

## Top tips to help you look after your teeth and brace

## Do...

- See your own dentist as recommended for checkups
- ✓ Brush your teeth twice a day for at least 2 minutes, always before bed and at one other time
- ✓ Use a Fluoride toothpaste
- Use a fluoride mouthwash at a different time to brushing
- ✓ Change your toothbrush every 3 months
- $\checkmark\,$  Cut up hard foods so they are easier to eat
- ✓ Take painkillers if needed, take what you normally take for a headache
- Use the orthodontic care kit as recommended by your dental care professional

## Don't...

- Wait until your next appointment if you have broken your brace, telephone us for advice
- Drink fizzy drinks including diet/fruit juices these are acidic and often high in sugars
- Eat sugary snacks
- Chew pen tops or finger nails as this will damage your brace
- Stop brushing if your gums bleed, you need to brush to make your gums healthy again
- Play contact sports without a gum shield

## REMEMBER TO WEAR YOUR RETAINERS AT THE END OF YOUR TREATMENT TO KEEP YOUR BEAUTIFUL SMILE