

Cheddar Dental Practice

Working together

At Cheddar Dental Practice we are committed to providing the highest possible standard of care for our patients. An important part of fulfilling this commitment is ensuring that we work in partnership with you. This helps us understand you and tend to your specific needs. Below, we describe some of our responsibilities to you and your part in your care.

Treatment plans

Your dentist can provide a full range of treatment for you.

After a thorough clinical examination, your dentist will describe the treatment that he or she recommends, an estimate of its cost and any alternatives that are available. Any relevant risks will be discussed. Where appropriate, the dentist will use photographs and other visual aids to help explain the treatment. Please do not hesitate to ask questions – we want to be sure that you fully understand and agree with the proposed treatment. The dentist can give you some information to take home, if you're unsure of any aspect of the treatment.

Most treatment is usually necessary to remove disease. To maintain oral health you need to follow the advice your dentist or hygienist may give you relating to your treatment. Home care plays a major role in preventing further problems and that in turn will help you keep an attractive smile, eat in full comfort and should minimise the need for future treatment. If you do not understand your part in your care, please ask for an explanation.

A written estimate and treatment plan will be provided for courses of treatment requiring more than one visit (excluding dental hygienist appointments).

Appointment times

We provide a range of appointment times for patients. If you need to cancel your appointment, please give us as much notice as possible to allow us to allocate your appointment time to another patient. Hygienist / Private Treatment appointments that are cancelled with less than 24 hours' notice are customarily subject to a charge of up to £15 per 15 minutes.

If an NHS patient cancels an appointment at short notice or fails to attend on more than one occasion, the patient might be refused further care under the NHS

Preventive care

The basis of good oral health is preventing dental disease by, for example, appropriate oral hygiene measures, reducing the frequency of consumption of sugary foods and visiting the dentist when recommended. Your dentist and dental hygienist will give you lots of advice and support with caring for your teeth and gums.

Medical Histories

Following guidance from our regulatory bodies we ask patients to update their medical history at least annually. Please be prepared to do this at the start of any course of treatment.

Confidentiality

We take great care to ensure that our patient records are maintained in strict confidence. We have Confidentiality, Data Protection and Data Security policies. Should you require any further information, please let us know.

Paying for your dental care

We provide a range of ways to pay for your dental care and accept payment in cash, by cheque, credit and debit card. We can also offer care under Denplan where payment is made monthly (usually by direct debit). Please ask and we'll be pleased to provide further information.

Payment is usually requested in stages at every appointment. Where crowns, veneers, bridges or dentures are to be provided, we may ask for a deposit in advance.

Repairs and replacements

Our dental treatment is provided to a very high standard but occasionally treatment may need to be replaced or repairs may need to be undertaken. Our practice policy is normally to provide repairs or replacements free of charge if the treatment fails within one year. Please contact us immediately if you experience difficulty with any treatment that we have provided.

If you have any comments

We recognise that regular feedback helps us improve our services. So if you have any comments or complaints about the care or service you have received at the practice please contact the Practice Manager, Gill Smalley.