

Dental Foundation Nursing Induction Day

Supporting Early Years Dentists in Practice

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Overview

- 10.00–11.00 Understanding the Early Years Dentist and their needs
- 11.00- 11.15 Coffee
- 11.15–12.30 Development of Competence and Building an Effective Clinical Relationship
- 12.30- 12.45 Questions & Close

Aim

To prepare dental nurses to support Early Years dentists (EYDs) in delivering safe, effective, person-centred care within the EYDT curriculum and promote effective team working in the learning environment.

Objectives

By the end of this session, you should be able to:

- Understand the EYDT programme structure, outcomes and EPAs.
- Recognise what an Early Years dentist can safely do at different levels of entrustment.
- Provide effective chairside and organisational support that enhances patient safety.
- Support EYDs in developing clinical, communication, professionalism and leadership skills.
- Identify challenges faced by EYDs and respond constructively as part of the wider dental team

Learning Content

This training will help dental nurses:

- Understand the EYDT curriculum and how EYDs progress.
 - Appreciate the challenges of transitioning from student to independent practitioner.
 - Support EYDs in developing competence across the **four EYDT domains**:
 - *Clinical, Communication, Professionalism, Management & Leadership*
 - Reduce risk factors for patients and the practice by supporting safe learning environments.
Contribute to EYDT assessment processes (e.g., MSF, DENTL).
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- GDC Outcomes A,B,C & D

Learning Outcomes

- Dental nurses completing this induction should be able to:
- Recognise the characteristics of an Early Years dentist at different entrustment levels.
- Deliver effective chairside support aligned with EYDT outcomes.
- Describe qualities that support a successful clinical relationship.
- Identify barriers to teamwork and strategies to overcome them.
- Understand how teamwork contributes to patient safety and EPA progression.

Why Am I Here?



Activity 1

- **Discussion:**
- What does an Early Years dentist look like in the first 6 weeks?
- Choose one example and discuss how you would support them:
- Communication
- Clinical skills
- Professionalism
- Attitude
- Patient safety
- Time management

In the 1st six weeks I would expect the average FD to independently carry out ?

First 6 Weeks: What Is Reasonable?

In the Early Stage Review (around 2 months), EYDs must demonstrate **basic technical safety**, not speed.

- Examples of appropriate early tasks:
- Fissure sealants
- Simple periodontal care
- Simple restorations
- Uncomplicated extractions
- First stage RCT on single-rooted teeth

What Is a SAFE BEGINNER in EYDT?

Is NOT a slow associate.

Works with **direct or reactive supervision**.

