

Can I bring items to help me cope with anxiety that I may have at my appointment?

You can bring with you small items that help you with your coping strategy i.e. music, books, personal tablets, toys, headphones.

Do you need help with tooth brushing and dietary advice?

Our team of nurses are able to give advice or demonstrations to help.

Do you need an informal visit to familiarise yourself with the surroundings before your consultation?

If you would like to discuss ways of accommodating your needs please **email:** ruh-tr.maxfaxdept@nhs.net

For further information regarding your visit please contact our Reception on 01225 824260

Royal United Hospitals Bath
NHS Foundation Trust
Combe Park, Bath BA1 3NG
01225 428331 www.ruh.nhs.uk

Please contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) if you require this leaflet in a different format, or would like to feedback your experience of the hospital.

Email: ruh-tr.pals@nhs.net or telephone 01225 825656 or 826319

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Your First Appointment in The Oral Maxillofacial Surgery and Orthodontic Department



Information for Patients on the
Autism Spectrum

First Appointment

The referral from the dentist or doctor has highlighted that you have been diagnosed as being on the Autism Spectrum.

This leaflet is designed to give you and your parent or carer information about your visit to our department.

Why have I been referred to the Department?

Your dentist/ doctor would like specialist advice from our team.

What will happen at my first appointment?

- You will be asked to wait in our waiting area.
- It is likely your mouth and teeth will be looked at using a small dental mirror.
- A bright light will be used to look in your mouth. We can use a small torch if you do not like the normal dental light.
- X-rays may be taken in another room by another member of our team.

- If necessary we may take photographs and moulds (Impressions) of your teeth.
- If a small sample of tissue needs to be taken this may be done on the same day, or an appointment may be given for this at a later date.

What will happen next?

All of the above will help with planning the best course of treatment for you.

There are likely to be different methods of helping you which will be explained to you. It may be that:

- There is no need for any treatment.
- You are not ready for treatment.
- You will need to be monitored and therefore will be brought back for review.
- You will be given an appointment to return to the department for treatment at a later date, as explained in your consultation.

What support from our department is available to make your visit a pleasant experience?

Can you sit in a waiting room that may be busy at times?

- If not, then we will be able to accommodate you in another room.

Can you cope with certain sounds from the machines we use and smells within the hospital environment?

- If not, then please inform our reception staff before you are seen to enable us to help you with this.

How is your sight, do you need help with larger print information leaflets?

Do you need written notes from your consultation?

Do you need to bring a parent, carer or advocate with you for support?

Do you have behaviour that is challenging, disruptive or repetitive?

- If the answer is yes to any of these questions then please contact us by telephone or email before the appointment or when you arrive for your appointment at reception.