**Inlays and Onlays**

**What are Inlays and Onlays?**

Dental Inlays and Onlays are restorations used to repair rear teeth with mild to moderate decay or cracked and fractured teeth that are not sufficiently damaged to need a crown.   
A dental Inlay is similar to a filling and fits inside the top edges of the tooth. A dental Onlay extends over the cusps of the tooth.  
At Bear Cross Dental, you would normally be eligible for this if you have too much damage or decay in the tooth structure to be successfully treated using a filling, but have sufficient healthy tooth remaining to avoid the need for a crown. This allows your dentist to conserve more of your original tooth structure.

They help patients rectify the following dental health problems:

* Sensitive teeth
* Cracked fractured teeth
* Tooth decay
* Old fillings that need replacing

**Inlays and Onlays**

They are durable as they are made from tough, hard wearing materials which can last up to 10-20 years.  
They help to strengthen structure.  
They help to prolong tooth life and prevent the need for more dental treatment in the future.

**What is the procedure?**

During treatment the dentist removes the old fillings under local anaesthetic and takes an impression of the tooth. The new dental Inlay or Onlay is then made from this mould in porcelain, composite resin or gold.

At the next appointment, the patient’s Inlay or Onlay is then cemented into place, blending in with the treated tooth and the rest of the teeth to achieve a natural, uniform appearance.

If you’d like to find out more about dental Inlays and Onlays and whether it is a suitable treatment for you, please contact your dentist who will be happy to discuss your requirements with you.