

## **British Society of Paediatric Dentistry Mission Statement and Strategy (2023-26)**

### **Background**

BSPD is a charity which advocates for high-quality and accessible oral health care for children and young people from birth to sixteen in the United Kingdom. We work to improve health outcomes, experience and standards of care in all settings, by engaging with the dental profession, political decision makers and other special interest groups. We aim to ensure the voice of the child and young person is heard to achieve optimum children's oral health and improve general health and well-being.

### **Mission statement**

To advocate for improvements in paediatric oral health and support the development and delivery of high quality, accessible oral health care for all children and young people in the United Kingdom.

### **Strategy**

The Society will focus on the following domains:

- 1. Upholding the overall wellbeing of children as our overarching concern.**
- 2. Providing oral health advice and information for children, young people and families.**
- 3. Promoting and ensuring a preventive philosophy.**
- 4. Contributing to the work of policy and decision makers and collaborating with other stakeholders to advocate for oral health.**
- 5. Supporting the development of all members of the dental team.**
- 6. Supporting the development and dissemination of evidence and advice to professionals.**
- 7. Developing the Society to provide added value to members and to strengthen advocacy for Paediatric Dentistry.**

#### **1. Upholding the overall wellbeing of children as our overarching concern by:**

- a. Encouraging good safeguarding practice in dentistry through support of training and research.
- b. Working with the dental profession and external stakeholders to raise awareness of dental neglect.
- c. Continuing to campaign for a reduction in oral health inequalities.
- d. Considering children's rights and best interests in all of the Society's work, including amplifying their voice and expanding their participation.

#### **2. Providing oral health advice and information for children, young people and families by:**

- a. Developing high quality evidence-based resources for patients and carers.
- b. Ensuring that all resources we develop, disseminate or signpost are child-friendly, inclusive and accessible.
- c. Encouraging the involvement of children in co-design and co-production.

### **3. Promoting and ensuring a preventive philosophy by:**

- a. Developing and informing prevention-based oral health initiatives.
- b. Promoting targeted measures to address oral health inequalities in children and young people.
- c. Raising awareness of the need for improving children's oral health through collaborative working with other health care agencies and community-based programmes.

### **4. Contributing to the work of policy and decision makers and collaborating with other stakeholders to advocate for oral health by:**

- a. Continuing to engage at the highest levels in the reconfiguration and transformation of dental services.
- b. Supporting delivery of oral health improvement initiatives to give every child the best start in life.
- c. Working with health and social care professional bodies to increase the awareness of oral health as being integral to general health.
- d. Supporting the development of transition pathways from paediatric to adult oral health care services.
- e. Campaigning for a Specialist and Consultant workforce to meet current and future needs of our population.

### **5. Supporting the development of all members of the dental team by:**

- a. Contributing to national guidelines and curricula which define skill sets and training.
- b. Supporting teaching, training, and continuing development to maintain, and further develop, a high quality and effective workforce and leadership.
- c. Delivering a programme of continuing professional development via the scientific conferences, branch meetings and other events.
- d. Supporting the development of research skills.
- e. Championing diversity and inclusion of all who wish to work in Paediatric Dentistry.

### **6. Supporting the development and dissemination of evidence and advice to professionals by:**

- a. Initiating and supporting national quality improvement projects.
- b. Supporting the development of, and signposting to, evidence-based clinical guidelines.
- c. Promoting national and international collaborative research to help secure the evidence-base for all aspects of children's and young people's oral health.
- d. Promoting the involvement of children, young people and families in the development of research, guidelines and resources.
- e. Campaigning for the continuance of high-quality national surveys relating to children's oral health.

### **7. Developing the Society to provide added value to members and to strengthen advocacy for Paediatric Dentistry by:**

- a. Ensuring that the dental profession is aware of BSPD and its purpose, and that those who are committed to working in the field understand the benefits of membership.
- b. Communicating key messages to ensure Paediatric Dentistry is represented and known to diverse audiences, including the general public and professionals working with children and young people.
- c. Delivering an Annual Scientific Conference which showcases the work of BSPD and its members and fosters partnerships with industry.
- d. Building an inclusive Society by recognising the diversity of BSPD's membership and demonstrating commitment to equality for all members.