

# Our FAQs

## **Can I come in for my appointment with a cold sore?**

We are often asked if you can come and see our dentist, hygienist, or therapist whilst you have a cold sore. A cold sore is a small blister caused by the herpes simplex virus type 1 (HSV-1), and less commonly herpes simplex virus type 2 (HSV-2) Cold sores are contagious even if you don't see the sores. Cold sores are infectious, and the virus can be passed on to other people by close contact. As part of our Infection and Prevention and Control Policy, we ask patients that if you have a cold sore for less than 2 weeks, please reschedule any non-emergency dental appointments until after this contagious period has passed. This will eliminate the risk of spreading the virus.

If urgent dental treatment is required and the appointment cannot be postponed, we would request that you wear a plaster to minimise the risk of cross-infection.

If you do get a cold sore and have an appointment, call us on 01206-845 891 to reschedule.

## **How safe are dental x-rays?**

Dental x-rays are an essential tool to the dentist, it will help them identify problems that otherwise might be missed or are not visible to the naked eye. Decay, abscesses, bone loss and tumours are just some of the problems which could be missed without a dental x-ray being carried out. X-rays are also used as a diagnostic tool for things like braces or implants.

At The Dental Studio there is only one type of radiograph (x-rays) we take. **Intra Oral** x-rays are a very common procedure and provide the dentist with a high level of detail of your teeth, the bone structure, roots and your gums. This x-ray is taken on the inside of your mouth. We use Digital dental x-rays.

Digital dental x-rays have very low doses of radiation, producing just a fraction of what you are exposed to in other imaging procedures.

A routine examination with 2 bitewing x-rays exposes you to the equivalent of a one-to-two-hour flight on an airplane.

If you are still worried about x-rays being taken, speak to your clinician at your next visit. They will be more than happy to discuss this further with you.

## **What if I have Covid-19 and I need to see a dentist?**

If you are experiencing any coronavirus symptoms have been advised to self-isolate we will be unable to see you for a face to face appointment. If you have an urgent dental problem and you are registered with us still contact us for further advice.

### **What is a dental emergency?**

If you have signs and symptoms of an acute infection such as:

- Facial swelling
- Trouble breathing
- Trouble swallowing
- Swelling around your eyes
- Suffered trauma and bleeding from a broken or missing tooth

### **Can I spread the cost of my treatment plan?**

Yes you can! For further information on our finance options following this link <https://the-dental-studio.com/finance-options>

### **I have a dental emergency, but the practice is closed. What do I do?**

Read our blog on unexpected dental troubles for further information on what if you have an emergency out of hours. <https://the-dental-studio.com/blog/self-help-for-emergencies/>

Private Patients & Plan patients' phone 01206 845 891 for the dentist on the emergency rota. (Emergency cover is shared between a number of practices.)

NHS Patients phone NHS 111

### **Do you offer Orthodontic consultations?**

At The Dental Studio we are currently offering consultation with our Orthodontic therapist Andrew. He will be able to discuss the different types of braces and what might be suitable for you. To book email [hello@the-dental-studio.com](mailto:hello@the-dental-studio.com) or call 01206-845891

### **What is an Orthodontic therapist?**

An orthodontic therapist is a registered dental professional who can carry out treatment for the orthodontist under their prescription.

The Orthodontic therapist must work to the prescription of an orthodontist or dentist and can carry out the following treatments - *Taking impressions – Fitting braces – Adjusting brackets - Changing arch wires – Removing braces – Fitting retainers .*