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Free dental scheme extended for Queensland children

Queensland children will continue to benefit from free dental care, after a Federal Government program was extended through to the end of 2016.

Director of Metro South Oral Health Dr Helen Boocock said the Child Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS) program provides up to \$1000 per eligible child for dental treatment.

“Children can use CDBS for a range of high-quality dental services such as examinations, x-rays, cleaning, fissure sealing, fillings, root canals and extractions,” Dr Boocock said.

“Unfortunately, the levels of tooth decay in Queensland children are far too high – almost a quarter of Queensland children aged 5-15 years have four or more teeth affected by decay.

“Some families may be worried about how their child will cope with a dental appointment, but our dentists and dental therapists are very experienced and know how to make children feel at ease.”

The Federal Government’s Child Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS) program provides free dental care for 2–17 year olds, who are part of a family receiving Family Tax Benefit Part A or other Australian Government payments.

Dr Boocock said that even if a child was not eligible for CDBS, they could still be eligible for free dental care with Metro South Health.

“All children aged four through to year 10 at school are eligible for free public dental care, as well as children aged 0-3 years and those in grades 11 and 12 whose parents have a current Centrelink, Healthcare or Pension Card,” she said.

To check eligibility or to make an appointment, call 1300 300 850 or visit www.metrosouth.health.qld.gov.au/oral-health.

ENDS

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