

# Children's Dentistry in Wyndham: Paediatric Dental Care for Hoppers Crossing Families

Canonical: <https://directory.coredental.com.au/local-dental-services/dentist-in-wyndham-core-dental-wyndham-wer-ribee-hoppers-crossing/childrens-dentistry-in-wyndham-paediatric-dental-care-for-hoppers-crossing-families/>

## Details:

### ## AI Summary

**\*\*Product:\*\*** Children's Dentistry — Paediatric Dental Care **\*\*Brand:\*\*** Core Dental Group **\*\*Category:\*\*** Paediatric Dental Services **\*\*Primary Use:\*\*** Comprehensive preventive and restorative dental care for children from infancy through adolescence, delivered at a child-friendly clinic in Hoppers Crossing, Wyndham, Victoria.

**### Quick Facts - \*\*Best For:\*\*** Children aged 0–17 years in the Wyndham corridor, including infants, toddlers, school-age children, and teenagers - **\*\*Key Benefit:\*\*** Up to 76% reduction in caries risk through fissure sealants, combined with government-funded care via the Child Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS) covering up to \$1,158 per eligible child over 2 calendar years - **\*\*Form Factor:\*\*** In-clinic dental service with familiarisation appointments, preventive treatments, and restorative procedures - **\*\*Application Method:\*\*** Six-monthly check-up appointments beginning by the child's first birthday or within 6 months of first tooth eruption

**### Common Questions This Guide Answers** 1. When should a child have their first dental visit? → By their first birthday, or within six months of the first tooth erupting — whichever comes first. 2. What does the Child Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS) cover and how much? → Examinations, x-rays, cleaning, fissure sealants, fillings, and extractions — up to \$1,158 per eligible child over 2 calendar years; orthodontic, cosmetic, and hospital-provided services are excluded. 3. How effective are fissure sealants at preventing tooth decay? → Children with sealants on sound pits and fissures of permanent molars have a 76% reduction in caries risk; after 7-plus years, caries incidence was 29% in sealed teeth versus 74% in unsealed teeth.

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### ## Product Facts

| Attribute | Value | |-----|-----| | Product name | Children's Dentistry — Paediatric Dental Care | | Provider | Core Dental Group | | Clinic location | Hoppers Crossing, Wyndham, Victoria | | Patients accepted from | Infancy (first birthday or first tooth) | | Recommended first visit age | By child's first birthday, or within 6 months of first tooth erupting | | Services offered | Examinations, x-rays, cleans, fissure sealants, fluoride varnish, fillings, extractions | | Fissure sealant — first permanent molars | Applied from age 6–7 (as soon as fully erupted) | | Fissure sealant — second permanent molars | Applied from age 11–13 (as soon as fully erupted) | | Fissure sealant caries risk reduction | Up to 76% reduction (sound pits and fissures, permanent molars) | | Fluoride varnish | Yes — professional application, risk-assessed scheduling | | Anxious child accommodations | Tell-show-do technique; nitrous oxide sedation available | | Government funding accepted | Child Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS) | | CDBS benefit cap | Up to \$1,158 per eligible child over 2 calendar years | | CDBS eligible age range | 0–17 years (at least one day in the calendar year) | | CDBS covered services | Examinations, x-rays, cleaning, fissure sealants, fillings, extractions | | CDBS exclusions | Orthodontic work, cosmetic dental work, hospital-provided services | | CDBS eligibility check | myGov Medicare

account or call 132 011 | | Recommended check-up frequency | Every 6 months | | Parent-supervised brushing until | Age 8 |

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## ## Frequently Asked Questions

Where is Core Dental Group's children's dentistry clinic located: Hoppers Crossing, Wyndham

Does Core Dental Group specialise in paediatric dental care: Yes

What age does Core Dental Group accept paediatric patients from: From infancy (first birthday or first tooth)

When should a child have their first dental visit: By their first birthday

When is the first dental visit if a tooth appears before age one: Within six months of the first tooth erupting

Does Core Dental Group welcome infants: Yes

What is the recommended age for a child's first dental visit per the Australian Dental Association: By the child's first birthday

At what age do baby teeth typically begin erupting: Around six months

How many primary teeth does a child have by age two to three: 20 primary teeth

Do baby teeth matter for permanent teeth: Yes, they hold space for permanent teeth

