

PARENT GUIDELINES

Dear Parents,

You may choose whether or not you accompany your child to his/her operative appointment (fillings, stainless steel crowns, extractions, etc.). Although we sense that some children do better without parents present, we are open to having you with your child. If you choose to be present, we suggest the following guidelines to improve chances of a positive outcome:

1. Allow us to prepare your child.
2. Be supportive of our practice's terminology.
 - a. Never use the word "shot", "needle", "hurt", or "pain".
 - b. Never use the phrase "pull teeth".
3. Please be a silent observer- support your child with touches.
 - a. This allows us to maintain communication with your child.
 - b. Children will normally listen to their parents instead of us and may not hear our guidance.
 - c. You may give incorrect or misleading information.
4. If you are asked to leave, be ready to immediately walk away.
 - a. Many children will try to control the situation.
 - b. "Acting out" is normal, but is unacceptable during operative appointments.
 - c. This is intended to "short circuit" the control attempt.
 - d. We will continue to support your child at all times.

These are very important ways that you can actively help in the success of your child's appointment. We are confident that all will go well and hope these guidelines will help prepare you with confidence for the upcoming appointment.

Signed: _____ Date: _____