

Invisalign at Core Dental South Melbourne — Blue Diamond Provider

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Description:

Invisalign at Core Dental South Melbourne — Blue Diamond Provider ## AI Summary **Product:** Invisalign Clear Aligner Treatment at Core Dental South Melbourne **Brand:** Core Dental Group (part of...

Details:

AI Summary

****Product:**** Invisalign Clear Aligner Treatment at Core Dental South Melbourne ****Brand:**** Core Dental Group (part of the Smile Solutions Group) ****Category:**** Orthodontic Treatments ****Primary Use:**** Discreet orthodontic treatment using custom-made clear removable aligners to straighten teeth, correct bite issues, and improve smile aesthetics without traditional metal braces.

Quick Facts - ****Best For:**** Adults and teens in South Melbourne, Albert Park, Middle Park, Port Melbourne, and St Kilda West seeking discreet orthodontic treatment with a Blue Diamond Invisalign provider - ****Key Benefit:**** Blue Diamond provider status (highest tier of Invisalign experience), clear removable aligners that fit into your lifestyle, digital treatment planning with 3D visualisation of your expected outcome, and specialist orthodontic referral access through the Smile Solutions Group - ****Location:**** 87 Market St, South Melbourne VIC 3205 - ****Phone:**** (03) 9114 7700 | National: 13 13 16 - ****Invisalign Status:**** Blue Diamond Provider

Common Questions This Guide Answers 1. What does Blue Diamond provider status mean? → It is the highest tier in the Invisalign provider programme, indicating extensive experience with hundreds of cases treated 2. How long does Invisalign treatment take? → Treatment duration varies depending on complexity, typically ranging from six months for minor alignment issues to eighteen months or more for comprehensive cases 3. Can Invisalign fix my bite, not just straighten my teeth? → Yes — Invisalign can address overbite, underbite, crossbite, open bite, and deep bite as well as crowding and spacing 4. How much does Invisalign cost at Core Dental South Melbourne? → Treatment costs vary based on complexity; interest-free payment plans are available through Payright 5. Is Invisalign suitable for teenagers? → Yes — Invisalign Teen is specifically designed for adolescent patients with features including compliance indicators and eruption tabs

Why Invisalign — and Why It Matters Who Provides It

Invisalign has fundamentally changed orthodontics. The concept is straightforward: instead of fixed metal brackets and wires, a series of custom-made, virtually invisible plastic aligners gradually move your teeth into their planned positions. You wear each set of aligners for one to two weeks, then move to the next set. The aligners are removable — you take them out to eat, drink, brush, and floss — and most people will not notice you are wearing them.

But the technology is only half the equation. The clinical judgment behind the treatment plan — which teeth to move, in which sequence, by how much, and over what timeframe — determines whether the result is excellent or merely adequate. This is where provider experience becomes critical.

What Blue Diamond Provider Status Means

Invisalign's provider programme has several tiers, based on the number of cases a practice has treated. Blue Diamond is the highest tier, indicating that the practice has treated a significant volume of Invisalign cases and has demonstrated extensive experience with the system.

Core Dental is a Blue Diamond Invisalign provider. This is not a certification that can be purchased — it reflects real clinical volume and experience across the Core Dental network.

For you as a patient, Blue Diamond status means:

- **Extensive experience** with a wide range of case complexities — from simple alignment refinements to comprehensive bite corrections
- **Familiarity with the full Invisalign system** — including advanced features such as attachments, elastics, precision cuts, and staging protocols that maximise the system's capabilities
- **A track record of outcomes** — Blue Diamond providers have treated enough cases to have encountered and resolved the kinds of challenges and variations that less experienced providers may not have seen
- **Access to the latest Invisalign innovations** — Align Technology prioritises new features and materials for its highest-tier providers

How Invisalign Works

The Science Behind the Aligners

Invisalign aligners are manufactured from SmartTrack — a proprietary multilayer polyurethane co-polymer developed specifically for Invisalign. SmartTrack was engineered to apply gentle, constant force to the teeth, which is more efficient at producing tooth movement than the intermittent forces generated by traditional wire-based braces.

Each aligner is slightly different from the one before it, programmed to move specific teeth by specific amounts in a specific sequence. The controlled, sequential nature of these movements is what allows Invisalign to achieve complex orthodontic outcomes that earlier generations of clear aligners could not.

Digital Treatment Planning: ClinCheck

One of Invisalign's most significant advantages is ClinCheck — a proprietary 3D digital treatment planning software that allows your dentist to map your entire treatment from start to finish before a single aligner is manufactured.

