

Smiles 4Children

To explain briefly to staff in your setting the aims of daily toothbrushing

Context

- Tooth decay and gum disease are two of the most common and entirely preventable dental problems for children
- 1 in 3 five-year olds suffer from tooth decay
- Dental problems are the most common reasons for children under five to undergo general anaesthetic
- Supervised toothbrushing programmes e.g. Childsmile (Scotland) and Designed to Smile (Wales) have been the most effective way of improving children's dental health

Hospital Admissions

Hospital admission rates aged 5-9

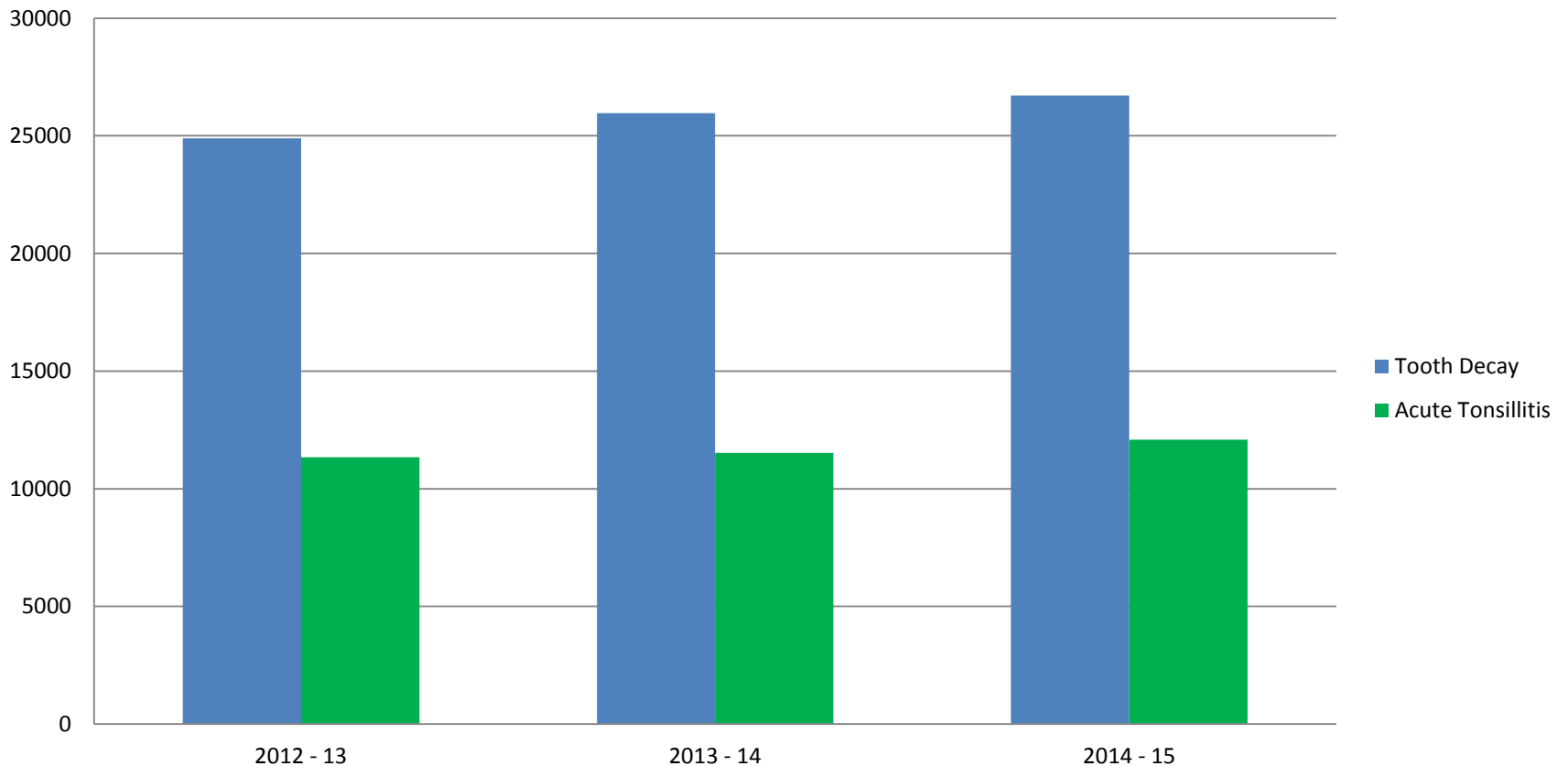


Figure 1 Comparison of hospital admission rates for children aged 5-9 due to tooth decay and acute tonsillitis from 2012-13 to 2014-15 (top 2 reasons for hospital admissions for this age group)

Daily Toothbrushing

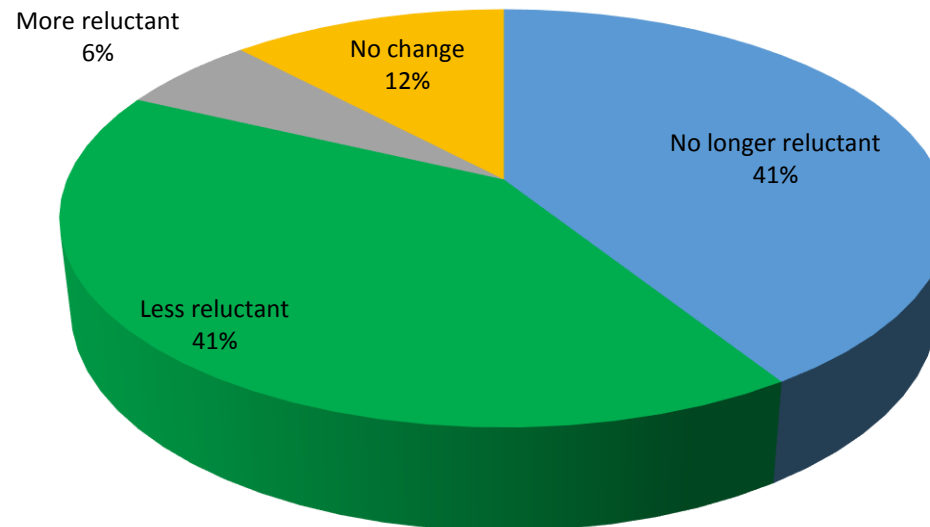
- Supervised toothbrushing for 2, 3, and 4-year olds
- Each child will brush their teeth at least once a day within the setting
- Children will be brought together for toothbrushing and will be supervised at all times
- Staff will ensure that children brush for 2 minutes using the proper technique
- Try to make the toothbrushing fun for the children e.g. use of toothbrushing songs / Brush DJ App

Parental Engagement

- All parents will be given a pack which will include
 - Information about how toothbrushing will be carried out in the setting
 - Tips on toothbrushing at home
 - Advice about sugary foods and drinks
 - Links to resources

Smiles 4Children Results

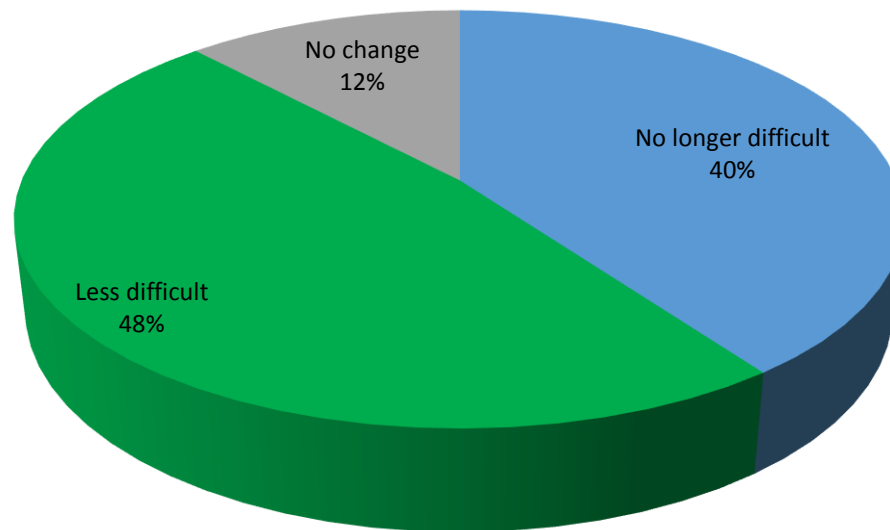
Those who parents claimed were reluctant to brush teeth



Reported Change in behaviour in children who parents claimed to be reluctant to brush their teeth at the beginning of the programme

Smiles 4Children Results

Those who parents claimed found toothbrushing difficult



Reported change in behaviour in children who parents claimed to find it difficult to brush their teeth at the beginning of the programme