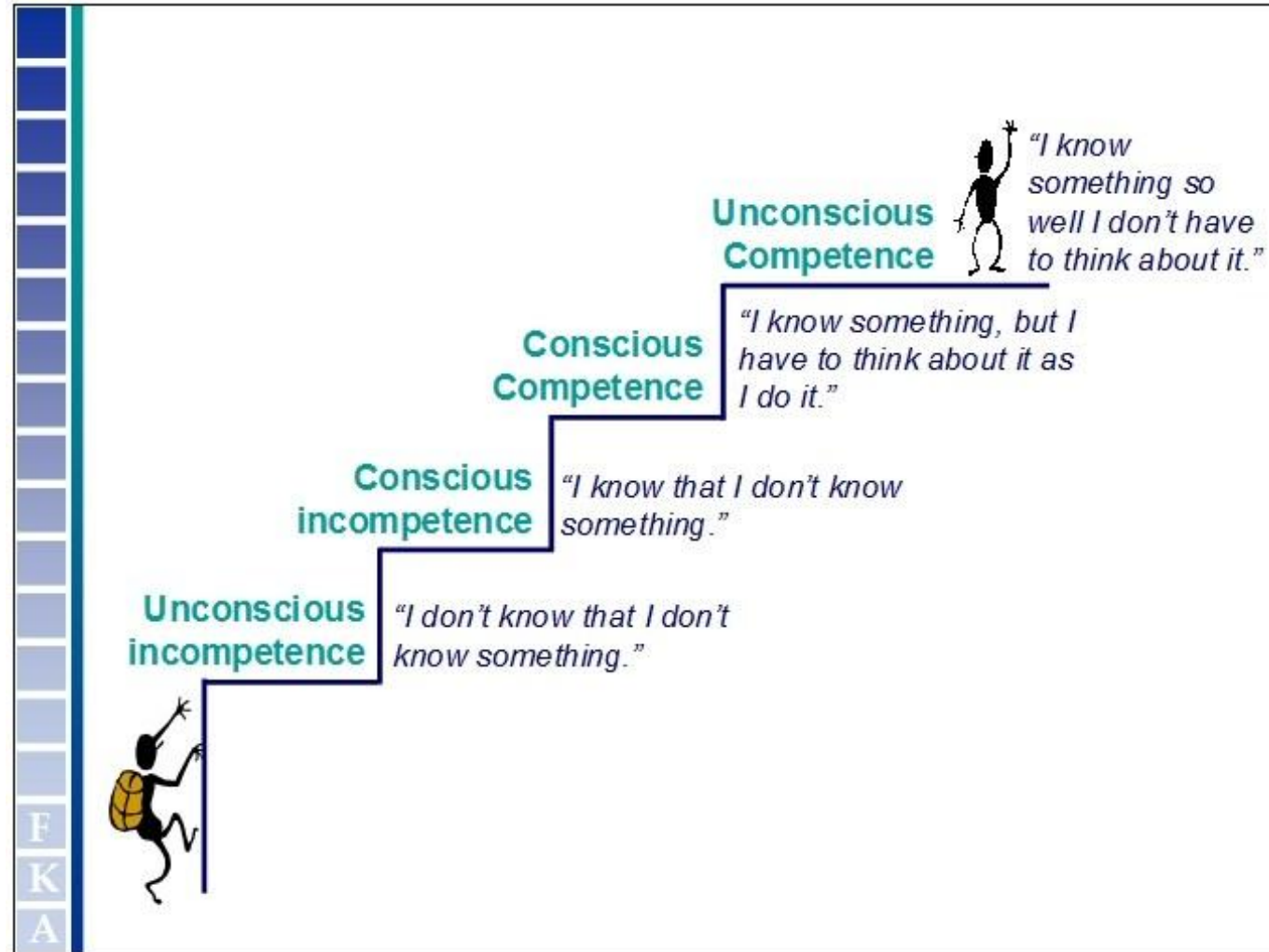
Has limited experience managing complexity.

Is still developing time management and decision-making.

