

## 'Making a Mark'

### Mark Holder Social Impact Declaration

## Peninsula Dental Social Enterprise

Peninsula Dental Social Enterprise (PDSE) brings together the Plymouth University Peninsula Schools of Medicine and Dentistry Dental Education Facilities and all its community activity under one umbrella.



We are committed to improving oral health across the South West through treatment, education, community and training. We are recognised nationally and internationally for our ground-breaking work in oral health. By leading the way, we can make a real difference to how dentists are trained and ensure improved oral health in our communities.

We offer access to free dental health care for all, with the majority of the patient treatments delivered by Dental School students, supported and supervised by qualified dentists and dental health professionals.

The Social Enterprise Mark criteria includes a requirement for all applicants and renewing Mark Holders to answer a set of social impact questions, which illustrate how they are striving to meet their social/environmental objectives. Below are examples of how **PDSE** is Making a Mark, striving to create a positive impact on people and planet.

### Tackling oral health inequalities

We run Dental Education Facilities across the Southwest, with clinics in Exeter, Truro and Plymouth. These are located in or close to areas of high deprivation and are intended to enable access to dental treatment

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for disadvantaged and socially marginalised or vulnerable people who frequently suffer poor oral health.

Both the school and the clinics were established to tackle oral health inequalities in the far Southwest, training dentists who may stay in the region once qualified, treating patients in the teaching clinics who may not otherwise have access to treatment, and providing and promoting oral health education in the communities served.

## Engaging with the local community

We have an active community engagement team, who work to build relationships with a range of community organisations and charities for vulnerable and disadvantaged people, in order to recruit and encourage patients to adopt positive healthy lifestyles.

We deliver a number of community programmes that focus on community prevention, community empowerment and health improvement, many of which have received national and international attention.

We work in partnership with the NHS, local authorities and health organisations to maximise the opportunities for community benefit and social impact. We share best practice and expertise across a number of extended networks and forums to promote the principles of social enterprise, community oral health improvement and providing dental care to those most in need.

## Creating social impact in local communities

All our patients benefit directly from free high-quality dental care, which is difficult to source in the NHS across Devon and Cornwall.

Communities benefit from our outreach and promotion work. Many thousands of children have benefitted from oral health education, free toothbrushes and toothpaste, and supervised tooth brushing in early year's settings and schools through the work of PDSE.

We have been shortlisted for a number of awards such as the Children and Young Persons Awards, Oral Health Awards and the Dental awards 2019.

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