**Dental Hygiene Policy (September 2025)**

**WITHOUT – Teeth Brushing in setting**

**Policy Statement:** At Little Acorns preschool, we prioritise children's oral health by fostering good dental hygiene awareness and education. While tooth brushing does not take place on-site, we strongly encourage and support toothbrushing at home both before and after attendance.

**Home Toothbrushing Routine:**

* Parents are encouraged to ensure their children brush their teeth thoroughly using age-appropriate fluoride toothpaste before arriving and after leaving our setting.

**Parental Responsibility:**

* Parents or legal guardians are responsible for their child's toothbrushing routine and are encouraged to maintain regular dental check-ups and professional dental advice.

**Oral Health Education:**

* We provide age-appropriate oral health education to children, emphasizing the importance of dental hygiene, healthy eating habits, and regular toothbrushing at home.

**Healthy Snacks and Drinks:**

* Nutritious snacks and drinks promoting good oral health are provided daily.
* Sugary snacks and beverages are limited aligning with healthy lifestyle guidelines.

**Water Availability:**

* Fresh drinking water is available to children throughout the day, promoting hydration and aiding in oral hygiene after meals and snacks.

**Emergency Dental Care:**

* Parents are promptly notified in case of dental emergencies, and immediate first aid is administered as necessary.

**Review and Monitoring:**

* This policy is reviewed annually or as necessary, ensuring compliance with EYFS and local regulatory updates.

**Alignment with EYFS 2025 Changes:**

* The policy incorporates EYFS 2025 revisions, prioritising holistic child development through comprehensive oral health education and awareness.

Signed: Chairperson  
Date: September 2025