

Bristol Dental Hospital opens newly refurbished facilities



Matthew Jerreat cutting the ribbon for the Oral Medicine Department, with dental hospital staff

Bristol Dental Hospital (BDH) has opened their newly refurbished Oral Medicine Department and specialist children and young person surgical theatre.

The new improvements to the Oral Medicine Department, which includes additional consulting rooms, privacy screens and new flooring, have further improved the privacy for patients while they are receiving care at the hospital.

The children's and young person surgical theatre provides care for routine extractions, surgical extractions and comprehensive care for children with

complex dental needs. The enhancements will further improve the experience of patients, with larger recovery bays creating a better recovery environment.

The updated design incorporates artwork that was generously funded by Bristol & Weston Hospitals Charity and Glastonbury Festivals.

During the last financial year, BDH treated 2,068 children in the theatre suite and 5,400 patients in the Oral Medicine Department. Every year, BDH undertakes over 60,000 outpatient appointments. The Oral Medicine service at BDH is the only tertiary service in

the Southwest, meaning the hospital offers the most complex and specialist dental care in the region.

As a specialist centre, BDH also offers specialist training for highly qualified dental doctors (specialty registrar level), to diagnose and manage complex conditions affecting the muscles, bones, and nerves of the face, jaw, and mouth.

BDH is one of the 13 hospitals run by the newly merged Bristol NHS Foundation Trust and has been supporting people of Bristol and the wider Southwest since 1939, developing a national reputation for postgraduate training and academic contributions.

Matthew Jerreat, Chief Dental Officer for NHS England Southwest, opened the new and improved spaces, and met with the team to understand how the investment will improve patient care, clinical facilities and improve our training environment.

Matthew Jerreat said: 'The refurbished facilities will enhance the experience of all patients, while giving highly skilled staff and future dental trainees an excellent environment to work in. I'm excited to see how the regional dental office, working with consultant colleagues, can support the wider oral medicine services across the region.'

British Fluoridation Society launches student video competition

The British Fluoridation Society (BFS) is inviting dental and oral health students across the UK to enter a new video competition highlighting the benefits of community water fluoridation.

The BFS Student Video Challenge, which opens on 1 September 2026, aims to encourage students to communicate the evidence supporting community water fluoridation and its role in improving oral health and reducing inequalities.

Students studying dentistry, dental hygiene and therapy, dental nursing and other recognised oral health programmes at UK dental schools and training institutions are eligible to enter. Entries may be submitted



individually or in teams of up to four students, with the support of a designated academic or staff contact.

Participants are asked to produce a 30–90 second video suitable for social media platforms. Entries should be engaging, ►►

accessible and based on robust scientific evidence, using recognised sources such as the BFS, The UK Fluoridation Evidence Base and Information Centre, UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), NHS and the World Health Organization (WHO).

The winning entry will receive £500, with two runners-up prizes of £250. Winning videos will be shared through the Society's digital channels.

Barry Cockcroft, Chair of the British Fluoridation Society, said: 'Dental professionals are increasingly expected to

communicate evidence clearly, both with patients and with the wider public. This competition gives students an opportunity to develop those skills while promoting one of the most effective population-level measures for preventing dental decay.'

Artificial intelligence (AI) may be used to support elements of production, including scripting or visual effects, but the Society says entries should primarily feature original student-created content and human presenters. Any use of AI must be declared.

Entries will be assessed by a panel of BFS judges against four criteria: scientific accuracy, creativity and impact, clarity of message, and relevance to the theme, with each carrying equal weighting.

The competition closes on 31 December 2026. Judging will take place in January 2027, with the winners announced in February 2027.

Further information is available from the BFS at info@bfsweb.org. View the official competition launch video at <https://bit.ly/4fBjTuu>.

Liverpool's Barry Quinn contributes to ABENO's 70th anniversary meeting in Brazil

Professor Barry F. A. Quinn, from the University of Liverpool School of Dentistry, was among the international speakers invited to the 61st Annual Meeting of the Brazilian Association for Dental Education (ABENO), held from 30 June to 3 July 2026 at the Federal University of Ceará (UFC) – Pici Campus, Fortaleza, Brazil. The landmark event marked the 70th anniversary of ABENO and brought together dental educators, researchers, students and academic leaders from across Brazil and beyond.

Held under the theme 'Memories, Transformations and the Future of Dental Education', the conference provided an opportunity to reflect on seven decades of progress in dental education while exploring emerging challenges and opportunities for the profession. The scientific programme featured keynote lectures, round-table discussions, workshops, student engagement activities and presentations of educational research and innovation.

Professor Quinn's participation highlighted the growing international collaboration between dental education communities in the UK and Latin America. His presentation contributed to discussions on the future direction of dental education, at a meeting that placed particular emphasis on innovation, educational quality, curriculum development and the preparation of future generations of



From left to right: Professor Paulo Henrique Braz da Silva (USP), Professor Marco Antonio Dias da Silva (UFSC), Professor Daniela Lemos Carcereri, President of ABENO (UFSC), Professor Barry F. A. Quinn, University of Liverpool, Professor Ana Estela Haddad (USP) and Professor Samuel Jorge Moyses (UFPR)

dental professionals. International speakers and researchers formed an important part of the programme, reflecting ABENO's commitment to global perspectives and collaborative networks in dental education.

Celebrating its 70-year history, ABENO used the event to recognise the contribution of generations of educators who have shaped dental education in Brazil since the organisation's foundation in 1956. Organisers described the anniversary meeting as both a celebration of past achievements and a platform for developing new approaches to excellence,

inclusion and innovation in dental training.

The conference attracted around 1,000 participants from universities, healthcare organisations and professional bodies, reinforcing its position as one of the most significant dental education meetings in South America. Professor Quinn's invitation to speak reflects the international standing of UK dental education and the continuing importance of global partnerships in advancing teaching, research and scholarship across the profession.