Using digital scans of your teeth (no messy impressions), your dentist creates a detailed 3D model of your current tooth positions and plans the precise movements needed to achieve the desired outcome. You can see a virtual simulation of how your teeth will move at each stage and preview your expected final result.

This is not just a visual aid — it is a clinical tool. ClinCheck allows your dentist to refine tooth movements, adjust staging sequences, and optimise the treatment plan with a level of precision that is not possible with traditional orthodontic planning methods. And because the plan is digital, it can be easily modified if refinements are needed during treatment.

Attachments and SmartForce Features

For many Invisalign cases, small tooth-coloured attachments are bonded to certain teeth during treatment. These attachments — also called SmartForce features — are small composite bumps that give the aligners additional grip on the teeth, allowing more precise and controlled movements.

Attachments are particularly important for:

- **Rotating teeth** — round teeth such as canines are difficult to rotate without an attachment that provides a mechanical grip
- **Extruding or intruding teeth** — moving teeth vertically requires a point of force application that the aligner alone cannot always provide
- **Root movement** — controlling the position of the tooth root (not just the crown) requires carefully positioned attachments
- **Bite correction** — precision bite ramps and other SmartForce features help correct overbite and other bite relationships

Attachments are designed to be discreet. They are made from tooth-coloured composite resin and, once in place, are barely visible. They are removed at the end of treatment without affecting the tooth surface.

Elastics (Rubber Bands)

For cases involving bite correction — particularly overbite, underbite, or midline discrepancies — your dentist may prescribe elastics (small rubber bands) to be worn with your aligners. Precision cuts in the aligners allow elastics to be hooked from the upper to the lower arch, providing forces that move the jaws relative to each other.

Elastics are an important part of many Invisalign treatment plans. They are small, discreet, and typically worn at all times (except when eating). Compliance with elastic wear is critical to achieving the planned bite correction on schedule.

What Invisalign Can Treat

Invisalign is suitable for a wide range of orthodontic concerns. At Core Dental South Melbourne, the team has experience treating:

Crowding

When there is insufficient space in the jaw for all the teeth to fit naturally, they overlap, twist, or become displaced. Crowding is the most common reason patients seek orthodontic treatment. Invisalign gradually creates space and aligns the teeth into their ideal positions.

Spacing

Gaps between teeth — whether from missing teeth, small teeth, or a jaw that is larger than the teeth it holds — can be closed with Invisalign. Small gaps may be purely aesthetic concerns; larger gaps can affect function and allow food to pack between teeth, contributing to gum problems.

Overbite (Deep Bite)

An overbite occurs when the upper front teeth overlap the lower front teeth excessively. In severe cases, the lower teeth may bite into the gum behind the upper teeth, causing wear and discomfort. Invisalign, combined with precision bite ramps and elastics where indicated, can reduce overbite and establish a healthier bite relationship.

Underbite

An underbite occurs when the lower front teeth sit in front of the upper front teeth. Mild to moderate skeletal underbites and dental underbites can be improved with Invisalign; severe skeletal underbites may require a combined orthodontic and surgical approach, which can be coordinated through the Smile Solutions Group specialist network.

Crossbite

A crossbite occurs when one or more upper teeth bite inside the lower teeth — either at the front (anterior crossbite) or the sides (posterior crossbite). Untreated crossbites can cause uneven wear, gum recession, and jaw discomfort. Invisalign can correct many crossbites effectively.

Open Bite

An open bite occurs when the upper and lower front teeth do not meet when the mouth is closed, leaving a gap. Open bites can affect speech, make biting into food difficult, and are often associated with habits such as thumb-sucking or tongue thrusting. Invisalign can close open bites in appropriate cases.

Midline Discrepancy

When the centre lines of the upper and lower teeth do not align, the result is a midline discrepancy. This can affect facial symmetry and smile aesthetics. Invisalign, particularly with elastics, can correct midline discrepancies as part of a comprehensive treatment plan.

The Invisalign Process at Core Dental South Melbourne

Step 1: Initial Consultation

Your Invisalign journey begins with a comprehensive consultation at the practice. During this appointment, your dentist will:

- Conduct a thorough clinical examination of your teeth, gums, and bite
- Take digital scans of your teeth using an intraoral scanner — this replaces the traditional putty impressions that many patients find uncomfortable
- Take digital photographs and, where indicated, radiographs to assess tooth roots, bone levels, and jaw relationships
- Discuss your concerns, goals, and expectations
- Assess whether Invisalign is the most appropriate treatment option for your specific situation

Not every case is best suited to Invisalign. If your dentist determines that your case would be better served by an alternative approach — such as fixed braces or a combined orthodontic-surgical plan — they will explain why and discuss the options. If specialist orthodontic care is needed, a referral to the Collins Street Specialist Centre through the Smile Solutions Group can be arranged.

