

Embrace your smile

Orthodontic Specialists

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Before



After

Orthodontics is the branch of dentistry concerned with the growth of the teeth, jaws and face, and is in high demand.

Why? Orthodontic treatment is about making the best of your teeth whilst improving the harmony of your mouth. **AND.....**

Your smile will benefit immensely!



What does it involve? Treatment involves wearing a brace. NHS braces are traditionally metal and on the front of your teeth but other styles are available privately. These include tooth coloured appliances, lingual appliances and clear removable aligners like Invisalign.

Extractions/Elastics Sometimes extractions are required. The use of elastics may reduce the need for extractions.

Retainers are provided after brace removal and again come in different styles. We will monitor your teeth over the first year, however, **RETAINERS ARE FOR LIFE**, and without them, your teeth will move. All our patients are welcome to join our ACE club to monitor your smile into the future (see website for details).



Duration of treatment is usually one to two years.

Appointments are offered based on the scans you take of your teeth and will be made with an appropriate member of the team. Out of School appointments are available and we prioritise those in exam years.

Risks of Orthodontic treatment are usually small. Tooth roots do get shorter during treatment and there is a very small risk to the blood supply of the teeth as a result of braces. Sometimes, we may not recommend treatment where the gain is minimal and the risks outweigh the benefits.

Toothbrushing and diet is really important. Your teeth should be spotlessly clean and fizzy drinks/ sweets must be kept to an absolute minimum. Patients who don't brush well will end up with damage (white/brown marks on their front teeth). This is a direct result of plaque and sugar in the diet.

Commitment to your treatment is essential! It extends beyond the braces and to the long-term use of retainers. The whole family should be aware of the investment required. If you cannot commit, you really shouldn't start treatment.

Your first visit should be really easy. You will have already sent us some pictures of your teeth (SmileMate) and told us what you would like to change. We will confirm your identification and you will meet our team who will carry out a detailed examination involving photographs, x-rays and a 3D scan of your teeth. This will allow us to identify your goals for treatment and confirm your consent.

Do I have to pay? If you are under 18 and referred by your dentist through the NHS, there is no charge for the assessment. NHS treatment, is limited to patients under 18 who have a determined need for treatment using the Index of Orthodontic Treatment Need (IOTN) tool, are highly motivated with excellent dental health and oral hygiene.

If you fall below the NHS threshold but would still like to improve your smile, we provide private care for adults and children. You can refer yourself directly to Wallasey Orthodontics via our website or by telephone.

Private treatment

There are a number of different ways we can change your smile and straighten your teeth. Some patient's



lifestyles mean that traditional braces may not be the best option. Removable aligners like Invisalign are virtually invisible and can be removed for sports to allow the placement of a well fitting mouthguard. Equally, the aligners can be removed if you are

playing a musical instrument or have an important social engagement. The ability to remove the appliance means you can keep things cleaner and are less likely to get marks on the surface of your teeth.



Treatment options will be discussed and once you have made your informed decision you will be given a



written plan and a quotation for your investment. We offer finance options to fit your budget. If you require any further information please speak to one of the team.

Further NHS information is available through; NHS Digital, Primary care dental services - NHS Cheshire and Merseyside, Care Quality Commission - www.cqc.org.uk - 03000616161