



LARS CHRISTENSEN ORTHODONTICS

Spring 2018 Newsletter

Feedback Questionnaires

At the end of your active orthodontic treatment, a feedback questionnaire is forwarded to you for completion as we're keen to hear your comments as to the level of service you've received whilst you've been under our care, so please do return them in the envelope provided. If you have already, many thanks! – we often share your comments at our Staff Meetings.

E-Billing – Sundry Items

We very rarely issue invoices for outstanding ledger items under £10 due to the postage, time and paperwork involved. However, this can result in unpaid charges remaining unsettled for many months, especially if some of our younger patients attend unaccompanied. Whilst individually these appear to be small amounts, collectively they do begin to accumulate. We have therefore introduced e-billing to notify patients of any outstanding charges, so look out for your email or maybe ask at Reception today to see if you have any charges outstanding?

"The thingy came off my whatsit"

When you have a problem with your brace, we appreciate it can be difficult relaying the actual issue when calling in to schedule an emergency visit, especially if it is a third party calling on the patient's behalf, so we've put together this little guide that we hope you may find helpful.

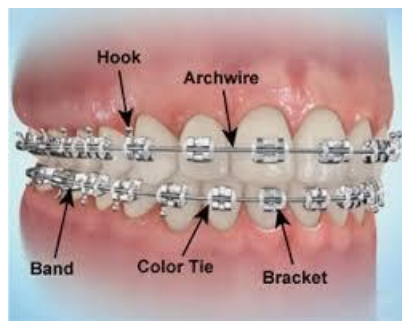
Fixed Braces ("Railway Tracks")

These are fixed braces fitted to the outside of your teeth using 'brackets' that are temporarily glued to your teeth so that an 'archwire' can be attached. The archwire is

using gentle forces to align your teeth to their desired position. The archwire is held in place by a 'coloured tie/module'.

Top Tip! – The initial archwires are heat-activated, so if it proves a little uncomfortable after your adjustment visit – treat yourself to an ice cold glass of water – this will help the wire 'relax' and ease your discomfort!

You may also have 'hooks' attached so that small elastic bands can also be fitted and you may have 'molar bands' on the back teeth.



Lingual Braces (Incognito)

These braces are fitted to the inside of your teeth. The principles are the same, ie using 'brackets' fitted to the teeth along with 'archwires', they're just a bit fancier. If you lose a bracket from a lingual appliance we will need to order a new one.



Retainers

Once your fixed braces are removed you will be given retainers to wear to hold the teeth in their beautifully aligned position. It may

be a Hawley type retainer, clear retainer, fixed bonded retainer (a small thin wire fixed to the back of your upper/lower teeth or both) or a combination of any of the above. Wearing retainers is as important as the active phase of your treatment so please wear as instructed to keep that beautiful smile!



Aligners

Whilst these look the same as 'clear retainers', 'Aligners' are actively aligning your teeth. You may have heard of Invisalign;



You wear a series of aligners changing every week to gently align the teeth or we may provide our own in-house aligners for minor alignment or refinement at the end of treatment.

Now you'll sound like a pro!