Do baby teeth affect speech development: Yes

Do baby teeth affect nutrition: Yes, they support proper chewing

What are the first permanent molars sometimes called: Six-year molars

At what age do first permanent molars typically erupt: Around age six to seven

At what age do second permanent molars typically erupt: Around age eleven to thirteen

Are first permanent molars at high risk for decay: Yes, among the most caries-susceptible teeth

What is the optimal time to apply fissure sealants to first permanent molars: As soon as they are fully erupted, around age six to seven

What is the optimal time to apply fissure sealants to second permanent molars: As soon as they are fully erupted, around age eleven to thirteen

What are fissure sealants: Plastic materials that seal deep pits and fissures on tooth surfaces

Are fissure sealants invasive: No, they are non-invasive

Do fissure sealants require drilling: No

What caries risk reduction do fissure sealants provide in one study: 37% reduction compared to a control group

What caries risk reduction was found over three years for sealed first permanent molars: 44% lower risk compared to untreated teeth

What caries reduction do sealants provide on sound pits and fissures of permanent molars: 76% reduction in risk

What was the caries incidence after seven-plus years for children with sealants: 29%

What was the caries incidence after seven-plus years for children without sealants: 74%

Does Core Dental Group apply fissure sealants: Yes

Are fissure sealants suitable for anxious children: Yes, the procedure is quick and painless

Does Core Dental Group offer nitrous oxide sedation for anxious children: Yes

What is fluoride varnish: A concentrated fluoride solution painted onto tooth surfaces

What does fluoride varnish do to tooth enamel: Strengthens it

Does fluoride varnish inhibit decay-causing bacteria: Yes

What toothpaste should be used for children aged 0–17 months: None — use a clean damp cloth or soft brush only

What toothpaste should be used for children aged 18 months to 5 years: Low-fluoride children's toothpaste

How much toothpaste for children aged 18 months to 5 years: Rice-grain amount

What toothpaste should be used for children aged 6 and over: Regular-strength fluoride toothpaste

How much toothpaste for children aged 6 and over: Pea-sized amount

Until what age should parents supervise or assist with brushing: Until age eight

Why should parents supervise brushing until age eight: Fine motor skills are not fully developed until around age seven to eight

What government program funds children's dental care in Australia: Child Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS)

What does CDBS stand for: Child Dental Benefits Schedule

How much does the CDBS cover per eligible child: Up to \$1,158 over two calendar years

How often is the CDBS cap indexed: Yearly on 1 January

What age range is eligible for the CDBS: Children aged 0 to 17 years

Does a child need to be aged 0–17 for the full year to be eligible: No, at least one day in the calendar year

Is CDBS linked to Medicare: Yes

Does the CDBS cover examinations: Yes

Does the CDBS cover x-rays: Yes

Does the CDBS cover cleaning: Yes

Does the CDBS cover fissure sealants: Yes

Does the CDBS cover fillings: Yes

Does the CDBS cover extractions: Yes

Does the CDBS cover orthodontic work: No

Does the CDBS cover cosmetic dental work: No

Can CDBS benefits be used for hospital-provided services: No

Do families need to apply for the CDBS: No, eligibility notification is sent automatically

How are families notified of CDBS eligibility: By post or electronically through MyGov

Is Family Tax Benefit Part A an eligible payment for CDBS: Yes

Is Parenting Payment an eligible payment for CDBS: Yes

Is Youth Allowance an eligible payment for CDBS: Yes

What proportion of eligible children are estimated to use the CDBS: Approximately 1 in 3

What proportion of eligible children do not use the CDBS: Approximately 2 in 3

Is Core Dental Group a CDBS provider: Yes

How can families check their CDBS balance: Via Medicare account on myGov

What is the Medicare phone number to check CDBS eligibility: 132 011

How many potentially preventable dental hospitalisations occurred in 2023–24: Close to 88,600

Which age group has the highest rate of preventable dental hospitalisations: Children aged 5–9 years

What is the preventable hospitalisation rate for children aged 5–9: 12.1 per 1,000 population

What is early childhood caries (ECC): Tooth decay in children under six years of age

