



Office of the Head of Primary Care  
Services  
Community Health Organisation  
Midlands Louth Meath

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13<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Deputy Brian Stanley  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

**Re PQ 28463/25**  
**To ask the Minister for Health to clarify during which class school children in Laois are getting their first dental examination appointments; and if she will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Stanley

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and outlined the position as follows.

The HSE Public Dental Service in Laois is currently calling children who were in 6<sup>th</sup> class in 2020-2021 for their 6<sup>th</sup> class examination and routine treatment, including orthodontic assessment. Please see below the table of 6<sup>th</sup> class waiting list figures correct as of 27/05/2025.

Since July 2024 the dental service in Portlaoise has run two extra evening sessions per week using HSE staff to reduce the 6<sup>th</sup> class waiting list. To date, 246 children have had their 6<sup>th</sup> class assessments and treatment completed under this additional scheme.

School Year	Total	Number seen	Remaining
2020-2021	1639	904	735
2021-2022	1520	0	1520
2022-2023	1504	0	1504
2023-2024	1519	0	1440
2024-2025	1234	0	1234

I trust the above is in order but please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.



Yours sincerely,

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Joseph Ruane  
Head of Primary Care Services  
Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation