

What is Invisalign?

The Invisalign system is a virtually invisible way to straighten your teeth using a series of custom made, clear aligners.



The aligners work by placing controlled forces on your teeth in a timely manner. The tooth movements and forces are designed according to your unique needs and orthodontic prescription.

Invisalign is a recommended treatment to/for:

- ❖ Straighten, rotate and upright teeth for improved appearance and cleaning
- ❖ Correction of orthodontic relapse following previous brace treatment
- ❖ Moderate to severe crowding which can affect gum health, and tooth decay

Benefits of Invisalign



Properly positioned teeth are easier to keep clean and look much better than teeth that are crowded, crooked or spaced too far apart. With improved oral hygiene the chances of having plaque, tooth decay or gum disease are significantly reduced.

Unlike traditional orthodontic braces, Invisalign aligners are removable, virtually invisible and can fit seamlessly into your lifestyle.

Almost anyone who requires orthodontics can benefit from Invisalign and the average case takes around 12 - 18 months to complete.

What to Expect at your first visit

You will be given a full dental assessment to whether you are a suitable candidate for Invisalign treatment. By listening to your concerns, we can advise you on the appropriate treatments available to address these issues and give you the smile you want.

We need to check that your mouth is healthy, and has no cavities or active gum disease. We will also do a routine check for oral cancer.

One of our team members will be on hand to discuss the payment options and financing plans if applicable – we request a deposit of £100 should you wish to go ahead with the diagnostic stage of treatment. Once you are happy and understand the options and commitment involved, we will take the necessary diagnostic records; impressions, x-rays, and photographs.

What happens next?

After your records have been assessed and scanned, Invisalign will put together a 3D representation and treatment plan for Dr Haworth to review. This is a virtual prescription of the Invisalign therapy. It will determine exactly how many stages and therefore, how long your straightening treatment will take.

Our Invisalign co-ordinator will contact you to discuss this prescription and confirm the exact costings. Should you wish to continue in to the active phase of treatment; a minimum, payment of 50% will be required, together with a signed consent form. The final balance is then payable in full at the first aligner fit visit. Other terms are available and must be agreed prior to approval of the clincheck.

What happens during treatment?

Once your case has been accepted, the aligners will be shipped to the practice within approximately 3 weeks, and we will then call you to schedule an appointment to fit the first set.

Sometimes we will need to place composite attachments on your teeth, or create small spaces between certain teeth, as pre-designated in the prescription. These allow the aligners to do their job much better and enhance the final result. The composite attachments will be removed at the end of treatment. Neither the composite attachments, nor space creation will compromise the integrity or health of your teeth.

Each set of aligners should be worn for 1-2 weeks, all day, every day, except when eating, drinking or cleaning your teeth. Oral hygiene is of utmost importance for the long-term health of you and your mouth, and our hygiene team will show you the best way to maintain a healthy mouth. We advise that you also have a hygiene visit a minimum every six months at our practice.

You will need to schedule an appointment approximately every 8 – 10 weeks to collect the next stage of aligners, and for us to check the fit and monitor your progress.

Once active treatment has completed, we will assess the changes and tooth movement against the initial prescription. Sometimes final refinements are required to achieve a more defined result. Often teeth have worn on the edges so we can improve the final appearance with aesthetic bonding to improve the shape. If no further movement or refinement is required, new scans or impressions will be taken for retainer fabrication.

It is important to remember **Retention is for Life!** To maintain your healthy – Straight – smile, your retainers must be worn as advised by Dr Haworth, usually full time for the first 3 months then every night for at least 9-12 months. Long term wear of the retainer as many nights as possible will minimise the chances of relapse. At any time after treatment new retainers can be made (at additional cost) if required.