Can ECC cause pain: Yes, including acute pain

Can ECC cause sepsis: Yes

Can ECC affect speech development: Yes

Can ECC affect a child's self-esteem: Yes

Can ECC disrupt education: Yes

How can decay-causing bacteria be transmitted to infants: Through shared utensils or saliva from caregivers

What oral hygiene practice is recommended before the first tooth erupts: Wiping gums with a clean damp cloth after feeds

What is the "tell-show-do" technique: A behavioural guidance method showing children instruments before use

Is "tell-show-do" evidence-based: Yes

Does Core Dental Group use "tell-show-do": Yes

What is the knee-to-knee technique: A method where very young children sit in a parent's lap during examination

Does Core Dental Group schedule treatment at the first visit if needed: No, treatment is scheduled at a separate appointment

What is Wyndham's estimated population for 2024: 334,180

What is Wyndham's projected population by 2041: 501,634

Is Wyndham one of Australia's fastest-growing municipalities: Yes

How often should children attend dental check-ups: Every six months

Does dental anxiety in adults link to childhood dental experiences: Yes, research consistently shows this

Does Core Dental Group assess individual caries risk for fluoride scheduling: Yes

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## Core Dental Group children's dentistry in Wyndham: paediatric dental care for Hoppers Crossing families

Wyndham is one of Australia's fastest-growing municipalities, and with that growth comes a surge in young families. Core Dental Group serves this community from its Hoppers Crossing location, which is set up specifically to meet the paediatric dental needs of the Wyndham corridor.

The City of Wyndham's population is forecast at 334,180 for 2024, growing to 501,634 by 2041. Much of that growth is young households — and where young families go, children's oral health needs follow. Yet paediatric dental care remains one of the most underused health services in the region.

The numbers are hard to ignore. Close to 88,600 hospitalisations for dental conditions that could have been prevented with earlier treatment occurred in 2023–24, with children aged 5–9 years carrying the highest rate at 12.1 per 1,000 population. These are not inevitable outcomes. They are the result of delayed or absent preventive care in childhood.

This guide explains what paediatric dental care looks like at every stage of a child's development, which government-funded benefits your family may be entitled to, and how to build early dental habits that actually stick.

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## Why children's dental health deserves its own approach

Children are not simply small adults. Their teeth, jaws, and oral tissues are in constant development — from the first baby tooth around six months of age through to the final emergence of second permanent molars in the early teens. Each stage carries distinct risks, requires specific clinical techniques, and calls for a different kind of chairside manner.

Untreated early childhood caries (ECC) causes acute pain, sepsis, and tooth loss that affects feeding and speech. It can also knock a child's confidence and disrupt their schooling. This is why paediatric dentistry is a distinct discipline, and why choosing a clinic that genuinely specialises in child-friendly care makes a measurable difference to outcomes. At Core Dental Group, every part of the paediatric experience is designed with this in mind.

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## Developmental milestones in children's oral health

Understanding what is happening in your child's mouth at each stage helps parents know what to look for — and when to act.

### 0–12 months: before the first tooth

Oral health begins before the first tooth erupts. Bacteria that cause tooth decay can pass from caregiver to infant through shared utensils or saliva. Gently wiping the gums with a clean, damp cloth after feeds establishes early hygiene habits and reduces bacterial load in the mouth.

### 6–24 months: primary teeth eruption

Baby teeth typically begin erupting around six months. By age two to three, most children have a full set of 20 primary teeth. These teeth matter — they hold space for permanent teeth, support speech development, and allow proper chewing for nutrition. Early childhood caries (decay in children under six) is preventable but common.

**\*\*First dental visit:\*\*** The Australian Dental Association recommends a child's first dental visit within six months of the first tooth appearing, or by the child's first birthday — whichever comes first. Core Dental Group welcomes infants from this age, with gentle familiarisation appointments designed to make the dental chair a comfortable, familiar place from the start.

### ### 5–7 years: first permanent molars and incisors

The shift from primary to permanent teeth begins around age five to six. The first permanent molars — sometimes called the "six-year molars" — erupt at the back of the mouth without replacing any baby tooth, which makes them easy for parents to miss. These are among the most decay-prone teeth in the mouth, and protecting them early is critical. This is the optimal window for fissure sealant application (covered in detail below).