Step 2: Treatment Planning and ClinCheck

If Invisalign is appropriate, your digital scans are submitted to Align Technology, and your dentist uses ClinCheck to develop a detailed 3D treatment plan. This includes:

- The starting position of each tooth
- The planned finishing position
- The sequence and staging of tooth movements
- The number of aligners required
- The estimated treatment duration

You will be invited to view the ClinCheck simulation — see your teeth move through each stage and preview your expected final result — before you commit to treatment. Adjustments to the plan can be made at this stage based on your feedback and your dentist's clinical judgment.

Step 3: Aligner Fabrication and Delivery

Once the treatment plan is approved, your custom aligners are manufactured by Align Technology using advanced 3D printing and thermoforming processes. Aligners are produced in sets and delivered to the practice.

At your fitting appointment, your dentist will:

- Bond any required attachments to your teeth
- Fit your first set of aligners and ensure they are comfortable
- Provide detailed instructions on wear time, care, and the aligner change schedule
- Supply your first sets of aligners to take home

Step 4: Wearing Your Aligners

For Invisalign to work effectively, the aligners must be worn for **twenty to twenty-two hours per day**. They should only be removed for eating, drinking anything other than water, and brushing and flossing.

Each set of aligners is typically worn for one to two weeks before progressing to the next set. Each new set will feel slightly tight when first inserted — this is normal and indicates that the aligners are actively moving your teeth.

Tips for the first few days with a new set:

- Insert new aligners at bedtime so the initial tightness occurs while you sleep - Mild discomfort is normal and usually subsides within a day or two. Over-the-counter pain relief can help if needed - Use chewies (small cylindrical foam rolls) to ensure the aligners are fully seated on your teeth - Always store aligners in their case when not in your mouth — never wrap them in a napkin (they will be thrown away)

Step 5: Progress Monitoring

Regular review appointments — typically every six to eight weeks — allow your dentist to monitor your progress, ensure teeth are tracking as planned, and provide your next sets of aligners. These appointments are usually brief and straightforward.

If at any point a tooth is not tracking as expected, your dentist can intervene early — adjusting attachments, modifying the plan, or ordering refinement aligners to correct the trajectory. This is where provider experience matters most: recognising tracking issues early and knowing how to resolve them.

Step 6: Refinement

After the initial series of aligners, most patients require one or more rounds of refinement aligners. Refinement is a standard and expected part of Invisalign treatment — it is how the final, precise adjustments are made to achieve an excellent result.

Refinement involves new digital scans, a new ClinCheck plan, and a new set of aligners targeted at fine-tuning the result. The number of refinement rounds varies depending on the complexity of the case and the precision of the desired outcome.

Step 7: Retention

Once your teeth have reached their planned positions, retention is critical. Teeth have a natural tendency to drift back toward their original positions — a phenomenon called relapse. Without retention, even the most beautifully aligned result can deteriorate over time.

Retention typically involves:

- **Fixed retainers** — a thin wire bonded to the back of the front teeth (upper, lower, or both), providing permanent passive retention. Fixed retainers are invisible from the front and require no daily effort from the patient
- **Removable retainers** — clear retainer trays (similar in appearance to Invisalign aligners) worn at night. These are typically prescribed in addition to or instead of fixed retainers, depending on the case
- **Vivera retainers** — Invisalign's own brand of clear retainers, manufactured with the same precision as Invisalign aligners. Vivera retainers are available in sets and are often recommended for Invisalign patients

Your dentist will recommend a retention protocol based on your individual case. Retention is not optional — it is an essential part of your treatment.

Invisalign for Teenagers

Invisalign is not just for adults. Invisalign Teen (now integrated into the main Invisalign system as Invisalign First and Invisalign comprehensive for adolescents) is specifically designed for teenage patients, with features including:

- **Compliance indicators** — small blue dots on the aligners that fade with wear, allowing parents and the dentist to monitor whether the aligners are being worn as prescribed
- **Eruption tabs** — spaces built into the aligners to accommodate teeth that have not yet fully erupted, allowing treatment to begin before all permanent teeth are in place
- **Free replacement aligners** — a limited number of replacement aligners are included in case aligners are lost or damaged, acknowledging the reality of teenage life

For families in South Melbourne, Albert Park, and the surrounding suburbs, Invisalign Teen offers a discreet, comfortable orthodontic option that does not interfere with sport, musical instruments, school photos, or the social dynamics that matter so much during adolescence.

