



Mari O'Donovan,
Interim Head of Service,
Cúram Priomhúil
FSS an Iardheiscirt

Áras na Ceachan,
Páirc Ghnó agus Teicneolaíochta,
Bóthar na Modh Feirme,
Corcaigh. T12 XHT4

Mari O'Donovan,
Interim Head of Service,
Primary Care
HSE South West

Caha House,
Business and Technology Park,
Model Farm Road,
Cork. T12 XHT4

southwest.hse.ie
E: Mari.ODonovan@hse.ie

24th October, 2025

Mr. Pa Daly, T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ ref 55815/25

"To ask the Minister for Health the number of children awaiting dental appointments in Kerry, broken down by area and by length of time, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter."

Dear Deputy Daly,

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.

The HSE Primary Care Dental Service provides dental treatment to eligible children under 16 years of age. This includes:

- Emergency dental care for all children under 16, which is provided on a needs basis and for which no active waiting list applies;
- School dental service, with a focus on priority age groups i.e. children in second class and sixth class, as well as children with special needs; and
- Dental care under general anaesthesia, including treatment under general anaesthetic for children who require this form of care, which is delivered through acute hospital settings.

The only area within the HSE dental service where routine waiting lists are maintained relates to children awaiting dental treatment under general anaesthetic. In relation to the school dental service, the only data available relates to the number of children in the current 6th and 2nd class cohorts who have not yet been called for their scheduled school dental appointments. These figures represent outstanding screening appointments and do not constitute formal treatment waiting lists.

The table below provides a breakdown by area of the number of children in the 2024/2025 sixth class and second class cohorts who have yet to be called for their school dental appointment. The HSE continues to prioritise the provision of emergency dental care, care for children with additional needs, and school dental services within available resources

Area	2 nd Class Screening Appointments Outstanding	6 th Class Screening Appointments Outstanding
Killorglin & South Kerry	205	88
Killarney & East Kerry	503	333
Tralee PCC	845	150
Ardfert & North Kerry	241	210



If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mari O'Donovan
Interim Head of Service - Primary Care,
HSE South West