

Date: June 2020

FAO Headteacher Blackpool Gateway Academy Seymour Road Blackpool FY1 6JH

Dr Arif Rajpura
Director of Public Health

Email: publichealth@blackpool.gov.uk

FAO HEAD TEACHERS
Re: FLUORIDE IN MILK SCHEME

Dear Sir / Madam,

This autumn term will be the 5<sup>th</sup> year of the Fluoride in Milk Scheme, and in this respect we enclose the Fluoridated Milk Information leaflets and opt out form for parents. These should be distributed to parents of children entering Year 1, who will be eligible for the scheme.

Blackpool has recently seen a significant reduction in the level of tooth decay in 5 year olds. This is excellent news, and we believe it is a result of ongoing interventions that improve oral health, including the Fluoridated milk scheme. We hope that you will continue to support and endorse this evidence based intervention with parents and carers, and of course encourage the children to drink the milk.

Many schools in Blackpool have fluoridated milk take up rates of over 50 %. This is excellent take up of the scheme, which means that children are benefitting from the protection that fluoride provides, in terms of its role in maintaining tooth mineralisation and reduction in tooth decay.

## **INFORMATION FOR PARENTS**

As we are keen to help you keep parents informed, we have published some information on the scheme on our website at <a href="www.blackpool.gov.uk/fluoride">www.blackpool.gov.uk/fluoride</a>. It would be helpful if you could share this information with parents, perhaps through your school newsletters, and inform them that a leaflet will be made available in May, containing detail on the benefits of the scheme and how they can opt out.

Please direct any queries on fluoridated milk to publichealth@blackpool.gov.uk

Regards, **Dr Arif Rajpura**Director of Public Health

