**Emergency dental service for children under the age of 16 years**

**The Department of Paediatric Dentistry is a Specialist Unit and only provides walk-in emergency care within office hours, for children with;**

* **complex dental trauma (see below)**
* **significant facial swelling associated with dental infection not responding to antibiotics**
* **uncontrolled bleeding following dental extractions or dental trauma**

This service is provided between the hours of 9am and 4.00pm, Monday to Friday (excluding Bank holidays). Emergencies of this nature outside of these hours should attend the Bristol Royal Hospital for Children's A&E department.

All children attending as an emergency will be triaged, and if not meeting the acceptance criteria above, will be asked to return to their own dentist, or directed to phone 111 for the ‘out of hour's service’.

For any other dental problems, children who are registered with their own dentist should contact their dentist in the first instance.

If outside of their normal dentists opening hours, they should phone 111 for information regarding the ‘out of hour's dental service’ in their area.

If the child is not registered with a dentist, the carer should phone 111 for advice regarding dentists who are accepting NHS patients for assessment and treatment, and for information regarding out of hour's dental services, and access to the Primary Care Dental Service (defined acceptance criteria exist).