**Advice:** Please note that this document acts as a guide only. Wording, tone, and content should be adapted by the service in consultation with staff, stakeholders and service users. Some of the policy may take time to implement, so you may like to add a timeline with your final policy. Remember to add a review date – ideally this should be no longer than 24 months.

Oral Health Policy for [Service Name]

# Statement of Intent

We are committed to promoting good oral health as part of our wider mission to support the wellbeing of children, families, and the community. This policy outlines how our service will support oral health awareness and education through accessible, inclusive, and engaging approaches.

# 1. Oral Health Promotion

## 1.1 In-Service Promotion

- Oral health messages will be embedded in our daily activities, displays, and events.
- Staff will model and promote positive oral health behaviours.
- Resources such as books, posters, and interactive materials will be available to support learning.

## 1.2 Family and Community Engagement

- Families will be signposted to oral health resources and local dental services.
- We will host or promote oral health workshops, drop-ins, or themed events.
- Information on sugar reduction, brushing routines, and dental visits will be shared through newsletters, social media, and noticeboards.

# 2. General Procedures

## 2.1 Local Oral Health Schemes

We will collaborate with local health teams to support oral health improvement initiatives.

## 2.2 Healthy Eating

- We encourage healthy snacks and drinks during events and discourage sugary items.
- Staff will model healthy choices and provide guidance to families.

## 2.3 Dental Appointments

Families will be supported in attending dental appointments and encouraged to register with a dentist.

## 2.4 Safeguarding

Concerns about dental neglect will be addressed in line with our safeguarding policy.

## 2.5 Staff Training

Staff will receive basic training in oral health promotion and know how to access further support or refer families.

# 3. Resources

- Delivering Better Oral Health Toolkit: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/delivering-better-oral-health-an-evidence-based-toolkit-for-prevention
- Better Health North Somerset – Oral Health: https://www.betterhealthns.co.uk/professionals/oral-health

Policy Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Review Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_