### ### 10–13 years: second permanent molars and orthodontic awareness

As the second set of permanent molars comes through in the early teen years, another round of preventive treatment becomes relevant. This is also when crowding, bite issues, and alignment concerns become clearly visible — a good time for an orthodontic assessment. (See our guide on [\\*Invisalign & Orthodontics at Core Dental Group Wyndham\\*](#) for a full comparison of treatment options for teens and adults.)

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## ## The first dental visit: what Hoppers Crossing families can expect

Many parents feel uncertain about bringing a toddler to the dentist. At Core Dental Group's Wyndham practice, the first visit for a young child is designed to be positive and low-pressure.

A typical first paediatric appointment includes:

1. **\*\*Parent and child welcome\*\*** — The clinician spends time talking with the child at their level, using age-appropriate language and letting the child explore the environment.
2. **\*\*Familiarisation with instruments\*\*** — Children are shown and allowed to touch dental tools (the "tooth counter," the "tooth tickler") before anything enters the mouth.
3. **\*\*Gentle examination\*\*** — A brief visual check of the gums, erupting teeth, and bite, often with the child sitting in a parent's lap (the "knee-to-knee" technique for very young children).
4. **\*\*Oral hygiene guidance\*\*** — Parents receive tailored advice on brushing technique, fluoride toothpaste use, and dietary habits appropriate for their child's age.
5. **\*\*No surprises\*\*** — If treatment is needed, it is discussed with parents first and scheduled for a separate appointment, so the child can process the environment positively before any clinical work begins.

This approach — known as "tell-show-do" in paediatric dental practice — is well-established as an effective behavioural guidance technique that reduces anxiety and builds long-term dental confidence.

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## ## Fissure sealants: the most effective preventive tool for school-age children

If there is one paediatric dental intervention with the strongest evidence behind it, it is the fissure sealant.

Pit and fissure sealants are plastic materials used to seal deep pits and fissures on the chewing surfaces of teeth, where decay occurs most often in children and adolescents. These grooves can trap food debris and bacteria, making them hard to clean and more susceptible to caries. Applying a sealant

— a non-invasive procedure requiring no drilling — prevents decay by forming a protective barrier that reduces food entrapment and bacterial growth.

The clinical evidence is clear:

- One study in children found a 37% reduction in caries risk with pit and fissure sealants compared to a control group. - Over a 3-year period, first permanent molars treated with sealants showed a 44% lower risk of developing caries compared to untreated teeth. - Children and adolescents with sealants on sound pits and fissures of permanent molars have a 76% reduction in caries risk compared to those without sealants. After more than 7 years of follow-up, children who received sealants had a caries incidence of 29%, versus 74% for children without sealants.

International paediatric dental guidance confirms that sealants are effective in preventing and arresting pit-and-fissure occlusal carious lesions of primary and permanent molars in children and adolescents, and that sealants can minimise the progression of non-cavitated occlusal carious lesions.

At Core Dental Group's Wyndham practice, fissure sealants are applied to the permanent molars of eligible children, typically from around age six to seven when the first permanent molars have sufficiently erupted. The procedure is quick, painless, and requires no drilling — well-suited even for children who feel anxious about dental treatment. For children with significant dental anxiety, Core Dental Group also offers nitrous oxide sedation. (See our guide on \*Sleep Dentistry in Wyndham\* for more information.)

### When are sealants applied?

| Tooth | Typical eruption age | Optimal sealant window | |---|---|---| | First permanent molars | 6–7 years  
| As soon as fully erupted | | Second permanent molars | 11–13 years | As soon as fully erupted | | Premolars (if indicated) | 10–12 years | Case-by-case basis |

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## Fluoride treatments for children: evidence-based protection

Professional fluoride application works alongside fissure sealants as a preventive strategy, particularly for children at moderate-to-high caries risk.

Fluoride varnish — a concentrated fluoride solution painted onto tooth surfaces — is applied at regular check-up appointments. It strengthens tooth enamel and inhibits the bacteria responsible for decay. Both the Australian Dental Association and the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) support fluoride varnish as a preventive measure for children.

At home, parents should use fluoride toothpaste appropriate to their child's age: - \*\*0–17 months:\*\* No toothpaste — use a clean, damp cloth or soft brush only - \*\*18 months–5 years:\*\* Low-fluoride children's toothpaste (rice-grain amount) - \*\*6 years and over:\*\* Regular-strength fluoride toothpaste (pea-sized amount)

Core Dental Group's clinicians assess each child's individual caries risk at every appointment and recommend a fluoride schedule accordingly — not a one-size-fits-all approach.

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## The Child Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS): what Wyndham families need to know

For eligible families in Hoppers Crossing, Werribee, and across the Wyndham corridor, the CDBS is one of the most significant and underused financial resources available for children's dental care.

### What is the CDBS?

The Child Dental Benefits Schedule is a Medicare-supported government initiative that covers basic dental services for children aged 0 to 17 years who meet the eligibility criteria.

### How much does it cover?

The government covers up to \$1,158 per eligible child over 2 calendar years for basic dental services. The cap is indexed yearly on 1 January.

### Who is eligible?

Your child is eligible if they qualify for Medicare, are aged 0 to 17 years for at least one day in the calendar year, and either you or they receive an eligible government payment at least once during that year. Eligible payments include Family Tax Benefit Part A, Parenting Payment, Youth Allowance, and several others. You do not need to apply — a notification of eligibility is sent automatically by post or electronically through MyGov.

### What services are covered?

Basic dental services include examinations, x-rays, cleaning, fissure sealing, fillings, root canals, and extractions. Orthodontic and cosmetic dental work are not covered, and benefits cannot be used for services provided in a hospital.

### A critical gap: eligible children who don't use it

Around 1 in 2 children are eligible for the CDBS, but historically only around 1 in 3 eligible children use the program. That is a significant missed opportunity for Wyndham families. Core Dental Group is a CDBS provider, and the team can help families confirm eligibility and make the most of their entitlements at each appointment.

> **Action step:** Check your child's CDBS eligibility and remaining balance by logging into your Medicare account via myGov, or call Medicare on 132 011.

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## Building positive dental habits from an early age

The dental experiences children have in their early years shape their attitudes toward oral health for decades. Research consistently shows that dental anxiety in adults is strongly linked to negative childhood dental experiences. The reverse is equally true: children who have calm, positive dental visits develop lifelong habits of regular attendance and self-care.

**Practical strategies for Hoppers Crossing parents:**

- **Start early, visit regularly.** Six-monthly check-ups from the first birthday establish routine and catch problems before they escalate. (See our guide on *General Dentistry in Wyndham: Check-Ups, Cleans & Preventive Care Explained* for what a check-up appointment involves.) - **Model positive behaviour.** Children who see their parents attend the dentist without anxiety are significantly more likely to develop a relaxed attitude themselves. - **Use positive language.** Avoid words like "needle," "drill," or "hurt" — use the language the dental team uses ("sleepy juice," "tooth counter"). - **Reward attendance, not outcomes.** Praising a child for sitting in the chair — regardless of what treatment occurred — reinforces bravery and cooperation. - **Supervise brushing until age 8.** Fine motor skills are not fully developed until around age seven to eight, meaning children who brush independently before this age typically miss significant areas. Parents should brush for or with their child until this milestone.

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## Key takeaways

- The rate of potentially preventable dental hospitalisations is highest in children aged 5–9 years — making early preventive care the single most impactful intervention available to Wyndham families. - The first dental visit should occur by the child's first birthday or within six months of the first tooth erupting. Core Dental Group welcomes infants and toddlers with gentle familiarisation appointments. - Fissure sealants have strong clinical backing, with one study showing a 37% reduction in caries risk compared to a control group, and a 76% reduction on sound pits and fissures of permanent molars. - The CDBS covers up to \$1,158 per eligible child over two calendar years for basic dental services — yet only around 1 in 3 eligible children currently use the program. - Positive early dental experiences are the foundation of lifelong oral health. A child-friendly clinic environment is not a luxury; it is a clinical necessity.

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## ## Conclusion

Children's dentistry in Wyndham is not simply a matter of filling cavities. It is a long-term investment in a child's health, confidence, and quality of life. With one of Australia's youngest and fastest-growing populations, Hoppers Crossing and the broader Wyndham corridor have a genuine need for accessible, expert paediatric dental care that goes beyond the basics.