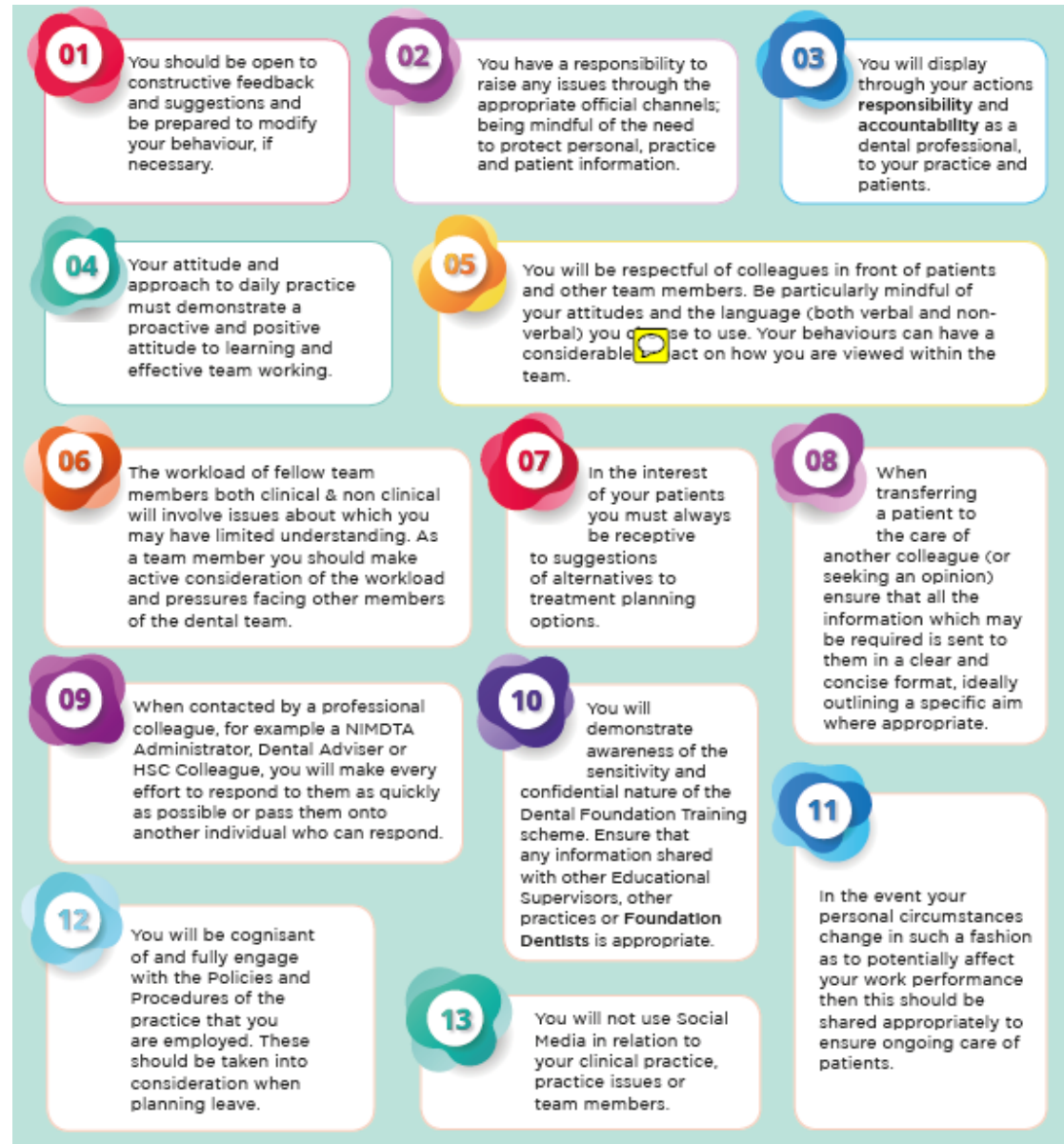
Is transitioning from “unconsciously incompetent” to reflective practitioner.

Requires a supportive team to progress toward EPA entrustment.

COMPETENCY



As a FD in the NI scheme it is expected and agreed that:



Dental Nurses need to:

Give

- give guidance in a tactful manner

Be

- be supportive and encouraging.

Assist

- assist the FD with guidance on NHS regulations

Ready

- ready to consult and confer with E.S about the FD's progress.

Be

- be able to approach E.S on the FD's behalf if necessary

Time Management



EYDs must learn to:

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- Prioritise tasks.
 - Manage time and resources effectively (Outcome 26).
 - Plan treatment logically.
 - Work safely even when slow.

Keeping the Trainee to Time

How dental nurses help:

Prompting time awareness.

Helping structure appointments.

Suggest appropriate follow-up appointments.

Encouraging realistic scheduling.

Recommend second opinions when needed.

Support decision-making without rushing.

Encourage quadrant dentistry.

Appointments

EYDs should be lightly booked initially.

Appointment length must match entrustment level.

Complexity should be appropriate to stage.

Discuss equipment needs at the start of each session.

Ensure trainer availability for complex cases.

Support EYDs in planning denture/crown shade selection

References

- EYDT Curriculum (COPDEND, 2024)
- GDC Standards for the Dental Team
- Blue Guide (Dental Foundation Training)
- Interprofessional Teamworking Modules
- Francis Inquiry – Patient Safety Lessons

Coffee and Questions

