

Oral Health Program



Schools with the highest percentage of students on Free and Reduced Meal Plans (FRMP) had a higher percentage of students with caries and visible decay versus schools with a lower percentage.

Children from schools with a high FRMP had visible decay rate nearly 3 times higher than their peers at higher income schools.

Kindergarten Oral Health Assessment (KOHA)

What is it?

To make sure your child is ready for school, California law requires that children have a dental check-up by May 31 in either kindergarten or first grade, whichever is their first year in public school.



Why is it important?

Poor oral health can affect a child's attendance, grades and overall performance in school. The KOHA helps ensure children are healthy and ready for a successful school year.

KOHA Data School Year 21/22

Yes for Caries Experience



No. of Students Screened 6,162

Visible Decay Present

22%

Visible decay is weakened tooth enamel leaving a hole in the surface of the tooth.

Carles experience is visible decay and/or fillings present.

> Needed Urgent Care

6%

Source: 2021-2022 RC-OHP KOHA DATA

School Readiness facts

Children who have poor oral health often miss more school and receive lower grades than children who don't.

Children with cavities may also have difficulty eating, talking, and concentrating in school.

Establishing good oral health habits in childhood helps create a lifetime of healthy smiles.

Source: 2021 Smile, California

You Can Make A Difference By Promoting KOHA

Promote the importance of the registration form that will be distributed to caregivers when they register their child for school.

Encourage caregivers to visit or find a dental home.

Remind caregivers to take their child for a dental check-up by May 31st.

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