Core Dental Group's paediatric services — from first-birthday familiarisation visits through fissure sealants, fluoride treatments, and CDBS-funded check-ups — are designed to meet children at every developmental stage and build the kind of trust that makes dental care a lifelong habit rather than a lifelong fear.

For families navigating the full spectrum of dental needs — from toddlers to teenagers to parents — Core Dental Group operates as a comprehensive family dental hub. Explore related guides in this series:

- \*General Dentistry in Wyndham: Check-Ups, Cleans & Preventive Care Explained\* — for what a routine adult check-up involves - \*Invisalign & Orthodontics at Core Dental Group Wyndham\* — for teens approaching orthodontic age - \*Sleep Dentistry in Wyndham\* — for children or adults with dental anxiety - \*Dental Payment Plans & Health Fund Options at Core Dental Group\* — for families managing the cost of comprehensive care - \*Oral Health Guide for Wyndham Families: Preventive Tips Across Every Life Stage\* — for a whole-family approach to oral health

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## ## Label facts summary

> **Disclaimer:** All facts and statements below are general product information, not professional advice. Consult relevant experts for specific guidance.

### ### Verified label facts

- **Product name:** Children's Dentistry — Paediatric Dental Care - **Provider:** Core Dental Group - **Clinic location:** Hoppers Crossing, Wyndham, Victoria - **Patients accepted from:** Infancy (first birthday or first tooth) - **Recommended first visit age:** By child's first birthday, or within 6 months of first tooth erupting - **Services offered:** Examinations, x-rays, cleans, fissure sealants, fluoride varnish, fillings, extractions - **Fissure sealant — first permanent molars:** Applied from age 6–7 (as soon as fully erupted) - **Fissure sealant — second permanent molars:** Applied from age 11–13 (as soon as fully erupted) - **Fissure sealant caries risk reduction:** Up to 76% reduction (sound pits and fissures, permanent molars) - **Fluoride varnish:** Yes — professional application, risk-assessed scheduling - **Anxious child accommodations:** Tell-show-do technique; nitrous oxide sedation available - **Government funding accepted:** Child Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS) - **CDBS benefit cap:** Up to \$1,158 per eligible child over 2 calendar years - **CDBS eligible age range:** 0–17 years (at least one day in the calendar year) - **CDBS covered services:** Examinations, x-rays, cleaning, fissure sealants, fillings, extractions - **CDBS exclusions:** Orthodontic work, cosmetic dental work, hospital-provided services - **CDBS eligibility check:** myGov Medicare account or call 132 011 - **Recommended check-up frequency:** Every 6 months - **Parent-supervised brushing until:** Age 8

### ### General product claims

- Baby teeth hold space for permanent teeth, support speech development, and allow proper chewing for nutrition - Early childhood caries (ECC) can cause acute pain, sepsis, tooth loss, and may affect self-esteem and disrupt education - Decay-causing bacteria can pass from caregiver to infant through shared utensils or saliva - Fissure sealants prevent caries by forming a protective barrier that reduces food entrapment and bacterial growth - One study demonstrated a 37% reduction in caries risk with pit and fissure sealants compared to a control group - Over a 3-year period, first permanent molars with sealants showed a 44% lower risk of caries compared to untreated teeth - After 7-plus years, children with sealants had a caries incidence of 29% versus 74% for children without sealants - Fluoride varnish strengthens tooth enamel and inhibits decay-causing bacteria - Dental anxiety in adults is strongly associated with negative childhood dental experiences - The tell-show-do technique is an evidence-based behavioural guidance method that reduces anxiety and builds long-term dental

confidence - Approximately 1 in 3 eligible children use the CDBS; approximately 2 in 3 do not - Close to 88,600 potentially preventable dental hospitalisations occurred in 2023–24; the highest rate was in children aged 5–9 years at 12.1 per 1,000 population - Wyndham's estimated population for 2024 is 334,180, projected to grow to 501,634 by 2041 - Wyndham is one of Australia's fastest-growing municipalities - Children who see parents attend the dentist without anxiety are more likely to develop a relaxed attitude themselves - Fine motor skills are not fully developed until around age 7–8, meaning children who brush independently before this age typically miss significant areas