



Patient / Orthodontist Partnership Contract

This is a standard patient / orthodontist partnership contract given to all patients undertaking orthodontic treatment at Guinea Court Dental Surgery. It is to promote the successful outcome of your treatment.

The patient's commitment

Iwish to undertake orthodontic treatment at Guinea Court Dental Surgery. My treatment has been discussed with me by my orthodontist. I have read and understood the enclosed British Orthodontic Society leaflet on "What are the risks?" I understand that I will be given a separate NHS written orthodontic treatment plan.

Once the braces have been fitted, I understand that I will need to attend on a regular basis, normally every 6-8 weeks for adjustments.

I will need to maintain a good standard of oral hygiene, keeping my braces and teeth clean and follow the advice of the orthodontist and staff. If my cleaning does not reach the acceptable standard I understand that my teeth can be permanently marked and that the orthodontist may suggest that my braces are removed early and my treatment discontinued. I am aware that I have to avoid sticky or hard foods. If my fixed braces become broken repeatedly, I understand that my orthodontist may be forced to terminate my treatment.

I understand that I will need to attend the appointments on time and on the correct day. If I am late, the orthodontist may be unable to see me. This is because it can lead to the orthodontist's treatment session run late and inconvenience subsequent patients scheduled to attend after my appointment. If I miss my appointment or cancel without giving 2 hours notice I will be offered the next available appointment 6 weeks after the date of my failed / late cancellation appointment. Should this happen on 2 occasions on the recommendation of the primary care trust treatment may be terminated prematurely.

There is a charge for lost retainers and removable braces. The current NHS charge is £65.70 per appliance.

At the end of active treatment the orthodontist will remove the braces and fit retainers. If these are removable they need to be worn in accordance with the instructions. I understand that once the braces are removed, the responsibility for the future position of the teeth depends on my wearing the retainers for long enough. I understand that the practice will supervise retention for a period of 1 year only. At the end of this period, my treatment will be officially complete. There will be a charge for any further appointments and the

replacement of removable retainers and the replacement or repair of fixed retainers. Fixed retainers are guaranteed for 1 year. However, I understand that my teeth may always try to move throughout life due to further growth and development and that I am strongly recommended to continue with part-time wear of the retainers on a long-term basis. The orthodontist cannot be responsible for any movement of the teeth after I have chosen to stop wearing the retainers.

If I contact the practice subsequent to ceasing wearing the retainers, with the problem that my teeth have moved out of alignment, I realise that any further treatment may involve the use of fixed braces, and that it is unlikely that this will be available on the NHS. There will also be a charge for the review appointment. If a fixed retainer is used, this can stay in position for several years. If I return after being discharged to have this (or any other type of retainer) repaired or removed, there will be a charge.

The orthodontist's commitment

The orthodontist will explain the treatment as fully as possible and make sure you understand the treatment options. You will be given a copy of the treatment plan.

The orthodontist will endeavour to see you on time for each appointment. If a clinic is running late, this is probably due to circumstances beyond the control of the orthodontist. If your brace breaks please contact us during surgery hours. If necessary you will be offered an appointment as soon as possible. If your orthodontist is unavailable you may be seen by another dentist. For an emergency appointment, the orthodontist may remove any discomfort only and a full repair may have to wait till your scheduled appointment.

For a course of treatment, we can only provide a maximum of:

- 3 repairs to a fixed appliance
- 2 repairs to an active removable appliance
- 1 repair to a retainer (within the 12 month period after receiving the retainer)
- Appliances broken beyond repair or lost may be replaced at a charge of £65.70 per appliance

Excessive number of breakages means that treatment will be ineffective and prolonged, and the orthodontist may be forced to remove the appliance prematurely.

I the patient / parent / guardian
of..... hereby consent to the above
name patient undergoing the proposed orthodontic treatment.

Signed: patient / parent / guardian
Date :

If you have any further queries please contact the surgery: Tel. 01256 840141