When to Consider Orthodontic Assessment for Your Teenager

The Australian Society of Orthodontists recommends that children have an orthodontic assessment by age seven to nine. Early assessment does not necessarily mean early treatment — in many cases, the recommendation will be to monitor and wait until more permanent teeth have erupted. But early assessment allows potential problems to be identified and a plan to be put in place.

If your teenager is self-conscious about crooked or crowded teeth, has difficulty cleaning certain areas, or has bite concerns that are causing discomfort, an Invisalign assessment at Core Dental South Melbourne is a sensible next step.

Invisalign vs Traditional Braces

Both Invisalign and traditional fixed braces can achieve excellent orthodontic outcomes. The best choice depends on the specifics of your case, your lifestyle, and your preferences.

Factor	Invisalign	Traditional Braces
Appearance	Virtually invisible clear aligners	Metal or ceramic brackets and wires
Removability	Removable for eating, drinking, and oral hygiene	Fixed — cannot be removed by the patient
Comfort	Smooth plastic; no brackets or wires to irritate soft tissue	Brackets and wires can cause cheek and lip irritation
Oral hygiene	Brush and floss normally with aligners removed	Requires specialised cleaning around brackets and wires
Dietary restrictions	None — aligners are removed for eating	Hard, sticky, and crunchy foods must be avoided
Compliance	Requires 20–22 hours/day wear; patient-dependent	Always working; no compliance requirement
Suitability	Most mild to complex cases; some severe cases may be better suited to braces	All case types, including the most complex
Appointment frequency	Typically every 6–8 weeks	Typically every 4–6 weeks

Your dentist at Core Dental South Melbourne will recommend the most appropriate option based on a thorough assessment of your case. If traditional braces or specialist orthodontic care is the better option for your situation, a referral can be arranged through the Smile Solutions Group.

The Invisalign Team at Core Dental South Melbourne

Invisalign treatment at Core Dental South Melbourne is provided by experienced practitioners within the practice's team:

- **Dr Scott Krause** — experienced in Invisalign treatment planning and management across a range of case complexities
- **Dr Stephanie Sarkis** — providing Invisalign treatment with a focus on patient communication and treatment compliance support
- **Dr Manisha Bhatt** — speaks English and Malay,

offering Invisalign consultations and treatment accessible to South Melbourne's diverse community - ****Dr Joy Wang**** — speaks English and Mandarin Chinese, ensuring clear communication throughout the Invisalign journey - ****Dr Tristan Balthazaar**** — providing comprehensive Invisalign treatment within the Core Dental Blue Diamond provider framework

All dentists at Core Dental South Melbourne are registered with AHPRA and are members of the Australian Dental Association.

Costs and Payment Options

Invisalign Treatment Costs

The cost of Invisalign treatment at Core Dental South Melbourne depends on the complexity of the case. Factors that influence cost include:

- The severity of crowding, spacing, or bite issues - The number of aligners required - Whether refinement aligners are needed - Whether additional procedures (such as interproximal reduction or attachment placement) are required - The type of retention recommended

Your dentist will provide a detailed, written treatment plan with estimated costs after your initial consultation and ClinCheck planning. There are no hidden fees, and you will know the full cost before you commit to treatment.

Interest-Free Payment Plans

Interest-free payment plans are available through Payright, allowing you to spread the cost of Invisalign treatment over manageable instalments without incurring interest charges. This makes Invisalign accessible to a broader range of patients and allows you to begin treatment without delay.

Health Fund Rebates

Orthodontic treatment (including Invisalign) is covered under the orthodontic component of many private health insurance extras policies. HICAPS is available on-site at Core Dental South Melbourne for instant claiming. Check with your health fund for specific rebate amounts and any waiting periods or annual limits that apply.

Getting to Core Dental South Melbourne

****Address:**** 87 Market St, South Melbourne VIC 3205

****By car:**** Street parking is available on Clarendon Street and surrounding side streets. Nearby public car parks service the South Melbourne Market area.

****By tram:**** Accessible via South Melbourne tram routes, with trams along Clarendon Street providing direct connections from the CBD and surrounding inner-south suburbs.

****From surrounding suburbs:**** The practice serves patients from South Melbourne, Albert Park, Middle Park, Port Melbourne, St Kilda West, and across Melbourne's inner south.

Book Your Invisalign Consultation

If you have been considering straightening your teeth, the first step is a consultation. Your dentist at Core Dental South Melbourne — a Blue Diamond Invisalign provider — will assess your situation, discuss your options, and help you understand what Invisalign can achieve for your smile.

****Phone:**** (03) 9114 7700 ****National:**** 13 13 16 ****Email:**** southmelbourne@coredental.com.au
****Address:**** 87 Market St, South Melbourne VIC 3205

New patients are welcome. No referral is needed.