

In order to promote good oral health for children with intellectual disability, the Oral Health Education Unit of the Department of Health is conducting the 'Dandelion Oral Care Action' Oral Health Promotion Programme. To achieve the objective, we collaborate with schools and parents to take care of the oral health of this group of children, and teach them the correct toothbrushing and flossing techniques. We expect that the children can be able to clean their own teeth well and maintain healthy teeth and gum when they leave school.

We have designed a systematic toothbrushing procedure according to the children's learning ability so that they can acquire the correct skills and techniques gradually through different stages. Children have to learn systematically and take a longer time for practice. School plays an important role in their learning process. First of all, we will train nurses and teachers to become Oral Health Trainers. The Oral Health Trainers will then train other teachers how to apply the systematic toothbrushing procedure. According to the learning ability of a child, the teachers will teach him/her the toothbrushing procedure section by section.

Moreover, parents play an important role in helping the children to completely manage this systematic toothbrushing procedure by teaching them at home. The Oral Health Trainers will also teach the parents this systematic toothbrushing procedure. Therefore, the teachers at school and the parents at home will adopt the identical method to teach the children.

We expect that this systematic toothbrushing procedure will be adopted in the 'self-care' curriculum. Thus, the teachers will teach the children how to master the toothbrushing technique.