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Welcome!

We are delighted to welcome you to our practice and are pleased that you chose us to serve your child's dental needs. Parents play a vital role in helping their children develop a positive attitude toward dental care. We feel that we are partners with parents in this process.

One of the first steps to having a good visit is appropriate scheduling for the visit. We purposely keep our mornings light so that we have more time to spend creating a comfortable experience for younger children. Both the child and the staff are fresh and able to establish a rapport. Our afternoons can be extremely busy so these times tend to be more focused on the procedure and are only appropriate for older children who are more comfortable with the process.

We have found through years of experience that though parents' intentions are good, except in extremely unusual circumstances it is not helpful to have the parents accompany their children into the treatment area. There are 3 main reasons for this:

1. The parents project their own fears onto the child and may cause unnecessary anxiety in their child.
2. The child thinks the parent must be there because the situation is too scary or difficult for the child to handle alone.
3. In order to provide the care your child needs, the dentist must have your child's undivided attention. We have experience in using techniques and phrases that explain procedures to your child without adding to anxiety. Your child may become confused when too many adults are trying to vie for their attention, even with well-meant advice.

It is important to realize that developing a positive attitude toward dental care is a process. Most children do very well from the first visit while others take some time. As long as we continue to treat them in a kind and supportive manner, they will continue to grow in self-confidence and trust.

We are looking forward to a long partnership with you and should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call. We are serious about providing superior dental care and we are proud of our dedication to our patients. Our goal is to help you feel and look your best through excellent dental and orthodontic care. We look forward to seeing you on a regular basis.

If you are ever unable to make an appointment you have scheduled with us, please notify us at least 24 hours in advance. We would be glad to reschedule the appointment for a more convenient time if necessary. In the meantime, we look forward to meeting you and serving your needs.

Sincerely,

Shelby J. Smith, DDS, MS, PC