

1. WHO ARE WE?

Your child's school has partnered with the University of Leeds, School of Dentistry, to take part in our Citizens Science project: RAISED In Yorkshire (RiY). We are collecting information about the health of your child's teeth, the bugs in their mouths that cause tooth decay, and their health behaviours. The aim is to empower young people with the skills and knowledge to improve their own oral health and toothbrushing habits. Qualified dental professionals have been working with keen sixth form students from your child's school as part of the RiY programme to train them to become Oral Health Educators. The sixth formers gain invaluable work experience and community service, teaching students in their own and local schools about the importance of oral health care and sharing their skills and knowledge.

2. WHY ARE WE DOING RAISED in YORKSHIRE?

12-year-olds in Yorkshire & Humber suffer the worst oral health in the UK, with nearly half of students starting secondary school with rotten teeth. Poor oral health leads to rotten teeth, toothache, bullying, low self-esteem, and time off school. Tooth decay is preventable but reaching adolescents and teenagers at-risk of oral health inequalities is not easy.

RAISED in Yorkshire will help your child to: 1) understand the importance of looking after their oral health, 2) gain skills in how to brush their teeth well, and 3) understand the science behind tooth decay by looking at the bugs in their saliva (spit). Everybody has good and bad bugs (bacteria) in their mouths which feed on sugar to cause tooth decay. We hope RAISED in Yorkshire will help children to have fewer bad bugs in the mouth and improve their oral health.

3. WHAT WILL THIS INVOLVE?

If you consent for your child to take part in RAISED in Yorkshire:

Trained sixth form students will deliver fun and interactive workshops to share knowledge, toothbrushing skills, help explain the science behind tooth decay, and raise awareness about oral health.

Your child's class will be randomly put into one of two groups. In Group 1, the class will attend several lessons delivered by the trained sixth form students about oral health, hygiene, and the types of oral bugs found in healthy mouths and those with tooth decay. In Group 2 the class will also receive the same lesson on oral health, but later in the year once we have completed the data collection for the study.



1. Trained dental teams will look into your child's mouth for a dental check in the spring and summer term.
2. Your child will complete surveys about their oral health, lifestyle, and behaviours.
3. Your child will collect a sample of their saliva (spit) in the spring and summer term as part of the YUK project. The spit sample is easy to collect, we just ask your child to dribble saliva into a small tube. This helps us explain the science behind tooth decay.



Optional consent for photography:

We would like to take some photographs/videos of children participating in RiY to show and promote the importance of the project. We will strictly follow the school's policy on taking and the use of photos/videos.

Your child will also be included in a prize draw of £10-20 Vouchers/ electric toothbrush as a thank you for taking part.

4. IS IT SAFE FOR MY CHILD TO TAKE PART ?

There are no risks involved in taking part in RAISED in Yorkshire. The RiY dental check should not replace your child seeing their own dentist. You should always maintain visits to your own dentist.

Children with immunosuppression & bleeding conditions e.g., Haemophilia, are more vulnerable when having a dental check and therefore should not take part. We would ask you to alert us if your child has such a condition.

5. CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE



If you are happy for your child to take part in RiY, please complete and sign the consent form and return it to your child's school.

6. WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH MY CHILD'S DATA?



Data will be handled in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018, and securely stored on University of Leeds secure drive. No information will be published that identifies your child. Your child will be given a unique ID number to link their information.

The school will provide your child's details and information on free school meals and broad educational attainment category (e.g., low, medium, high, or streaming group). This data will enable us to assess if the oral health knowledge gain is delivered inclusively to children of all abilities.

Saliva samples and dental check data will be kept for 5 years after the end of the study. After this any remaining samples and data will be destroyed securely.

For more information about how the University of Leeds uses personal data for research:

<https://dataprotection.leeds.ac.uk/research-participant-privacy-notice/>

7 WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE RESULTS OF THE STUDY?

In the future, we hope to publish the findings. We also intend to provide group anonymous feedback to the schools your child will not be identifiable data in any of the reports we write up about the findings of the research.

8 ANY QUESTIONS?

If you would like to discuss anything further, please contact:



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For more information, please go to the <<Parent page on your school website/[DenTCRU RiY Webpage](#) >> where you can find:

- A more detailed Parent information Leaflet.
- Short information videos in English, Arabic, Urdu/Hindi/Punjabi explaining RiY.
- Information on how to access NHS Dental care.