

Longmont Braces Highlights Early Pediatric Treatment Planning for Optimal Dental Development

May 14, 2026

LONGMONT, CO - May 14, 2026 -
Longmont Braces emphasizes the importance of early orthodontic evaluations for children to identify and address developing alignment issues before they become more complex. The practice, led by Dr. Stephanie Ross and Dr. Aden Peterson, provides comprehensive pediatric orthodontic care designed to guide proper dental and jaw development during crucial growth phases.

Early orthodontic assessment allows practitioners to monitor children's dental development and determine the optimal timing for intervention when necessary. By evaluating young patients during their growth years, orthodontists can identify potential issues such as crowding, spacing problems, bite irregularities, and jaw discrepancies that may benefit from timely treatment.

"Early evaluation doesn't always mean immediate treatment, but it allows us to monitor growth patterns and intervene at the most advantageous time," said Dr. Stephanie Ross, orthodontist at Longmont Braces. "When we catch developing issues early, we can often guide the jaw's growth and create space for permanent teeth,

potentially reducing the complexity of future treatment or even eliminating the need for tooth extractions."

The American Association of Orthodontists recommends that children receive their first orthodontic evaluation by age seven, when adult teeth begin emerging alongside remaining baby teeth. This timing allows orthodontists to assess jaw growth patterns and tooth eruption sequences that may indicate future alignment challenges.

Pediatric orthodontic treatment often occurs in phases, with initial interventions focusing on creating proper spacing and guiding jaw development. These early treatments may include palatal expanders to widen narrow upper jaws, partial braces to correct specific alignment issues, or space maintainers to preserve room for permanent teeth. Such interventions can establish a foundation for healthier dental development and may simplify any necessary future treatment.

Parents should watch for signs that may indicate their child could benefit from orthodontic evaluation, including early or late loss of baby teeth, difficulty chewing or biting, mouth breathing, thumb sucking beyond age five, crowded or misplaced teeth, and jaws that shift or make sounds. These indicators suggest that professional assessment could help determine whether orthodontic solutions might support proper development.

The benefits of addressing orthodontic issues during childhood extend beyond aesthetics. Proper alignment supports effective chewing, clear speech development, and easier oral hygiene maintenance. Additionally, correcting bite problems early can prevent excessive wear on teeth and reduce the risk of jaw joint disorders later in life.

Treatment timing varies significantly among children based on their individual development patterns and specific orthodontic needs. Some children benefit from early intervention around ages seven to nine, while others may achieve better results by waiting until more permanent teeth have emerged, typically between ages eleven and thirteen.

Longmont Braces serves the Colorado community with comprehensive orthodontic services, including traditional metal braces, clear ceramic braces, and other specialized treatments tailored to pediatric patients. The practice utilizes advanced imaging technology to create precise treatment plans customized to each child's unique developmental needs and treatment goals.

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Longmont Braces

Longmont Braces provides orthodontic care for kids, teens, and adults in Longmont, CO. Offering braces, Invisalign, and modern treatments, they focus on comfortable visits, flexible options, and confident, healthy smiles.

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