

13th November, 2024

Mr. Thomas Gould, T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 45718/24

"To ask the Minister for Health the number of children currently awaiting their school-age dental appointments, by waiting time, in Cork, by LHO, in tabular form".

Dear Deputy Gould,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The HSE Primary Care Dental Service provides dental treatment to eligible children, adults and children with special care needs and others in the care of the HSE at various locations throughout Cork and Kerry. Children under 16 years of age and special care needs patients are treated in HSE dental clinics. Adult medical card holders are treated by private dental practitioners contracted to operate the Dental Treatment Services Scheme (DTSS).

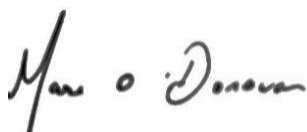
The HSE Dental Service operates a school screening programme and is currently targeting pupils in 6th and 2nd classes this academic year (September 2024 – September 2025). To date we have only collected the number of children in 6th classes. We will likely not commence collecting the numbers for 2nd class until January 2025.

The total number of 6th class children for school screening is as follows:

Area	Total Number of 6th Class Children for School Screening
North Cork	1659
North Lee	3260
South Lee	2242
West Cork	738

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Mari O'Donovan
Interim Head of Service - Primary Care,
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare

