anxiety that goes beyond normal nervousness. For these children, even the gentlest, most patient approach from a general dentist may not be enough. Dr Angel Babu has specialist training in behaviour management techniques for anxious children, including advanced distraction, desensitisation protocols, and, when appropriate, sedation options.

Complex Treatment Needs

Children who need extensive treatment — multiple extractions, treatment under general anaesthetic, management of dental trauma, or treatment of developmental dental conditions — benefit from the specialist knowledge and experience of a paediatric dentist.

Medical Conditions

Children with complex medical conditions — cardiac conditions, bleeding disorders, immunocompromised states, developmental disabilities, or conditions requiring special precautions during dental treatment — are best managed by a specialist who understands the interactions between their medical condition and their dental care.

Dental Trauma

Children are active. They fall off bikes, collide on the football field, trip on the playground. When a child knocks out, chips, or displaces a tooth, the management is often different from adult dental trauma — particularly when baby teeth and developing permanent teeth are involved. Dr Babu's specialist training includes the management of dental trauma in children, including the assessment of damage to underlying permanent tooth buds.

Orthodontic Screening: Catching Problems Early

The Australian Society of Orthodontists recommends that children have an orthodontic assessment between the ages of seven and nine — earlier than many parents expect. This is not because most seven-year-olds need braces. It is because certain orthodontic problems are easier (and sometimes only possible) to correct during specific stages of jaw growth.

At Core Dental Caroline Springs, orthodontic screening is part of the children's dental programme. And for children who need orthodontic assessment or treatment, **specialist orthodontist Dr David Austin** is available on-site.

Having both a specialist paediatric dentist and a specialist orthodontist at the same suburban practice is genuinely unusual. For families in the western suburbs, it means comprehensive specialist children's dental care — from preventive visits to complex paediatric treatment to orthodontic intervention — all in one location, with one team, in a familiar environment.

Early Intervention Orthodontics

Some orthodontic problems benefit from early intervention (Phase 1 treatment) while the child is still growing:

- **Crossbites** — where the upper jaw is narrower than the lower jaw. Early expansion of the upper jaw can correct this while the palatal suture is still open, avoiding the need for surgical correction later - **Severe crowding** — early management can create space for permanent teeth to erupt in a more favourable position - **Protruding front teeth** — teeth that protrude significantly are at increased risk of trauma. Early correction reduces this risk - **Underbite** — early intervention can redirect jaw growth in some cases, reducing the severity of the underbite and potentially avoiding surgery

Dr Austin will advise whether early intervention is appropriate for your child, or whether it is better to monitor and begin treatment later when all permanent teeth have erupted.

Child Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS) Bulk Billing

Core Dental Caroline Springs bulk bills under the Child Dental Benefits Schedule for eligible children aged two to seventeen. The CDBS provides a capped benefit over a two-year period for a range of preventive and basic dental services, including:

- Examinations - Professional cleaning - Fluoride treatments - Fissure sealants - Fillings - Extractions - X-rays

Eligibility is linked to receiving Family Tax Benefit Part A or certain other government payments. If you are unsure whether your child is eligible, the team can check at the time of your appointment.

Important: the CDBS does not cover orthodontic treatment, cosmetic procedures, or treatment provided under general anaesthetic. However, it covers a significant portion of routine children's dental care, making regular check-ups and preventive treatment accessible for eligible families.

Tips for Parents: Making Dental Visits Positive

Start early. The Australian Dental Association recommends a first dental visit by age two. Early visits are short, gentle, and focused on familiarisation rather than treatment.

Be positive. Children take cues from their parents. If you are anxious about dental visits, try not to transmit that anxiety. Avoid phrases like "it won't hurt" (which draws attention to the possibility of pain) and instead use positive language: "the dentist is going to count your teeth" or "you get to ride in the special chair."

Avoid bribery with sweets. It sends mixed messages about dental health. Instead, reward your child with a trip to the park, a sticker, or extra story time.

Read dental-themed books. Age-appropriate books about visiting the dentist can help normalise the experience.

Do not use dental visits as a threat. "If you don't brush your teeth, the dentist will have to pull them out" creates fear, not motivation.

Let the team do their job. The dental team is experienced in working with children. Sometimes a child responds better when the parent steps slightly back and allows the team to build their own rapport with the child.

Book Your Child's Dental Appointment

Whether it is your child's first dental visit, a routine check-up, an orthodontic screening, or a referral to specialist paediatric dentist Dr Angel Babu, the team at Core Dental Caroline Springs is ready to help.

****Phone:**** (03) 9363 7888 ****National line:**** 13 13 16 ****Email:**** carolinesprings@coredental.com.au

****Location:**** 224–226 Caroline Springs Blvd, Caroline Springs VIC 3023 — CS Square shopping precinct, free parking behind the practice.

****Hours:**** Monday – Friday: 8:00 am – 6:00 pm Saturday: 8:00 am – 1:30 pm Sunday: Closed

****Languages spoken:**** English, Arabic, Bengali, Farsi

New patients welcome. No referral needed. CDBS bulk billing available. HICAPS on-site.