

The Sparkle Fairy

Professional Mobile Dental Hygiene Services

Consent Guidance Sheet

This document explains how The Sparkle Fairy obtains and records consent for dental hygiene treatment. We follow established best practice and are committed to ensuring every resident is treated with dignity, respect and in full accordance with their wishes and legal rights.

Our Consent Process

Consent is obtained at two stages — in advance of the visit and again on the day of treatment:

1 New Patient Form (advance consent)

Prior to every visit, we send the care home a link to our New Patient Form. This form collects the resident's medical history, details of any relevant conditions, and serves as their initial consent for treatment. The form must be completed before an appointment can proceed.

2 Verbal consent on the day

On the day of the appointment, we obtain verbal consent directly from the resident before any treatment begins. We explain what we are going to do in clear, simple terms and give the resident the opportunity to ask questions or decline. This is documented in our clinical notes.

Residents with Capacity

Where a resident has capacity to consent, we follow the two-stage process above. The resident completes or agrees to the New Patient Form and provides verbal consent on the day. A resident may withdraw consent at any point — before or during treatment — and we will always respect their decision without question.

Residents Who Lack Capacity

Where a resident may lack capacity to consent, we follow the five statutory principles of the Mental Capacity Act 2005. We always presume capacity unless there is clear evidence otherwise, and we never make assumptions based on a diagnosis alone.

Where we have reason to believe a resident may lack capacity, we will:

- Work with care home staff to understand the resident's known wishes, values and preferences
- Involve family members or next of kin in discussions wherever possible
- Make a best interest decision based on all available information, documented clearly in our clinical notes
- Proceed only where treatment is in the resident's best interest and using the least restrictive approach

We wish to make clear that no third party — including care home staff or family members — can legally consent to dental treatment on behalf of an adult who lacks capacity. Consent in these cases rests with the treating clinician, who must act in the patient's best interest in accordance with the Mental Capacity Act 2005. The New Patient Form completed in advance helps us understand the resident's background and medical history, but does not replace the best interest assessment required for residents lacking capacity.

Clinical Documentation

Following every visit, we provide the care home with written clinical notes for all residents seen. These notes include details of treatment carried out, any findings of note, and any recommendations for follow-up with a dentist. Consent obtained is recorded within our clinical records.

Questions About Our Consent Process

If you have any questions about our consent process or would like to discuss a specific resident's circumstances before booking a visit, please do not hesitate to get in touch. We are happy to speak with care home managers, staff and families at any stage.