



PEDIATRIC DENTISTS

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Weaver and Stratton Pediatric Dentistry and Orthodontics is committed to the health and safety of our patients and parents, our team members, and the North Florida community. In response to the current Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic Governor DeSantis has mandated all non-essential dental procedures to be postponed. Due to this mandate, and at the recommendation of the American Dental Association, **we will be postponing and rescheduling all non-essential dental appointments until further notice.** Our practice is legally and ethically bound by this mandate to ensure we are not promoting community spread of the virus but also to help protect the incredibly important supply of personal protective equipment that is needed in the hospitals. We will return to regular practice operations as soon as it is safe and allowed by Governor DeSantis.

During this time, we will have a very limited team available each day to treat our patients who are experiencing dental emergencies, as well as treatment of our patients experiencing dental pain and infection. We will also have a very limited team available each day in the office, or working remotely, to schedule and reschedule appointments.

Our patients currently in orthodontic treatment will only be affected by a possible extension of the overall treatment time of a few weeks. Patients remaining in their braces and aligners for this extended time is perfectly safe. Your child's teeth will not move at this time, but rather stay in place until their next adjustment when we are allowed to return. Dr. Mazzuocolo will be reviewing all of her patient's charts at this time and will reach out to you if there are specific instructions to give to her patients. If she does not reach out to you directly, please just make sure your child continues brushing, flossing and wearing their elastics and retainers as prescribed.

If your child has an appointment during this time of mandated closure, our team will be reaching out to you to reschedule. Contacting all of our patients' families to reschedule these appointments is a very large task, and we thank you in advance for your patience with our dedicated team as we reach out to you to reschedule these appointments. If you have any questions, please feel free to give us a call at 904-264-5437 or send us an e-mail to info@264kids.com. Both will be monitored Monday through Friday from 8:00am – 3:00pm.

The American Dental Association has defined what constitutes a dental emergency during this mandate. Our team is aware of these requirements and will evaluate your child's dental needs over the phone via text and pictures to determine if their needs require an office visit.

If your child is going to be treated in our office during this period of time because he or she is experiencing a dental emergency or is being treated for essential dental treatment, we ask the following of our patients and their parents. If you have been in direct contact with someone who could have potentially been exposed to or experienced any of the symptoms below or have not been practicing social distancing in the last week, we ask that you give our practice a call or send an e-mail (info@264kids.com) and reschedule your appointment.

- *Symptoms of the Coronavirus are similar to the cold or flu and can take up to 14 days to appear after exposure to the virus. Mild symptoms may include: fever, headache, runny nose and sneezing, cough and sore throat, difficulty breathing, muscle pain and weakness, chills and fatigue.*

Likewise, any of our team members who have the symptoms listed above or have been exposed to anyone who has, will be staying home and not at work.

If our practice's plans and response change, we will certainly communicate that by e-mail, website, (www.264kids.com) phone, or Facebook right away. (facebook.com/264kids) As always, feel free to give us a call with any questions.

Gerald K. Weaver, D.M.D.